

***NOTICE***  
*Town of Lowell*  
**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON**  
**Tuesday July 21, 2020 AT 5:30 P.M.**  
**AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.**

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**AGENDA:**

- Sign Orders
- Approve minutes from July 7, 2020
- F.O.L.K. Event Discussion
- Other business

**SELECTBOARD:**

Richard Pion- Chm.  
Alden Warner  
Darren Pion

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***MINUTES***  
**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**TOWN OF LOWELL**  
**Meeting held on July 21, 2020**

**Board members present:**

**Richard Pion-Chair, Alden Warner**

**Christy Pion-Town Clerk**

**Priscilla Matten-Treasurer**

**Calvin Allen-Road Commissioner**

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Guest:**

- ❖ Keri Willey-F.O.L.K
- ❖ Jennifer Blay- F.O.L.K.
- ❖ Sonja Blodgett- F.O.L.K.

**Sign Orders:**

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

**Minutes for July 7, 2020:**

- ❖ Minutes for July 7, 2020 were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

**F.O.L.K. Event Discussion:**

- ❖ FOLK members joined the meeting to ask the Selectboard for suggestions and advice regarding upcoming plans for the traditional FOLK festival. Change in plans are inevitable due to the COVID-19 regulations. Keri Willey shared the results from a survey she had issued for the town's input regarding their thoughts and suggestions for a parade and outdoor movie event. The results were positive for both a parade and a movie. The Selectboard Members were asked if the Town Office driveway would be available as an access for the movie night. They were thinking of using the baseball field backstop as the place for the movie screen to go. The Board members were all in agreement to allow the access. There was a small discussion of changing the date of the event, the date has been changed from September 19, 2020 to September 12, 2020. More details will be available from the FOLK group as soon as they have all the details in place. If possible, the event detail info will be mailed with property tax bills.

**Other Business:**

- ❖ Sonja Blodgett expressed her concerns about forcing children to wear masks when they reopen the school. She was wondering if the Town had any say in the matter. The Board told her that she would have to ask the school board for that is out of the Selectboard's jurisdiction.
- ❖ Priscilla presented the State of Vt cash flow report for the 2019 education taxes and noted the discrepancy between the amount of \$720,787.66 the state said the town paid to Lowell District School and the amount of \$725,642.55 that was actually paid. She also explained that her and Chris Hager, Town Lister, had discovered that the town pays a certain amount of the town taxes for the Veterans, which amounted to \$3,366.65 for 2019, per the final 2019 state cash flow. This amount has not been included in the budget for the town and Chris and Priscilla are working out the details so the town can actually receive a bill for this each year so the upcoming Town Treasurer's will be kept aware of it
- ❖ Priscilla spoke to the Board about her concerns regarding the dead trees in the woods connected to Gelo Park. There are trails that people have access to and the school uses that section of the woods for school projects, and fundraisers. She said, for liability issues, the dead trees should be removed. The Board said that they would get together, at a later date, to walk the forest and determine what the resolution should be for safety.
- ❖ Priscilla presented a Roads Dept. profit and loss statement, to date, for the Board and the Road Commissioner to review. She also stated her plan to present one for the Selectboard at the next meeting.
- ❖ Calvin provided an update on the Mines Rd./Route 58 paving project. The original financial plan was for the Town to borrow \$300,000, to utilize prior year assessments of \$100,000 and to receive \$100,000 from a state grant that was verbally approved. Calvin reported that, due to the Covid-19 virus impact, the state may, or may not, be able to honor the grant. Priscilla noted the paving project will be finished before the GMP funds will be available because property taxes and GMP funding, for our fiscal year of January thru December 2020, will not be available until Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, the date taxes are due. The board authorized her to borrow the full amount of \$500,000 to cover full paving costs for a 5-year period. Additional amounts, over the required payments, will be paid back based on the pending state grant final approval.

**Board Warrants:**

➤ General Order # 35	\$	3,275.52
➤ General Order # 36	\$	115,128.40
➤ General Order # 37	\$	3,175.00
➤ Payroll Order # 34	\$	6,858.23
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Signed by the Board for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling - \$ 128,437.15

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christy M. Pion

Next meeting date: August 4, 2020 at the Town Office Building

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*Richard Pion- Chairman*

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*Christy M. Pion – Selectboard Clerk*

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*Alden Warner*

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*Darren Pion*