



SELECTMEN'S MINUTES
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

Present: Parker Lord, John Kiker, Steven Mattson, Bill Koch, Bill Denow, Betsy Copp, George Fowler, Rolf Wolfswinkel, Mary Guitar and 2 other residents.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 P.M. and the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

Mr. Koch updated the Selectmen and residents on his effort to have CTDOT address the deteriorating concrete wall on Rte. 156 in Hamburg center. DOT has determined that the wall falls completely within the state highway right-of-way and that DOT is responsible for its maintenance. DOT also advised Mr. Koch that the state does not have the funds needed to address this problem in the foreseeable future. DOT will study the wall's structural integrity and report its findings to the town. Should the structure be sound, DOT will not plan any remediation, but will agree to allowing the town to make the necessary repairs or improvements using the town's own funds. Mr. Koch will report on DOT's analysis and hopefully provide an estimate of the cost of repair for the Board of Finance to consider.

The residents in attendance held a dialogue with the Selectmen on the issue of aesthetic improvements in the town. It was the sense of the discussion that the residents would like to see the town spend a greater portion of its annual funding on projects which will enhance the beauty of the town consistent with the town's character. Examples cited were the condition and type of guard rails used and included a preference for the use of wooden guard rails and decorative stone in bridge construction. The discussion included an explanation of the trade-off between additional spending for aesthetics and the number of projects that can be completed within a limited budget allocation. The board expressed its commitment to continue considering the town character in all infrastructure projects and its previously implemented plans to address the safety and appearance of the town's road system. It was suggested that the residents attend Board of Finance meetings to convey their opinions to that board, which ultimately approves the town's spending plans. The board also expressed its willingness to review plans for specific areas of beautification that volunteers may want to address directly should such plans be brought forward to the board.

The board completed the appointment of Ron Rose as the town's Building Official that had been overlooked.

Three tax refund requests were approved in the amounts of \$28.83, \$4,516.68, and \$74.20.

The board discussed and approved a plan to accept the transfer of North Lyme Cemetery and the assets of the North Lyme Cemetery Association to the town. This transfer will require a finding by the Planning & Zoning Commission that the acceptance is consistent with the Plan of Conservation and Development, Town Meeting approval and the dissolution of the Association subsequent to transfer.

Mr. Kiker updated the board on the publication of the Selectmen's Summer Newsletter that is being sent to residents currently.

The board passed a resolution authorizing the First Selectman to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with State Homeland Security to allow for the award of the Homeland Security Grant Program funding for 2020. The Resolution states:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Steven Mattson, as First Selectman of the Town of Lyme, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and to do and perform all acts and things which he/she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

The board was advised that external cameras will be installed at Town Hall to address a number of vandalism and theft instances that have occurred and that external cameras will be added to the Library during the next budget cycle.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Mattson
For the Board of Selectmen