



SELECTMEN'S MINUTES
MONDAY JUNE 15, 2020

Present: Parker Lord, John Kiker, Steven Mattson, Carleen Gerber

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 P.M. and the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

The board and Ms. Gerber discussed the Black Lives Matter movement along with criminal justice reform. Ms. Gerber suggested that Lyme question the state police regarding their methods and training along with a request to display a BLM banner at town hall to show the town's support. The board expressed their agreement with the BLM movement and will be exploring the acquisition of a suitable banner. The board disagreed with questioning the state police as it was felt that this was a state issue as Lyme does not employ a resident state trooper. Consideration was also given to including suitable discussion materials in the next BOS newsletter.

The board proceeded with the reappointment of 3 members of the Lyme's Senior Center Board of Directors; Doris Hungerford, Diana Seckla and Gary Weed were reappointed.

The Board also reappointed J. Melvin Woody and Wendy Hill as the town's representatives to the CT River Gateway Commission.

The board discussed and approved an Amendment to the Conservation Restriction on the former Blackwell property on Keeney Road. This amendment is required to allow the property owners to sell their property to the state for inclusion in Nehantic State Forest. The amendment has been written to suspend a small number of the restriction's passages during the time of state ownership. Should the state later sell the property, Lyme's restrictions will again take effect to assure permanent protection of the property.

The board was updated on the status of our application to the Eight Mile River Watershed for a grant to assist in development of an entry and parking for the Johnston Preserve on a state highway. Lyme was awarded a grant of \$5,000 with this amount increasing to \$7,500 should additional funds become available at the start of the next fiscal year from the National Park Service. The town has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding and can apply for the reimbursement funds when the project is completed.

The board also discussed the impact on employee vacations resulting from the COVID-19 shutdown. It was decided that the policy of not carrying forward unused vacation days into the following fiscal year be modified so that any employee who could not use their available vacation days will be permitted to carry forward up to 5 days to the subsequent year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Mattson
For the Board of Selectmen