

NOTICE
Town of Lowell
SELECT BOARD MEETING
THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON
Tuesday December 3, 2024, AT 5:30 P.M.
AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

AGENDA:

- Additions & Deletions
- Sign Orders
- Review minutes from November 19, 2024
- Road Commissioner updates
- Other Business
- Town Report Quotes

Selectboard:
Wayne Richardson-Chm
Darren Pion
Jennifer Blay

MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF LOWELL
Meeting held on December 3, 2024.

Board members present:

Wayne Richardson- Chm, Darren Pion, Jennifer Blay
Christy M. Pion -Town Clerk/Selectboard Clerk/Ass't Treasurer
Marie Busch-. Treasurer/Del. Tax Col./Ass't Clerk

Note: All meetings are recorded on a handheld recording device.

Meeting called to order at 5:27p.m.

GUEST:

- Gordon Spencer-Resident/Auditor/JP
- William Herrera-Resident/JP
- Ashley Callahan-ACO
- Sharon Weinacht-New THO
- Brenda Wesolow-Resident/Zoning Member
- Dotty Spoerl-Resident/Auditor
- Anthony Moss-Resident

Additions and Deletions: See additions and deletions below.

Deleted: Town Report Quotes:

- Deleted from meeting as the Clerk had not received all the Quotes.

Addition: ACO Reports:

- **Animal Control Issues:** A significant portion of the meeting focused on a recurring issue with a dog owned by Brian Labarron, which has been causing problems for a local resident, Tiah Kneeland, by attacking her chickens. The town has an ordinance that requires written warnings before fines can be issued. The discussion highlighted the challenges of enforcing the ordinance and the need for proper documentation of offenses. There was a discussion about the qualifications required for the animal control officer to issue tickets. It was noted that the officer had not completed the necessary training, which complicates the enforcement process. Ashley asked where and when she could take the necessary courses for her position so that she could do her job more adequately. Darren, Select person, told Ashley that he would get her the information as he had taken the courses when he was the ACO and knew who to contact. The Clerk gave Ashley, ACO, the list for tagged and untagged dogs for this year to better know who she needed to follow up with and who already relicensed their dogs.

Addition: New Town Health Officer:

- Sharon Wienacht, New THO for the Town of Lowell joined the meeting to introduce herself officially to the Board and to thank them for giving her the opportunity to do this for the town. Christy will be putting together information to help the THO know her job description a little better.

Sign Orders:

- Financials for the Treasurer were approved and signed by the Board.

Minutes from November 19, 2024:

- Minutes from November 19, 2024, were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Road Commissioner Updates:

- ****Infrastructure and Maintenance****: There were updates on infrastructure projects, including the status of culverts and bridges, as well as discussions about the need for better maintenance of town roads and drainage systems to prevent flooding.
- Wayne discussed with the other Board members about purchasing an electric chainsaw to keep in the trucks for cutting low limbs and possibly an impact gun for the shop, so they don't have to keep borrowing one.

Other Business:

- Darren had mentioned to Gordon about the Library Trustees inquiring about having their own checkbook. He asked Gordon if he would sit down with them sometime and explain in detail what that would look like for auditing purposes. He stated that he would.
- Gordon had a few questions for the Board on a few expenditures he needed clarification of. He asked about the payments to NEMRC and why there is no detail in the invoice. The Board explained that they are doing the Town wide reappraisal, and the amount is contracted into monthly payments until the contract is paid in full. He asked about a check for \$659 for truck parts. Wayne explained that other than warranty stuff we are doing the maintenance and repairs to the trucks, as the labor for something small is over \$170/hr. Lastly he had a question about the tools that belonged to Calvin and what the Board decided to do with that. The Board explained that they had a meeting with Calvin's family, accessed the tools and paid the money to Calvin's family, so now they belong to the town. Gordon asked how much the Board paid for the tools, Wayne answered \$5500 total.
- Wayne updated the other Board members of the ambulance meeting he attended and stated that there were no changes as of right now to cost.
- ****Future Planning****: The Board discussed the need for better documentation and communication regarding town projects and financial matters, emphasizing the importance of transparency and accountability.
- ****Community Engagement****: The meeting also touched on community events, including a holiday celebration where one member would dress as Santa Claus. There was a light-hearted atmosphere as members discussed preparations for the event.

Board Warrants:

➤ General Order # 26	\$	470,277.71
➤ Payroll Order # 24	\$	<u>6,704.15</u>
	\$	476,981.86

Signed for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling -

*** Note: Full discussion details of the minutes are available in the Clerks office.***

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christy M. Pion

Next meeting date: December 17, 2024, at the Town Office Building.

Wayne Richardson – Chair

Christy M. Pion–Selectboard Clerk

Darren Pion-Select Person

Jennifer Blay-Select Person