

NOTICE

Town of Lowell

SELECT BOARD MEETING

THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON

Tuesday November 12, 2019 AT 5:30 P.M.

AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

AGENDA:

- Sign Orders
- Approve minutes from October 29, 2019
- Other business

SELECTBOARD:

Richard Pion- Chm.

Alden Warner

Dwight Richardson

MINUTES

SELECT BOARD MEETING

TOWN OF LOWELL

Meeting held on November 12, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Board members present:

Richard Pion-Chair, Alden Warner, Dwight Richardson

Christy Pion-Town Clerk/Ass't Treasurer

Priscilla Matten-Treasurer/Ass't. Clerk

Calvin Allen-Road Commissioner

Meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m.

Guests:

- ❖ Ben (Trip) Wileman
- ❖ Raymond Geoffroy
- ❖ Sam Thurston
- ❖ Marjorie Kramer
- ❖ Mark Higley
- ❖ Charles Boulmetis

Sign Orders:

- ❖ Orders were approved and signed by the Board unanimously for the Treasurer.

Approve minutes for October 29, 2019:

- ❖ Minutes from October 29, 2019 meeting were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Update on Land Dispute Findings:

- ❖ Ben (Trip) Wileman came to the meeting to share his findings for the land dispute between Raymond Geoffroy, Juanita Tetreault, Wayne Warner, and Marcia Warner. He wrote a presentation of his findings and read them aloud during the meeting. The findings in the information brought clarity to all the parties involved. A copy of the findings will be available on the website as attachment A, and a hard copy will be available in the office

Other Business:

- ❖ Marjorie Kramer came to the meeting to share her thoughts on the NEK Community Fiber project for increasing broadband access in the Northeast Kingdom. She would like to see this brought to our town and

had asked for it to be added as an article in the Town Meeting Warning. The Selectboard agreed to let this be an article, provided that she can have some more information to share at the Town Meeting to explain what this really is in easy to understand terms. Marjorie did share with the Board what she already had for information, and this will be shared on the website as attachment B. A hard copy is also available in the office.

- ❖ Mark Higley discussed with Calvin Allen, Road Commissioner, the need to recognize and express gratitude, to companies involved, for getting the temporary bridge put into place so quickly and diligently. He expressed amazement that the temporary bridge to replace the Burgess Bridge was put into place so rapidly after the flood damage. Calvin gave Mark the names of the companies that made this happen, such as Shane Morin, VTRANS and St. Onge Trucking. Mark will be reaching out to them to personally thank them for a job well done.
- ❖ Charles Boulmetis, Zoning Board Member, came to talk to the Board about a concern that Gordon Spencer, Zoning Administrator, has regarding structures that he has observed being built without permits. Gordon asked Charles to write letters to these residents to notify them that they are in noncompliance of the zoning rule, which specifies the need for a building permit before starting a new building. Charles told the Board he had agreed to do so and presented a copy of the letter for that purpose to share with the Board. A copy of this letter will be available in the Clerk's office for viewing.
- ❖ Charles has taken over responsibility on the Town Plan. He updated the Board that the only requirement change for the Town Plan was that we had to have a priority habitat block for wild animals to cross the road. He has spoken to a woman named Allison Lowe, who told him without this the wildlife's natural paths get disrupted and more animals end up getting hit by cars. Having this will make people more aware of the wildlife need for forest around them and help prevent the cutting of Wood-lines so close to the road. The Selectboard would like to see proof that this has to be put in the plan, because they expressed concern that it may eventually cause people to lose control of what they want to do with their own land. Charles agreed to get the proof that they are mandated to add this to the Town Plan.
- ❖ Charles had a concern about our Town not attending NVDA meetings. He said that every town is supposed to have at least 2 members, who are Officials in the town, that attend these meetings every year. He was wondering why we do not attend or if we even had people that knew about the meetings. Alden, Board member, and Christy, Town Clerk, both told him that we get notifications of these meetings but are not always able to attend.
- ❖ Priscilla presented the profit & loss by class statements from January 2019 to current for both Kempton Hill and Kempton Bridge to the Board for review.
- ❖ Priscilla asked the Board about the status of the prior discussions regarding cutting trees on the lot below the Town Clerk's Office to prevent borrowing so much money on the construction projects going on. There was a brief discussion on this to have someone come look at the land and then do a little research on how they wanted to finish handling this project. Richard offered to walk the property to view possibilities and the other Board Members said he should be compensated for that time-consuming process.
- ❖ Priscilla updated the Board on what she had found out so far about employee medical insurance and will continue to do more research until she can find the best option for our Town employees.

Board Warrants:

➤ General Order # 87	\$	68.21
➤ General Order # 88	\$	13,421.09
➤ General Order # 89	\$	175,768.01
➤ General Order # 90	\$	2,849.19
➤ Payroll Order # 49	\$	7,738.05
➤ Fire Dept. Order # 50	\$	<u>198.86</u>

Signed by the Board for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling - \$ 200,043.41

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next meeting date: November 26, 2019 at the Lowell Town Office Building

Richard Pion- Chm.

Christy M. Pion – Selectboard Clerk

Alden Warner

Dwight Richardson