

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2018

Present: Parker Lord, John Kiker, Steven Mattson

The meeting was called to order at 3:33 P.M. and the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

The selectmen were made aware of the passing of Christopher Johnston, one of the members of the Johnston family who are involved in the land sale to the town. The board expresses their condolences to the family.

The town's upcoming move to the Ledge Light Health District was again discussed and the need for a public hearing to meet the requirements of such a change was also discussed. Selectman Kiker will handle the logistics of this meeting and advise the board and town of the date and agenda.

The selectmen authorized the First Selectman to approve changes in the Senior Center's by-laws. The most noticeable change will be the lowering of the minimum age for inclusion in the center's programs from 60 to 55 years of age.

The selectmen also approved the use of town roads for a road race on April 8 in Lyme and Old Lyme to benefit the high school class of 2020. The Emergency management department and the fire company will be made aware of this event. The sponsors will make volunteers available for traffic control and are not requesting assistance from the town or for state police coverage.

The selectmen have been invited to the Friends of Whalebone Cove's meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> to provide an update on the long term plans for Selden Landing.

The selectmen approved a request for \$2,000 to be included in next year's budget for the next phase of eradication of Phragmites on Lord Cove. This project has been ongoing and is estimated to cost over \$130,000 and is being funded by the stakeholders and landowners involved based upon the size of the parcels owned by each.

Selectman Mattson advised the board that a replacement for the land use secretary will be needed at the end of the fiscal year and that steps are needed to locate a qualified replacement beforehand for training.

The town has recently received a demand from the Office of Policy and Management for the return of unspent funds from the Nutmeg grant at the end of this fiscal year. This represents a change in the terms of the grant and places \$24,000 at risk. The town has placed in a separate fund all of the grant monies not needed for the installation of high speed fiber at town hall and is using those remaining funds to pay for the annual charges associated as was allowable under the terms of the grant. The town will protest this change in the rules and work to retain our funds.

The selectmen were given a draft of the budget documents to be presented on March 15 to the Board of Finance. A quick review of the documents was held and the selectmen's recommendation will not be voted upon until after April 1<sup>st</sup> when the school district's final student count between Lyme and Old Lyme is known.

The board discussed the ability to communicate weather related announcements to the town as part of its communication enhancement plans. The lack of a single source of information for road closures, power outages etc. was noted and the Selectmen and the Emergency Management Department will be meeting to see what information can be made available and therefore used in communications.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Mattson  
For the Board of Selectmen