

NOTICE

Town of Lowell

SELECT BOARD MEETING

THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON

Tuesday July 24, 2018 AT 5:30 P.M.

AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

AGENDA:

- Sign Orders
- Approve minutes from July 10, 2018
- Arlon Warner & Scott Tallman
- Leslie White
- Keri Willey- F.O.L.K.
- Other business

SELECTBOARD:

Richard Pion- Chm.

Alden Warner

Dwight Richardson

MINUTES

SELECT BOARD MEETING

TOWN OF LOWELL

Meeting held on July 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Board members present:

Richard Pion/Chair, Alden Warner, Dwight Richardson

Christy Pion/Select Board Clerk

Sandy LaDeau/Town Clerk & Treasurer

Calvin Allen/Road Commissioner

Meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.

Guest:

- Keri Willey- F.O.L.K.
- Scott Tallman
- Arlon Warner
- Chris Hager-Lister
- Lerry Chase-Lister
- Mark Higley-Lister
- Ken Rynhart
- Priscilla Matten-Auditor
- Sam Thurston
- Marjorie Kramer
- Leslie White
- Gordon Spencer-Zoning Administrator

Sign Orders:

- Orders were signed by the Board unanimously for the Treasurer.

Approve minutes for July 10, 2018:

- Minutes from July 10, 2018 meeting was approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Keri Willey-F.O.L. K:

- Keri Willey came to the meeting on behalf of F.O.L.K., to update us on what is happening this year for the annual FOLK Festival. She noted that the parade will be starting an hour earlier this year, 10:00 a.m. She also gave us the date of September 15, 2018 as to when the event will be held. Keri had been looking into supplemental insurances and found out that they only cover the same things as the Town's insurance already does. We were updated that the parade permit had been signed for the event. Keri also announced that there will be a waiver to sign for anyone bringing animals for the petting zoo, also that they are having a bounce house that has its own insurance to cover risk costs. Keri also noted that they would like to do a jam session for the music portion of the festival. There are also sign up sheets in the Town Clerk's Office for the baking contest.

Arlon Warner & Scott Tallman:

- Arlon and Scott inquired about what the progress was on the Grant the Town has applied for, for the replacement of the Kempton Hill bridge. Sandy noted that she had filled out the grant and sent it to Shane Morin from VTRANS. She had asked him to email her back to let her know if any other information was needed, he told her that she independently made it further on the application than they typically see, which was a very nice compliment. Eric Pope, from VTRANS, responded regarding expectant time frame for answer on the grant, he stated that it could be up to 4 to 6 weeks, which is the typical amount of time for processing. Sandy read the email from Eric Pope. (see attachment A for the whole email from Eric Pope)
- Sandy stated that there are still procurement policies that need to be looked over and adopted accordingly to our town specifications and needs, which our Auditors have already started looking into. This will help us in the future for other possible grants and bids for projects when needed. Sandy will also check into see what procurement policies we already have in place.
- There was further discussion on procurement policies and what the town has already done for requirements to put jobs out to bid for projects like the Kempton Hill Bridge. There was also discussion on getting more estimates, proposals, and an Engineer to compare cost for these types of projects as well.
- Alden Warner had reviewed the original estimate we got from East Engineering, which was recommended by VTRANS, and discussed what the cost would be for getting the engineered plan and what the remaining cost for everything else would be for the town. There was also discussion of calling them and other engineering companies to come up with proposals for comparison for State costs not Federal. Further discussion was made on this subject.
- Dwight Richardson asked where Arlon and Scott stood in the Lawsuit on the bridge, Arlon reassured the Board that it was on hold to allow the Town time to do more research and try to get the grant approved to be able to go forward with the bridge replacement.
- Arlon stated that he would be back in 4 weeks to determine the towns progress regarding the grant process and research.
- Full details of this portion of the discussion are available to listen to on the voice recordings in the town office.

Leslie White:

- Leslie White from Eden came to discuss our concerns regarding the use of the VAG money that was to be split between Lowell and Eden. In the discussion we found out that her town is facing the same issues as Lowell is. When both towns had presented projects that would possibly meet the criteria, we were both told that the projects did not meet the criteria, but projects that have no connection to the Asbestos mines run off were approved for the criteria. Leslie had presented her copy of the draft plan for both Eden and Lowell, but Lowell has yet to receive this document by either email or mail. Both Eden and Lowell do not understand the whole rule of criteria for this money. There will be further investigation into this by both towns. Mark Higley-Representative, was asked to speak with both Senators from both counties to see what they could do to help with this investigation.
- Full discussion of this portion is also available to listen to on the voice recordings in the town office.

Other Business:

- The Board Chair signed and approved a Driveway Permit for Reginald Comtois.
- Calvin Allen, Road Commissioner, notified the Board that he was meeting with Doug Morley for upcoming grant projects.
- Calvin updated the Board on the Hazen Notch Road Project. He said that the trees were cut and now he would begin working on removing stumps and fixing the roadside ditches.
- Calvin notified the Board that there was a strange noise coming from the new loader, and that Nortrax was coming out first thing in the morning to check it out.
- Calvin notified the Board that he has a tandem truck arriving shortly. He asked the Board if they would want to lease the truck and register it to the town to help share expenses. There was discussion on what to charge for the use of the truck and what everything that comes with it would cost total. The Board asked Calvin to investigate and come up with a figure before going forward with any decisions. There will be further discussion on this at a later date.
- Sandy LaDeau announced to the Board that she will be leaving us between the end of August beginning of September. The Board has Appointed Priscilla Matten to finish out Sandy's term.

Board Warrants:

General Order #27-	\$ 7,509.73
General Order #26-	\$ 750.00
Payroll #15-	\$ 5,916.37
Payroll General #18	\$ 2,403.00
Fire Dept. #16	\$ 2,139.67

Signed by the Board for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling - \$ 18,718.77

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Next meeting date: August 7, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Office Building

Richard Pion- Chm.

Christy Pion – Selectboard Clerk

Alden Warner

Dwight Richardson