



TOWN OF LYNDON  
SELECTBOARD MEETING  
December 23, 2019  
5:30 PM

Selectboard: Dan Daley, Chair; Christian Thompson, Fred Gorham

Officials: Dawn Dwyer, Justin Smith

Press:

Public: Steve Gray, Al Robertson, Sarah Cousino

1. Adjustments to the Agenda:

\*Line Striping Payment      \* Development & Review Board Positions      \* LI Lights Request

2. Approval of minutes:

Motion made by Christian Thompson, seconded by Fred Gorham, to approve the December 9, 2019 minutes as amended. 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 # 50-51

4. Warrant #42 Rural Edge Modified:

Motion made by Christian Thompson, seconded by Fred Gorham, to approve and sign the Gilman Housing order drawn on the Treasurer for Warrant #42 in the amount of \$9,430. Motion carried 3 to 0.

5. Sno-Cruisers Letter of Support Request:

Al Robertson, a member of the Lyndon Sno-Cruisers Club (LSC) came before the Board to request a letter of support for a federal Rural Business Enterprise Grant (RBEG) to help pay for a new trail groomer and drag. LSC has more miles to groom with old equipment. Part of the grant application is to verify that towns and businesses served by the club are actually in support of recreational snowmobiling, the club's activities and services including the club's trails, and grooming efforts.

Motion made by Fred Gorham, seconded by Christian Thompson, to support Lyndon Sno-Cruisers in seeking a Rural Business Enterprise grant for equipment by way of a letter of support to be signed by Dan Daley, Chair. Motion carried 3-0.

6. Listers Errors & Omissions:

Dawn Dwyer, Treasurer, presented to the Board for consideration an Errors and Omissions Certificate for changes to the Comcast Corporation assessment. Cable companies can depreciate their value by 40% annually and the depreciation for 2019 was overlooked. Motion made by Christian Thompson, seconded by Fred Gorham, to approve the Errors & Omissions Certificate lowering Comcast Corporation's assessment from \$41,935 to \$19,921 for the 2019 tax year. Motion carried 3-0.

7. Liquor License:

Lyndon Buffet was sold on December 3, 2019. Therefore, the new owners must apply for their own First-Class Restaurant liquor license. Motion made by Fred Gorham, seconded by Christian Thompson, to approve the First-Class Restaurant Liquor License for Lyndon Buffet LI Inc., doing business as Lyndon Buffet. Motion carried 3-0.

8. Wastewater Abatement Request:

Chuck Guest was away for ten days in the fall. When he returned there was water dripping from the siding. There was a leak in a water filter that was designed more for gravity fed water sources. The last quarter water bill was for 19,000 gallons and their average usage is 7,000 gallons. Motion made by

Christian Thompson, seconded by Dan Daley, to approve a wastewater abatement of 12,000 gallons in the amount of \$103.80. Motion carried 2-0 with Fred Gorham abstained from the vote.

9. Regionalization of Fire Services Study: Matching Contribution:

NVDA received a grant for the regionalization of fire services study. There is a match for the grant which St. Johnsbury and Waterford have already agreed to pay a part of. The match required of Lyndon would be not more than \$2,500. Motion made by Christian Thompson, seconded by Fred Gorham, to approve up to \$2,500 toward the Regionalization of Fire Services Study. Motion carried 3-0.

10. Executive Session: Labor Relations:

Motion made by Fred Gorham, seconded by Christian Thompson, to find that premature general public knowledge of the pending union negotiations with the Police Department will clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage by disclosing its negotiation strategy. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion made by Christian Thompson, seconded by Fred Gorham, to enter executive session at 6:44 PM to discuss the union negotiations with the Police Department under the provisions of Title 1, Section 313(a)(1)] of the Vermont Statutes.” Motion carried 3-0.

Motion made by Dan Daley, seconded by Fred Gorham to come out of executive session at 7:25 PM. No action was taken.

11. Personnel Policy:

An updated Personnel Policy was presented to the Board back in August but was never adopted. Motion made by Fred Gorham, seconded by Christian Thompson, to adopt the Personnel Policy as revised. Motion carried 3-0.

12. Line Striping Payment:

Rob Nutting, Road Foreman, finds the quality of the line striping done by L&D Safety Marking Corporation unacceptable. There is no paint left on Pudding Hill where the issue of the paint coming off onto approximately forty vehicles occurred. Other areas are unacceptable as well. Motion made by Christian Thompson, seconded by Fred Gorham, to deny payment of the balance due to L&D Safety Marking Corporation until a resolution can be agreed upon. Motion carried 3-0.

13. Development & Review Board Positions:

Currently, Dave Keenan is a member of the DRB and Pauline Harris is an alternate. Due to time commitments, Dave would like to be appointed as the alternate and Pauline would like to be the Board member and fill out the remaining term for Dave Keenan. Motion made by Christian Thompson, seconded by Fred Gorham, to appoint Dave Keenan as alternate and Pauline Harris to fill the remaining two years of a three-year term vacated by Dave Keenan. Motion carried 3-0.

14. Lyndon Institute (LI) Football Field Lights Request:

Lyndon Institute would like to use temporary lighting, for the Barrell Bowl football game against North Country on October 2, 2020. Motion made by Fred Gorham, seconded by Christian Thompson, to approve the use of temporary lights on October 2, 2020 only. Motion carried 3-0.

15. Other:

- a. Sarah Cousino updated the Board on Lyndon Rescue Inc. (LRI). The LRI Board approved their budget. Regionalization talks with the Calex Ambulance Service (CAS) Board have begun. Sarah asked the Selectboard if they had a timeline, they would like to see regionalization happen. Sarah said both LRI & CAS would like to see in the next three to six months better communications between the two organizations, collaborative training and consolidated services and contracts. The Selectboard would like to see cost effective services going forward as there is a considerable difference in per capita assessment between the two organizations.

- b. Chadwick & Kristina Roy were sent, and signed for, a letter from the Selectboard agreeing to reduce their zoning violation fine from \$22,600 down to \$1,200. They have been given until Friday, January 3, 2020 to either pay the fine or set up a payment plan. It was decided that the Board would accept no less than monthly payments for no longer than six (6) months.
- c. The Town has received the 2019 Equalization Study Results. Lyndon's Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) is 15.05% and the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) is 100.28%. A COD over 20% necessitates a reappraisal and a CLA below 85% or over 115% necessitates a reappraisal per 32 V.S.A §4041a.
- d. The rental agreement between the Town of Lyndon and Lyndon Rescue Inc. has been signed. The Agreement terms are for twelve (12) months, commencing on November 1, 2019.
- e. Steve Gray reported that the NEKWMD met on December 10<sup>th</sup>. On the agenda was a request to have the Executive Board sign the Warning. Paul Tomasi, Director, informed those in attendance that this was not allowed. Whether to not pay the dues to the District Managers Association was tabled until the January 2020 meeting. The NEKWMD Executive Board was split on whether to stay in or leave.
- f. It was suggested to put the draft copy of the Town Plan on the Town's website as well as advertise its availability on Front Porch Forum. Currently it can be found on [www.envisionLyndon.org](http://www.envisionLyndon.org).