

TOWN OF LYNDON
SELECTBOARD MEETING
December 11, 2017
5:30 PM

Selectboard

Martha “Marty” Feltus
Kermit Fisher
Dan Daley

Press

Amy Nixon
Jessica – News 7 (LSC)

Public

Dawn Dwyer, Justin Smith, Steve Gray, Chris Carr
Tennyson Marceau, Jon Bouffard, Sarah Houghton
Dayna Jewell, Chris Thompson, Jon Skates,
Gary Lavine, John Kascenska, Bruce James
Steve Earley, Jim McLain

1. Adjustments to the Agenda:
Remove #10 – Library Draft Budget
2. Approval of minutes:
Motion made by Kermit Fisher, seconded by Dan Daley, to approve the November 27, 2017 minutes.
Motion carried 3 to 0.
3. Approval & Signing of Orders drawn on the Treasurer:
The Board approved and signed the orders drawn on the Treasurer for weeks #49-50.
4. Highway Report:
At 94% through the year, payroll is 99% spent and the entire budget is 75% expended.
5. Fenton Chester Ice Arena Discussion:
Chris Carr, General Manager, came to give an update on how the last season went and the plans and goals for the next season. Chris explained that in August they installed a new compressor and in October they had issues with it. Trying to make ice with one compressor and with temperatures as warm as they were this year was a difficult task. A new compressor was installed the end of October. Ice is fine. The season ends March 4, 2018, the ice will come out and the artificial turf will go in. January – March are full with school groups, high school teams, adult leagues, public skating and skating lessons on Sundays. Lyndon Institute is off for three weeks for the holidays and they are looking to fill space with more public skating. Lyndon Area Youth Hockey Association (LAYHA) is going strong with six teams. LAYHA does a Learn To Skate program on Saturday mornings. Chris discussed the major equipment in the Arena. Compressors are now up and running, dehumidifier is functioning properly, but the mechanic for the Zamboni has informed them that due to the weak frame, the Zamboni needs to be replaced this year. Chris has looked into purchasing a used Zamboni. Costs range from \$30,000 to \$300,000 for a new one. A lot of soccer camps, soccer groups and high schools used the turf last summer. Chris was asked about the long range plans and he said they are talking about it now. Justin had a meeting with Twila Perry, Interim Headmaster, today, and they reviewed the agreement and facilities as Twila is new to her position. Chris was thanked for his time and attention to the facility.
6. Trash & Recycling Bids:
The Board received bids and postponed making a decision until they could ask the current hauler some questions and get some clarification on reliability and communication issues that have arisen recently. Steve Earley explained that he had a plan in place to cover any situations that came up, but chaos and bad luck hit his company in the past few weeks. He had mechanical issues with a couple of his trucks and being a small company he is unable to carry a large fleet in case something like this happens. As

explained by Dan Daley, the biggest issue was the lack of communication to the Town and residents. Steve agreed that was a problem with only a part-time person in the office and they are not connected to any social media forums. He was asked that moving forward, let the Town Office know so that we can get the information to the residents in a timelier manner. Steve will do better with the communication issue. Marty explained that overall the Town is pleased with how the service has been operated over the last two years and to have an affordable service available, but just to emphasize better communication with the Town. Dan Daley asked if there were two separate trucks, one for trash and one for recycling. Steve explained that while they were down a truck, the truck they used was divided: half for trash and half for recycling. The recycling was single streamed and then resorted after. It wasn't the most efficient method, but it enabled the services to be offered. It is being sorted and recycled. Steve apologized for the inconveniences caused by the breakdowns, but they are now on the upswing and back on track.

Gary Lavine & Jon Skates from Casella asked if there were any questions regarding the bid they submitted. Marty explained that the Town was not inclined to enter multi-year contracts with the state regulations as they are. Casella's bid included a five year and a ten year option. The Casella bids were with the Town of Lyndon for a flat fee and the Town was looking for options where the residents would pay for the volume they generated as per state law in Act 48. Casella feels their options are the most efficient and convenient for the residents for a reasonable cost. Marty explained that their options would not meet the needs of small volume customers and the Town is trying to find the most economical and reliable service for all the residents. The Board would be interested in hearing other options available from Casella and other haulers prior to the next bidding cycle.

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Kermit Fisher, to accept Earley Rubbish & Recycling's bid for 2018 at the rate of \$3 per bag of trash and the annual recycling cost of \$67,176. Motion carries 3-0. Sanitation charges for 2018 will be determined by looking at the 2018 Sanitation budget. The Sanitation charge covers two bulky weeks, one in May the other in October, Green-up days expenses and illegal dumping cleanup.

7. Lyndon Rescue Draft Budget:

John Kascenska, President of the Board of Directors for Lyndon Rescue, Inc. (LRI) presented to the Board their 2018 proposed budget. Jon Bouffard, Director of Operations was introduced as he was hired in June 2017. Jon began his duties with reviewing and reorganizing the budget. The 2018 draft budget represents a 75% increase overall (2017 \$777,837 vs 2018 \$1,038,405). Their request from the Town of Lyndon is up 78%, from \$133,220 in 2017 to \$237,703 in 2018. Much of the budget increase comes from salaries and benefits. The LRI Board has been working with Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH) and Calnex on collaboration. Jon Bouffard explained that the budget has been challenging and he started the budget creation with a blank slate, never comparing to the previous budget. He looked at current expenses and spending patterns and wrote a new budget in a new format. He presented the draft summary that has not been voted on by the Board at this time and answered questions from the Selectboard. The Town will receive a formal letter once the budget has been approved by LRI's board.

8. Nitrogen Optimization Plan Amendment:

The Agency of Natural Resources, for our Discharge Permit, has required us to study our nitrogen levels that we discharge in our discharge procedure. After our plan is in place for a year and a half we have to provide an update to where our process and levels are at. Aldrich & Elliot has offered to provide engineering consultant services for a cost not to exceed \$5,000. This must be done by June 2018. Aldrich & Elliot wrote the original plan so it makes sense to stay with them for the re-evaluation. Motion made by Kermit Fisher, seconded by Dan Daley, to enter into a contract with Aldrich & Elliott to evaluate the effectiveness of the nitrogen optimization plan, for a fee not to exceed \$5,000, as a

requirement of our Discharge Permit and to allow Justin Smith, Municipal Administrator, to sign as duly authorized agent for the Selectboard. Motion carried 3-0.

9. Perpetual Care Agreement:

Motion made by Kermit Fisher, seconded by Dan Daley, to approve the Perpetual Care Agreement for the Brett & Amy Gale lot (Section 49 Lot 37). Motion carried 3 to 0.

10. South Wheelock Road Grant Closing:

Justin presented to the Board the Request for Reimbursement (TA65) from the Vermont Agency of Transportation to receive the \$175,000 grant awarded for the South Wheelock project. Justin has submitted all expenses as required. Motion made by Kermit Fisher, seconded by Dan Daley, to sign the Request for Reimbursement. Motion carried 3-0. Justin will forward the signed request to Shauna Clifford for reimbursement.

11. Other:

- a. Justin shared an email from John Hall regarding the Caledonia County Budget. They are anticipating a 3-4% increase. The exact amount will be determined as soon as the equalized grand list is received from the state around mid-December and they hold their two public meetings.
- b. The Northeast Kingdom Classical Series sent a letter of thanks for the donation made by the Town of Lyndon in memory of Robert Gensburg, the Town Agent.
- c. Green Up Vermont has sent a second request to be included for a Special Appropriation. They have stated that they do not have time to provide a signed petition as requested by the Selectboard. Justin will reiterate the process that is required to be considered on the warrant for an appropriation.
- d. Steve Gray informed the Board that the NEKWMD meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 12th has been cancelled. He also feels that the number of compost totes for Lyndon are overstated. Derby has 5000 residents and has only 8 compost totes. Steve also pointed out the \$21,000 line item in the proposed budget required by the Agency of Natural Resources to be used in case the District shuts down. Steve will have more information on this item after the January meeting.
- e. Chris Thompson encouraged the Board to keep the discussion going on the use of the old Town Highway garage. He also mentioned that Water Shed grants are due mid-January 2018 for planning. Chris would be willing to help with the grant to be used for conceptual designs or options for the use of the property.
- f. The presentation from the Arts and Recreation Department Committee on Monday, December 4th was incomplete. The financials were not available for the meeting. The committee has offered to come before the boards again with a more complete presentation.
- g. Tennyson Marceau thanked Justin for utilizing some of NVRH's services and installing non-smoking signs at the Municipal Office Building. Tenny is partnering with the Vermont Department of Health focusing on Lyndon for a healthier community. Tenny also worked with Chief Jack Harris in getting the prescription drop box at the Public Safety Building. Marty asked that a note be added to the Town Report notifying residents that the drop box is available.

- h. Open term petitions are due by January 25, 2018 by 4:30 PM. The available offices will be listed on Front Porch Forum and the website. Petitions can be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office. Candidates must be a registered voter in the Town of Lyndon.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM

Minutes taken by Dawn Dwyer

Approved by the Selectboard: January 8, 2018