

## **Lyman Board of Selectmen's May 11, 2020 Meeting**

### **Emergency Meeting Notice**

*As Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, I, James Trudell find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.*

*Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:*

**a) Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means:**

*We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting. All members of the Board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during the meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting. Join the Zoom Meeting by telephone:*

Dial 1-646-558-8656      Meeting ID: 862 7610 9206      Password: 494053

Join the Zoom Meeting by video by clicking on the following website:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86276109206?pwd=WTRuM3ZIOFF2MDNPUDZ2elpqUmtUUT09>

Meeting ID: 862 7610 9206      Password: lymanBOS

*If anybody has a problem with access during the meeting, please call 838-5900 or email [lymanta@myfairpoint.net](mailto:lymanta@myfairpoint.net).*

**b) Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting:**

*We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonically. Instructions have also been provided on the website of the Board of Selectmen at LymanNH.org and the Town of Lyman, NH Facebook page.*

**c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access:**

*If anybody has a problem, please call 838-5900 or email [lymanta@myfairpoint.net](mailto:lymanta@myfairpoint.net).*

**d) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting:**

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

All votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote. The meeting is started by taking roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether anyone is in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

## SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

May 11, 2020

Present by Roll Call: Jim Trudell, Bruce Beane, Wendy Ho-Sing-Loy, Donna Clark-AA, Tabbetha Shosa-Office Assistant, Tom Smith-Road Agent

Other Attendees: Resident Sheila Post, State Representative Tim Egan

Chairman Trudell called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

### **Manifests & Invoices:**

The manifests for 05/04/20 and 05/11/20 were authorized and new invoices for future payment were reviewed and initialed by the Selectmen individually earlier in the day.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer's Report was read showing a balance of \$73,758.14 in the WGSB checking account, \$55,903.82 in the WGSB Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) account and \$600,000.00 in the WGSB Tax Anticipation Note (TAN). Trudell motioned to approve the Treasurer's report as given, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Beane, all voted in favor by roll call vote: Trudell-Aye, Beane-Aye, Ho-Sing-Loy-Aye.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes for the Apr 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting were reviewed. Trudell motioned to approve the minutes as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Beane, all voted in favor by roll call vote: Trudell-Aye, Beane-Aye, Ho-Sing-Loy-Aye.

### **Committee/Department Reports & Needs:**

Road Agent Tom Smith joined the meeting via Zoom at 6:00 pm to discuss Highway Dept matters. There is no news to report on the 2020 10-wheeler currently being built at Tenco. Beane received more pictures of the loader under consideration but no other information. The highway budget to date was reviewed and individual line items that could see some savings were discussed. The highway crew will not include a regular summer helper this year. Ditching, grading, hauling winter sand, culvert replacements and roadside mowing will be done as usual, as well as painting equipment and other maintenance tasks. Although less efficient, ledge pack can still be laid out with two people. A purchase order for Presby Construction for \$18,500 for winter sand was approved. The new flag pole purchased last winter will be installed at the Town Hall now that the ground has thawed. Clark will order new flags for it. An Ash Hill Rd family sent a thank you note to the highway crew. Tom left the Zoom meeting at 6:25 pm. \* The Board reviewed and signed two timber tax warrants and certifications. \* Tax Collector Bethany Carignan provided a list of unpaid receivables for the Board's review as lien and deed notices will be mailed in June. \* Since the Town Offices will be closed May 25<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day, the Selectmen will meet briefly in person at the Town Hall on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Tabbetha Shosa will be back working in the office two days a week starting May 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Matters:**

Sheila Post joined the meeting at 6:25 to discuss school funding and the Town's cost sharing agreement with Lisbon Regional School. Several school districts filed a suit against the State of NH regarding school funding. Last June a Superior Court judge ruled that the state's education funding system is unconstitutional but that decision has been appealed. The case is now before the NH Supreme Court and it may take a year or two to settle the matter. If they prevail, the state legislature would have to create an adequate funding formula that is paid for by the state which would significantly reduce the local tax funding of students' education. \* At a previous meeting Ms Post had offered to research contract attorneys and has found someone with expertise in commercial contract law and mediation. He has reviewed the current district school agreement and will provide an initial consultation at a reduced rate. The Selectmen accepted Sheila's offer to participate in this process and she will arrange for a Zoom or conference call meeting with this attorney. The Selectmen thanked her for her efforts and she left the meeting at 6:40 pm.

State Representative Tim Egan had joined the meeting at 6:30 pm. He updated the Board on recent legislative happenings and the state's initiatives to bolster the rural economy including the distribution of the CARES Act funds and re-opening NH's economy. All of the North Country representatives are working together to make this happen. They recognize the importance of visitors to our area but opening of the border with Canada will not happen soon. The House of Representatives is getting back to work using Zoom to handle bills, and finding ways to expand broadband in rural areas is always a priority of his. The Selectmen thanked Rep Egan for his time and he left the meeting at 7:05 pm.

**Permits and Applications:**

The following were approved:

- Two Pistol Permits
- Intent to Cut for DC Timberlands, LLC for Map 243 Lot 005

**Correspondence:**

The following were received:

- FEMA Risk Mapping Discovery Meeting will now be held online on May 26<sup>th</sup>
- NH Dept of Safety seeing a spike in highway fatalities during the pandemic
- NH Electric Co-op / Vegetation Control Service Inc notice they will be applying herbicides within power line rights of way corridors. Abutters will be notified.

**Emergency Management:**

The Town of Lyman is eligible to receive up to \$12,977 in reimbursements for COVID-19 related expenses from the Coronavirus Relief Fund/CARES Act. Emergency Management Director Todd Landry will be asked to coordinate that effort with Town Office staff. \* 2020 is the year the Town of Lyman is required to have a statistical revaluation and assessment review. The NH Dept of Revenue provided a document called Guidance Regarding 2020 Revaluation Requirements During COVID-19. While

they offer suggestions for making the process safer, there is not an option to defer it to another time.

**Old Business:**

The Board signed a previously approved 2020 Tri-Town Transfer Station Agreement with Lisbon and Landaff. \* Beane and Tabbetha will take part in the NHMA 2020 Local Officials Workshop on May 19<sup>th</sup> online. \* The Lisbon Regional School District's Annual Meeting has been rescheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. \* Two trash issues that the Selectmen have been addressing have been resolved.

**New Business:**

Beane reported on a Health Officer webinar he recently participated in. \* The Board reviewed the NH Dept of Revenue's 2019 Total Equalization Valuation packet. It shows the Town's total equalized valuation to be \$75,898,375. This number is used to calculate Lyman's portion of county tax and cooperative school district tax. \* Resident Tad Czarnocki spoke to Beane about starting to do some maintenance work on the Grange Hall. Even though much of it would be done at no cost to the Town, the Board cannot accept his generous offer. The discussion at Town Meeting was to form a committee to look into options and let the voters decide at the 2021 Town Meeting whether to restore the building or replace it with something more accessible to the public. \* The Lyman Community Group asked if they could proceed with their June 18<sup>th</sup> Farm to Fire Pizza Night in the Town Hall parking lot. The Board approved the request as long as it is just for take-out with no tables & chairs, no gathering, and social distancing guidelines are followed.

Beane motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ho-Sing-Loy, all voted in favor by roll call vote: Trudell-Aye, Beane-Aye, Ho-Sing-Loy-Aye.

The next regular Selectmen's meeting is scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Lyman Town Hall.

Approved:

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