

NOTICE
Town of Lowell
SELECT BOARD MEETING
THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON
Tuesday July 16, 2024, AT 5:30 P.M.
AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

AGENDA:

- **ADDITIONS & DELETIONS**
- **SIGN ORDERS**
- **REVIEW MINUTES FROM JUNE 18, 2024**
- **SIGN LEMP**
- **ROAD COMMISSIONER UPDATES**
- **OTHER BUSINESS**

Selectboard:
Wayne Richardson-Chm
Darren Pion
Jennifer Blay

MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF LOWELL
Meeting held on July 16, 2024.

Board members present:

Wayne Richardson- Chm, Darren Pion, Jennifer Blay

Rebecca DiZazzo/Treasurer/Asst. Clerk

Marie Busch/Asst.Clerk/Asst. Treasurer

Calvin Allen-Road Commissioner

Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Guests:

- **Patrick Travers - GPI**

Additions and Deletions:

- Patrick Travers from Greenman & Peterson came to the meeting to update the Board on the Hodgeman Bridge Project. Patrick provided a Memorandum detailing the timeline of the changes in the Project that will increase the cost. The issue with the Change Order from the contractor, St Onge, involves the specs on the beams for the bridge. Bid Documents called for steel beams to be Weathered Steel. However, per Vtrans Standards, these beams must be hot-dipped galvanized due to their proximity to "Ordinary High Water." Weathered steel will rust excessively and deteriorate much more quickly. As a result, the change will cost the project \$44,290.00 as provided by St. Onge and add 2-3 weeks delay in the receipt of the galvanized beams.

St. Onge is confident that the bridge and road work can still be completed per the Contract. Although the price increase is a frustrating factor, the Board voted unanimously to sign the change order for St. Onge to prevent any further delays in starting the Project.

Calvin stated that the cost of the change order should be the responsibility of DuBois & King. The Board agreed to investigate the potential Breach of Contract on the part of DuBois & King and recoup any money paid by the Town as a result.

DuBois & King is requesting an amendment to add \$23,922.00 to their contract. DuBois & King sent Patrick Travers a letter discussing the reasons for their requested increase. To quote Kenneth A. Robie, Senior Project Manager at D & K (the author of said letter) "Understanding that the cost of these delays and inefficiencies should not be put onto the owner...." To further quote Mr. Robie

“The delays you have experienced with your project are a result of our staffing challenges, and for that we apologize.” Therefore, the Board unanimously rejects any attempt by DuBois & King to increase the contract.

- JC Deloach came to the meeting to thank the Board and Calvin for the repairs to Mitchell Road.

Sign Orders:

- The Board reviewed the financials for the Treasurer. They did not approve the Invoice for Dubois & King on General Order #16. The Warrant was changed to reflect that. The Board then approved and signed the orders.

Minutes from June 18, 2024

- Minutes from June 18, 2024 were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Sign Lemp:

- Local Emergency Management Plan was signed by Wayne Richardson

Road Commissioner Updates:

- Calvin spoke of repairs following the most recent rains. He upgraded the 24” Culvert on Mitchell Road to a 36” in an effort to prevent constant repairs.
- There was a discussion about the future of the town trucks and staggering the trade ins and purchase of new trucks.

Other Business:

- Jenn brought a coded lock to the meeting to discuss the need (or not) to lock the Snack Shack that was vandalized. A couple of the kids who admitted to vandalizing made repairs. It was decided not to lock the Shack at this time. It will be addressed later if there is any further vandalism.
- Becky let the Board know that Nick LeBlanc came to the Town Office and said that he would like to take over the Recycling on Saturdays. The Board asked to have Nick come to the next Board Meeting to discuss the job.
- Becky inquired as to when the LED sign would be installed. There is no date set at this time.

Board Warrants:

➤	General Order # 16	\$	206,303.17
➤	Payroll Order #15	\$	7,977.00
		\$	<u>214,280.17</u>

Signed for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling -

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Marie A. Busch

Next meeting date: July 30, 2024 at the Town Office Building.

Wayne Richardson – Chair

Christy M. Pion–Selectboard Clerk

Darren Pion-Select Person

Jennifer Blay-Select Person