

TOWN OF LYNDON  
SELECTBOARD MEETING  
November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
5:30 PM

Selectboard

Christian Thompson  
Dan Daley  
Kermit Fisher

Press

Amy Nixon  
Will Barrett NVU

Public

Justin Smith,  
Steve Gray  
John Kascenska  
Jillian McLaughlin

Kermit Fisher called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

1. Adjustments to the Agenda:
  1. Addendum to contract for SCBA Air Pack Equipment
  2. Remove Library Budget
  3. UPS Parking Request Public Safety Building
  4. Plumbing bill Lyndon Outing Club
2. Minutes:
  - A. Dan Daley made a motion to approve the 11-13-2018 Selectboard meeting minutes with two changes: A space needed to be added in the title between Selectboard & meeting. The second change was to request the purpose of the lease and the amount of the lease to #5 relating to Lyndon Rescue be added. Christian Thompson seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.
  - B. Dan Daley made a motion to approve the Selectboard public hearing minutes from 11-13-2018 with the following changes: 1. In the first sentence "Fisher" needed to be capitalized. 2. Annie McLean should instead be referred to as the "Planning Director" in addition to the Zoning Administrator. 3. The zoning district which was being discussed was the Rural Residential District. Christian Thompson seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.
3. Approval & Signing of Orders drawn on the Treasurer: The Board approved and signed the orders drawn on the Treasurer for week 45-47.
4. Highway Report: The Selectboard noted that the Highway Report looked good. It appeared the numbers were up to date but that the date at the top of the report had not been updated.
5. Warrant #31 Rural Edge: Christian Thompson made a motion to approve warrant #31 for Rural Edge. Dan Daley seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.
6. Lyndon Rescue Budget (LRI) FY 2019: John Kascenska started by thanking the Selectboard for allowing the new Lyndon Rescue Ambulance to be stored in the Public Safety Building while they find a permanent solution for housing the new ambulance. The major changes to the budget were as follows: Under the previous contract employees could accrue 750 hours of comp time which would be paid to an employee upon leaving the organization. The amount of comp time that an employ can carry has been reduced to 480 hours or 12 weeks. Kermit Fisher said it was nice that a reduction had been made, but still felt the amount of time was too much. Mr. Smith stated that by comparison the Town will pay accrued vacation time only. In the absolute extreme an employee can earn four weeks of vacation and can carry one week of vacation forward for a total of 5 weeks or 200 hours. Christian Thompson stated that the cap for a State Employee is 240 hours (6 weeks). Mr. Fisher asked Mr. Kascenska to continue working on lowering that benefit to which Mr. Kascenska said the LRI Board would be looking into it and he is willing to lower it over time to get it to a smaller number of hours. Christian Thompson asked

about the increase on the Education line. Mr. Kascenska said that the goal of the Lyndon Rescue Board is to promote from within by helping to get current employees licensed, as opposed to hiring from the outside. The hope would be that Lyndon Rescue is getting an employee that has plans to stay. Mr. Kascenska stated the other big change to the budget is the ambulance purchase for \$196,000. The ambulance loan was taken out for \$184,000 for 6 years with a payment of \$36,000 per year. Mr. Kascenska stated that the continued loss of revenues from medi-care transports is the major factor driving the per capita costs upward.

Kermit Fisher noted that the fire alarm dispatch costs were down. Mr. Kascenska said that is because the call volume for Lyndon Rescue was down. Their percentage (share) of the costs to dispatch was less because their percentage of the total dispatch calls was lower than last year's call volume.

Mr. Thompson asked what the paramedic intercept line referred to. Mr. Kascenska stated that the paramedic intercept is when a paramedic from Calex rides with the Lyndon Rescue Crew in their vehicle to respond to a call when LRI does not have a paramedic available. A paramedic intercept is not when Calex dispatches one of its crews and vehicles to cover for LRI when they are on other calls.

Christian Thompson asked what LRI was exploring for options with regard to LRI's base of operations. Were they looking just at renovating the existing space or were they looking at the potential of other locations?

As a follow-up to the question about where LRI might be headquartered Dan Daley asked if there was any movement between LRI and CALEX to look at regionalization of rescue services. John Kascenska said that both CALEX and LRI have met several times and there is no interest in merging from either side. The only interest that they share is making sure there is coverage when a call comes in. Mr. Kascenska stated the key for both organizations is intercepts to ensure there is coverage.

Mr. Thompson asked if the LRI Board has looked into using a different formula other than the flat rate. Mr. Thompson was of the opinion that not all calls are created equal. For instance, going to Darling Inn is not the same as responding to a call in Newark. He felt there should be an attempt to level the playing field when setting the rates. Mr. Kascenska stated that they are using the formula established by the Charter. If the Town of Lyndon wishes to address the rate structure a Charter change would be required.

Kermit Fisher asked if there was any improvement on the horizon regarding revenues from federal payments. Mr. Kascenska said he did not know the answer.

In closing, Dan Daley asked that the LRI Board take a hard look at the budget and try to look for some cuts. Mr. Kascenska said they have been working on the budget for months and that this was the budget they were proposing. It will not go up.

Mr. Kascenska made a request for Lyndon to find a representative to the LRI Board. Bruce James is unable to make the meetings due to a scheduling conflict.

Jillian McLaughlin left an updated copy of the Lyndon Rescue By-laws for the Selectboard to review.

7. Postponed Zoning By-law Changes: At the Selectboard hearing held on November 13, 2018 in the Conference Room of the Municipal Building, the Selectboard took testimony from the public on proposed amendments to the Town of Lyndon Zoning Bylaws pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4441. The proposed amendments included:

1. The addition of a minimum lot width/depth ratio of 20% for the Rural Residential District; and
2. Increasing the minimum lot size in the Rural Residential District to 10 Acres.

Christian Thompson made a motion to approve both changes to the Lyndon Zoning By-laws. Dan Daley seconded, and the motion was denied 0-3. The Board felt that a 10 acre minimum was far too restrictive as was the lot width/depth ratio. Among the concerns were that the 10 acre minimum would price certain people out, and that not everyone wants, needs, or can afford 10 acres of land. The Rural Residential District is by far the largest zoning district in Lyndon and these changes would eliminate a large portion of Lyndon as an option for many people due to the price of lots. The other concern was that many people had land they have kept as part of their retirement planning, and jumping from 1 acre to 10 acre lots is extreme and has an effect on private landowners financial planning. The Board stated that they would follow up with the Planning Commission and discuss areas within the By-laws that they felt were a larger concern than lot size in the Rural Residential District. The Selectboard felt there were more immediate concerns with the current flood regulations that needed to be prioritized.

8. SBCA Air Pac Fire Equipment Addendum: Christian Thompson made a motion to approve the addendum to the contract between the St. Johnsbury Fire Department and the Lyndon Fire Department so that the contract reads that Lyndon will make three equal payments of \$8,333.33 to the Town of St. Johnsbury and not to the vendor of St. Johnsbury's choosing for equipment for St. Johnsbury Fire Department. The correction was made for auditing purposes. Dan Daley seconded the motion, and the motion carried 3-0 with the Municipal Administrator approved to execute the document.

9. UPS Trailer at the Public Safety Building: UPS has once again requested to park a trailer at the Public Safety Building for the holiday season to help expedite deliveries in the Village. Dan Daley made a motion to approve the request with the conditions that UPS coordinate the location with both the Fire Chief and the Public Works Director. In addition, UPS would make a small donation to the Volunteer Fire Department. Christian Thompson seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

10. Lyndon Outing Club Maintenance Request: The Lyndon Outing Club discovered a plumbing leak in the building at Shonyo Park. As a result of the leak the Village Public Works Department determined that plumbing upgrades were necessary to meet code. Lyndon Outing Club received a quote for the work from Fred's Energy for \$563.58. Christian Thompson stated that the building is the Town's property and the work is to maintain the building and prevent further damage to the structure. Christian Thompson made a motion to pay for the necessary work in an amount not to exceed \$563.58. Dan Daley seconded, and the motion carried 3-0.

11. Earley Rubbish and Recycling: Kermit Fisher asked if any effort was going to be made to be reimbursed for the costs associated with the reimbursement expenses from unused stickers and other costs from Earley Rubbish and Recycling abruptly discontinuing their service. After a discussion about taking Earley Rubbish and Recycling to court the Selectboard decided that the Municipal Administrator should first attempt to reach out to Mr. Earley offering a payment plan so that the whole amount is not due at once. Mr. Smith said he would write the letter and get it sent out.

With no other business to attend to Kermit Fisher adjourned the meeting at 6:57 PM.