

1 Town of Lincoln, Vermont  
2 Select Board Meeting Minutes  
3 Lincoln Town Office  
4 January 23, 2018 7:00 p.m.  
5

6 In attendance: Bill Finger, Chair, Paul Forlenza, Oakley Smith, Will Sipse, Ann Kensek, Steve  
7 Revell of Lincoln Planning Commission, Owen Farnsworth, deputy chairman of Lincoln  
8 Planning Commission, Tina Scharf, Kathleen Kolb, Ann Fisher, Thayer Osborne. Absent: James  
9 Needham.  
10

11 Hearing on Town Plan pursuant to 24 VSA §4385:

- 12 • The Town Plan is used as a basis for Zoning and other Town ordinances. For major  
13 development applications, certain sections are used as review criteria in Act 250 and  
14 other State regulatory proceedings. All areas within the Town of Lincoln are affected.
- 15 • Having received the final Town Plan from the Town Planning Commission, it is the duty  
16 of the Select Board to approve the Plan.
- 17 • A discussion of tree canopy roads arose. The Planning Commission has asked the Select  
18 Board to consider establishing rules and regulations that will influence control of power  
19 companies in using canopy roads.
- 20 • A suggestion was made to change the word *artisanal* to *entrepreneurial* production.
- 21 • It was suggested that substantial changes in the Town Plan will require another draft,  
22 discussion, and approval of the Plan.
- 23 • A question arose about the term *substantial change*.
- 24 • Tina Scharf suggested additional wording regarding electrical lines being buried on  
25 canopy roads.
- 26 • It was suggested that a process will need to be set in motion for an ordinance or policy  
27 regarding canopy roads.
- 28 • Steve Revell clarified that the purpose of the Town Plan is for citizens to read in order to  
29 understand where the town is currently and in what direction it will progress in the future.
- 30 • Kathleen Kolb requested adding wording that cutting of trees on canopy roads will be  
31 minimized. To wit: Preserve the tunnel roads by minimizing the cutting of roadside trees.
- 32 • Bill Finger clarified that the purpose of the Town Plan is to provide a framework for the  
33 Town's operation, specifically in regard to canopy roads.
- 34 • Relating to Green Mountain National Forest parking at Lincoln Gap improved access, it  
35 was expressed that with cars parked along the road, there is not enough room for  
36 emergency vehicles to get through. Steve Revell expressed that he did not believe that  
37 added wording regarding parking access to be a substantive change to the Plan.
- 38 • Owen Farnsworth noted that the Plan addresses parking safety under the heading "Work  
39 Cooperatively with the United States Forest Service to manage portions of the Green  
40 Mountain National Forest within Lincoln" (page 83, line 22).
- 41 • Will Sipse suggested that the Town of Warren be involved in policies dealing with  
42 Lincoln Gap.
- 43 • It was recognized that Steve Revell is satisfied with the wording in the Plan dealing with  
44 Forest Service parking problems.

- 45 • Oakley Smith raised an issue with the Plan's 150 kw limit for commercial solar in  
 46 Lincoln. He suggested that wording regarding acreage would be preferred.  
 47 • Oakley also questioned the wording about preserving agricultural lands when forest land  
 48 is greater area in the Town.  
 49 • Oakley also questioned that wording about initial contract for services relative to the  
 50 power company be clarified.  
 51 • Owen Farnsworth said that the line item regarding kilowatt limits may need to be  
 52 rephrased by Adam Lougee, Executive Director of the Addison County Regional  
 53 Planning Commission, to indicate that the scale of solar panels be appropriate.  
 54 • Owen also noted that the Public Service Commission uses the measurement kilowatt.  
 55 • Tina Scharf requested wording regarding a recommendation that power companies bury  
 56 electric lines on existing canopy roads in current rights of way (page 28, line 8).  
 57 • Tina expressed appreciation to Owen for fine work on the Town Plan.  
 58 • Bill Finger summarized the major points of the Town Plan discussion and declared that  
 59 the Select Board would address the changes. He also deferred approval until the next  
 60 meeting, which will be open to the public.

61

62 Public hearing adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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64 Regular Select Board meeting convened at 7:57 p.m.

65

66 Additions to the agenda: A line item for new Town Shed improvements needs to be added to the  
 67 budget.

68

69 MOTION by Bill Finger, second by Paul Forlenza, to approve meeting agenda as amended.

70 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

71

72 Corrections and additions to minutes of meeting of January 9 meeting: Will Sipsey, not Bill  
 73 Finger, made the motion to approve the meeting agenda.

74

75 MOTION by Paul Forlenza, second by Will Sipsey, to approve minutes of the January 9 meeting  
 76 as amended.

77 MOTION PASSED 3-1-1, Bill Finger abstaining.

78

79 In the absence of Dave Cavoretto, no winter maintenance report was given.

80

81 Text for winter sand signs to be placed at the Town storage shed should be as follows:

- 82 • "Winter sand for private residential use ONLY. Limit 2 five gallon pails. Commercial  
 83 use prohibited."  
 84 • Oakley Smith reported that Dave Cavoretto suggested the wording for a sign to be placed  
 85 at the Town Shed, to wit: "Removal of salt and sand from these premises is not permitted  
 86 due to safety concerns per order of Select Board."  
 87

87

88 Paul Forlenza presented the budget for FY18.

- 89 • Ann Kensek's title is now Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper.  
 90 • \$750 is budgeted for lawn mowing.

- 91 • Cleaning is billed at an annual cost of \$2,000.
- 92 • Total expenses to date are 14.8% higher than last year, driven by health insurance and
- 93 increased hours for administrative assistant.
- 94 • Budget allows 20% for overtime, which appears adequate.
- 95 • Grader originally estimated at \$22,633 has been reduced by \$10,000 under the
- 96 assumption that a new grader will be purchased.
- 97 • Lubricants expense is listed at \$2,500.
- 98 • Garage supplies includes paper products and odds and ends of items.
- 99 • Under Building Maintenance, it was suggested that an energy audit be performed on the
- 100 Red Shed on South Lincoln Road at a cost of \$40,000, \$25,000 to be allocated to the
- 101 capital improvement fund and \$15,000 for maintenance. The main and side attics also
- 102 need improvements.
- 103 • It was suggested that monetary needs for the Red Shed be warned for Town Meeting for
- 104 approval of voters after consultation with Larry Masterson.
- 105 • \$15,000 has been allocated for guardrails.
- 106 • \$10,000 is allocated for grant match Better Back Roads.
- 107 • Expenses for Quaker Street improvements will be covered by Better Back Roads grants.
- 108 • Major road reconstruction projects include Forge Hill, Gove Hill, and Page Hill at an
- 109 estimated combined cost of \$100,000.
- 110 • Currently the FY18 budget is 2.8% above last year.
- 111 • Town residents will be asked to approve a 2.4% increase in taxes.

112  
113 MOTION by Will Sipsey, second by Oakley Smith, to accept the current budget proposal as  
114 presented.

115 Discussion: Adjustments to bring down the tax rate.

116 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

117

118 Oakley Smith presented check warrants:

119

120 MOTION by Oakley Smith, second by Bill Finger, to approve Payroll Account check warrant  
121 18/2 in the amount of \$4,193.86 and Payroll Account check warrant 18/30 in the amount of  
122 \$3,567.33. Highlights: Some overtime and salary for Sally Laframboise for training.

123 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

124

125 MOTION by Oakley Smith, second by Paul Forlenza, to approve Accounts Payable check  
126 warrant 18/30 in the amount of \$14,353.19. Highlights: none.

127 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

128

129 Misc. New Business

- 130 • Vermont Gran Fondo requests approval for a bicycle event.

131

132 MOTION by Paul Forlenza, second by Will Sipsey, to approve the Vermont Gran Fondo event.

133 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

134

135 Town Meeting Warning:

- 136       • Budget will be modified according to tonight's discussion.  
 137       • Select Board members will come by the office to sign the warning before Thursday.  
 138

139 Article 17 relating to climate change will be voted on by Vermont towns in March.  
 140

141 MOTION by Paul Forlenza, second by Will Sipse, to approve the articles as presented by Bill  
 142 Finger with the addition of an article to spend money out of the capital plan for repairs to the red  
 143 shed, including the expenses approved in the FY19 budget.

144 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.  
 145

146 MOTION by Will Sipse, second by Oakley Smith, to approve Select Board Report to the  
 147 Citizens of the Town of Lincoln.

148 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.  
 149

150 Planning Commission and Zoning Board member terms expire in September 2018. There is a  
 151 request to extend the positions for three years. Members of the Burnham Board also need to be  
 152 reappointed.

153  
 154 Paul Forlenza should be recognized as an official member of the Regional Planning Commission.  
 155

156 MOTION by Paul Forlenza, second by Will Sipse, to approve the reappointment for three  
 157 additional years of board members whose terms expire September 2018. Planning Board: Aaron  
 158 Thomas, Victor Atkins, Owen Farnsworth, Sally Taylor, Tommie Thompson. Zoning Board:  
 159 David Brett, Barry Olson, Jonathan Berg. Addison County Regional Planning Commission  
 160 delegates whose terms expire July 2018: Steve Revell and Paul Forlenza. Walter S. Burnham  
 161 Foundation Committee Board members whose terms expire in 2020: Ann Pollender and David  
 162 Wetmore.

163 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.  
 164

165 Highway Weight Permit Violation:

- 166       • It appears that Cox Construction or another logging company has damaged new  
 167       pavement on Gove Hill.  
 168       • A notice has been sent to Cox Construction requesting that the Lincoln road foreman be  
 169       notified before heavy machinery is driven on the roads.  
 170       • The extent of the damage has not been determined.  
 171

172 Moose Rubbish & Recycling submitted a bill for services at the transfer station for 2017.  
 173

174 One of the leaders of Zeno Mountain Farm should be invited to a Select Board Meeting to obtain  
 175 permission for event participants to park along Zeno Road.  
 176

177 Regular meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.  
 178

179 Respectfully submitted,  
 180 Ellie Bryant