



TOWN OF LYNDON
SELECTBOARD MEETING

November 9, 2020

5:30 PM

Selectboard: Christian Thompson-Chair, Dan Daley, Nancy Blankenship

Officials: Dawn Dwyer, Annie McLean

Press: Todd Wellington for The Caledonian-Record

Public: Steve Gray, Paul Tomasi, Larry Willey, Patrick McLaughlin

1. Adjustments to the Agenda:

- Deputy Health Officer Resignation

2. Approval of minutes:

Motion made by Christian Thompson, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to approve the October 26, 2020 minutes as amended. Motion carried 3 to 0.

3. Approval & Signing of Orders drawn on the Treasurer:

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to approve the orders drawn on the Treasurer for weeks # 44 & #45 with the Treasurer to sign due to COVID-19. Motion carried 3-0.

4. Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District (NEKWMD) Discussion:

The Board discussed with Paul Tomasi, Director of the NEKWMD the possibility of instituting a pay to throw for composting. Several years ago, the NEKWMD conducted a survey of all users that brought compost to the facility and determined that 89% were Lyndon residents. Therefore, Lyndon pays 89% of the costs associated with composting. Since then, composting has become mandatory and there is concern that more users from other member towns are using the composting and Lyndon is still paying the same percentage. Mr. Tomasi agreed it was probably time to survey users again and was not opposed to entertain the idea of pay to throw for composting. He suggested perhaps a punch card system. He will discuss this option with other Towns to see if they too are interested.

The Board discussed with Mr. Tomasi the per capita fee. The Board explained that when the per capita fee instituted, it was designated for the new baler payment. The NEKWMD then received a \$64,000 grant for the purchase of the baler and the NEKWMD had a deficit. The per capita was voted by the NEKWMD Board to be used to pay the truck payment as well as restock the capital fund that was used to cover the deficit. The Selectboard explained that when voters are told the per capita fees are going to be used for a specific line item and then they are not, it creates questions. Mr. Tomasi agreed and would present the income differently for the next budget. Mr. Tomasi informed the Board that he is always available to answer questions. The Selectboard thanked Mr. Tomasi for attending the meeting.

5. Deputy Health Officer Resignation:

Motion made by Nancy Blankenship seconded by Dan Daley, to accept Christian Thompson's resignation as the Deputy Health Officer for the Town of Lyndon. Motion carried 2 to 0 with Christian Thompson abstaining.

6. Deputy Health Officer Interview:

Patrick McLaughlin has expressed interest in being the Deputy Health Officer for the Town of Lyndon. Mr. McLaughlin's qualifications include being the Chief for the Vermont State Hazardous Materials Response Team, Vermont State Fire Marshall responsible for inspections and enforcement for nine years, currently the Battalion Manager of the Northeast Section overseeing six Fire Marshalls, one plumbing inspector and two electrical inspectors, Assistant Fire Chief for the Lyndonville Fire Department, and a Deputy Sheriff. Mr. McLaughlin's philosophy is to work to educate residents first

and if all else fails use the enforcement tools. Since Mr. McLaughlin is no longer doing inspections for the State, there is no conflict, and he can now give back to the community. Mr. McLaughlin works out of his home and the fire station. He can always be reached by cell phone and still carries an alpha-numeric pager.

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to recommend appointment of Patrick McLaughlin as Deputy Health Officer for the Town of Lyndon. Motion carried 3-0.

7. Cartographic Associates Invoice (one-time service):

The Listers made GIS maps available on the website. The information is not always correct, and the current Cartographic Associates contract allows for updates twice a year. This one-time contract will incorporate "Staff Site" login functionality into the online GIS platform to import maps and make changes and corrections. Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to approve the contract and one-time fee of \$950. Motion carried 3-0.

8. Locomotion E-Bike Library Request:

Annie McLean explained to the Board that Local Motion has one, possibly two, E-bikes, called the RadWagon, that is available for hosting. The RadWagon is a cargo e-bike that can carry you and your kids, groceries, and other cargo around town. The e-bike will hold up to two kid seats for kids up to 48lbs each. Residents will be able to reserve the bike online. Lyndon is currently penciled in for a month on September 12th through October 10th, 2021. Motion made by Nancy Blankenship, seconded by Dan Daley, to move forward in securing one or two e-bikes for the Fall of 2021. Motion carried 3-0.

9. New Town Website Update:

Annie McLean shared the preliminary Town website with the Selectboard. She has been working with Evan Carlson, using grant funds. The new website has been in the works for two years. Evan and Annie will be porting over in December and the new website will be ready for release in early January 2021.

10. Executive Session: 1 V.S.A. §313 (a)(1) Labor Relations:

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, find that premature general public knowledge regarding the town's labor relations with Town employees would clearly place the town at a substantial disadvantage, because the Selectboard risks disclosing its negotiation strategy if it discusses the proposed contract terms in public. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Nancy Blankenship, to move into executive session at 7:23 PM to discuss the employee's salary request under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)(A) of the Vermont Statutes.

Upon coming out of Executive Session at 7:56 PM, no action was taken.

11. Other:

- a. Dawn Dwyer, Town Clerk, reviewed the General Election with the Board. There were only a few voters that used the outside voting booth. There were 1,770 absentee ballots and 699 walk-in voters for a total of 2,469 total votes or 68% voter turnout.
- b. Property taxes were due on Friday, November 6th by 4:30 PM. Preliminary numbers put the delinquency rate in line with 2019s delinquencies.
- c. Annie McLean will continue to advertise the Planning Commission vacancy on Front Porch Forum. An ad has been placed in the Caledonian-Record and the notice will be put on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM

Minutes taken by Dawn Dwyer

Approved by the Selectboard: _____