

1 Town of Lincoln, Vermont
2 Select Board Meeting Minutes
3 Lincoln Town Office
4 February 6, 2018 7:00 p.m.
5

6 In attendance: Bill Finger, Chair, Paul Forlenza, Oakley Smith, Will Sipse, Ann Kensek, Eric
7 Dotolo. Absent: James Needham.
8

9 Additions to the agenda: Move Mr. Dotolo up to public comment.
10

11 MOTION by Paul Forlenza, second by Oakley Smith, to approve meeting agenda as amended.
12

13 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.
14

15 Corrections and additions to minutes of meeting of January 23 meeting: Line 111 should read,
16 “Currently the projected FY19 budget is 2.8% above FY18.”

17 MOTION by Paul Forlenza, second by Bill Finger, to approve minutes of the January 23 meeting
18 as amended.

19 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.
20

21 Public Comment:

- 22 • Mr. Dotolo is considering a piece of land on Lincoln Gap Road to build a camp. He has
23 not yet made an offer on the land but requested information about a potential parking area
24 and winter road access.
- 25 • Past discussion regarding potential purchases of land beyond the road closure was
26 summarized.
- 27 • Grade increases and turnaround area are major concerns for plowing beyond current
28 stopping point.
- 29 • Mr. Dotolo was informed that the Select Board, along with the Forest Service, will make
30 a decision regarding a parking area and responsibility for maintaining it.
31

32 Adoption of Proposed 2018 Town Plan:

- 33 • Clarifications and non-substantive changes responding to public discussion at January 23
34 Public Hearing on the Proposed Plan were appended to the end of the Plan on pages 84
35 and 85 and incorporated into the text of the Plan as follows:
36

37 CLARIFICATIONS and non-substantive changes responding to public discussion at January 23,
38 2018 Public Hearing on the Proposed Plan.
39

40 Following the Lincoln Select Board public hearing on the proposed new Town Plan, the
41 following non-substantive changes have been made part of the plan. These changes are intended
42 only to clarify and enhance language approved by the Lincoln Planning Commission on
43 December 14, 2017.
44

- 45 • **Item/Concern** Protection of road “canopies” from intentional or inadvertent damage or
 46 destruction by road construction, repair or replacement of utility lines or other similar
 47 human activity.

48 **Goals:**

- 49 ○ Lincoln Planning Commission identifies all town road segments that qualify as
 50 “canopied roads”
 51 ○ Lincoln Select Board adopts policy and/or ordinance governing all construction
 52 and maintenance work on “canopied roads as identified above.
 53 ○ Where the current location of utility lines does not presently impact Lincoln’s
 54 highly valued road canopies, the lines should not be moved to where they will
 55 significantly degrade a road canopy.

56 **REF: p 27, ln 23-31 & p.28 ln 1-4**

- 57 • **Item/Concern** Protection of Viewsheds from degradation by utility poles and lines.

58 **Goals:**

- 59 ○ Require all utility lines requiring structures exceeding 50 feet in height to be
 60 installed underground.
 61 ○ Lincoln Select Board adopts a policy and/or ordinance requiring consideration of
 62 viewsheds before approving any construction or reconstruction of utility lines.
 63 Approval may require underground installation to prevent degradation of the
 64 viewshed.

65 **REF: p.28. ln 6 - 9**

- 66 • **Item/Concern Mass** and scale of commercial solar generation projects should not be
 67 based on 150 kW size.

68 **Goals:**

- 69 ○ Mass and scale should be limited based on terrain, acreage and visibility rather
 70 than kW.
 71 ○ The Town Plan acknowledges that changes in technology may make it feasible to
 72 generate more kW with less impact on acreage and visibility.

73 **REF: p.41 ln 8**

- 74
- 75 • **Item/Concern** Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF) Asset and Burden. While we
 76 acknowledge the extraordinary value of the Green Mountain National Forest for
 77 preservation, conservation and providing vast varieties of opportunity for recreational
 78 pursuits we are equally concerned about the burden it places on the Town of Lincoln for
 79 emergency services, law enforcement, management and public safety. The federal
 80 government provides only a paltry sum to the Town in lieu of taxes on its property.

81

82

83 **Goals:**

- 84 ○ The Town should seek more open lines of communication with the USDA
 85 National Forest Service to engage in regular dialogue regarding matters affecting
 86 residents and visitors. The GMNF in Lincoln and vicinity is heavily used given its
 87 proximity to more urban Chittenden County. This location and activity requires
 88 more effective planning and management.
- 89 ○ The GMNF should be pressed to provide property tax equivalent funding for the
 90 Town on an on-going basis. Special funds for planning and implementation of
 91 solutions to specific problems e.g. winter parking on Lincoln Gap Road should be
 92 pursued administratively and legislatively.

93 **REF: p.82 In 15-22**

- 94
- 95 ○ **Item/Concern** – proper use of language is important in all sections of the plan.
 96 ○ **Goal:** Change “artisanal” to “entrepreneurial” to better encompass the vast
 97 wealth of talent that built and continues to build our community.

98 **REF: p.7. In. 20 replace artisanal with entrepreneurial**

- 99
- 100 ● Proofreading corrections were suggested regarding punctuation, grammar, and unity.
 101 ● Green Mountain Power has requested to bury power lines along Varney Road, which
 102 resulted in a request to bury lines along Gove Hill.
 103 ● GMP has requested permission to bury lines in the town ROW in the vicinity of the
 104 Bristol Cliffs wilderness access on York Hill Road. US Forest Service will not allow tree
 105 cutting and overhead poles there because of the federal wilderness designation.
 106

107 MOTION by Paul Forlenza, second by Oakley Smith, to approve the 2018 Town Plan with
 108 additions of pages 84 and 85 and proofreading corrections.

109 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

110

111 In Dave Cavoretto’s absence, the highway report was given by other SB members:

- 112 ● Gravel, sand, and trucking are nearing budgeted expense figures.
 113 ● Salt is well under budget to date.
 114 ● A VTRANS representative will look at the Forge Hill project on Friday at 8:00 a.m.
 115 ● Dave Antone will also give advice regarding Forge Hill.
 116 ● Equipment is holding up.
 117 ● Equipment maintenance is over budget.
 118 ● Dave Antone is generating documents for repairs on Quaker Street and South Lincoln
 119 Road.

120

121 Paul Forlenza presented the budget report:

- 122 ● The projected FY19 budget has been finalized at a less than a 1% increase over FY18.
 123 ● Because of a decrease in surplus from the prior year and a slightly lower grand list, the
 124 estimated tax rate is a 2% increase over last year.

- 125 • Over a four-year period, the budget has increased less than 1% on an annual basis.

126

127 Oakley Smith presented check warrants:

128

129 MOTION by Oakley Smith, second by Paul Forlenza, to approve Accounts Payable check
130 warrant 18/32 in the amount of \$28,985.73. Highlights: Masterson billed \$1,970 for three days of
131 hauling sand. Work has been done on the grader. Bill Finger was reimbursed \$6.74 for mailing a
132 certified letter. Patterson Lawn Care is over budget for snow plowing and shoveling. Road sign
133 expense was \$440. Copier cost is over budget by 400 copies.

134 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

135

136 MOTION by Oakley Smith, second by Paul Forlenza, to approve Payroll Account check warrant
137 18/32 in the amount of \$3,438.82 and Payroll Account check warrant 18/31 in the amount of
138 \$3,494.38. Highlights: Not much overtime.

139 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

140

141 Budget Information Meeting is scheduled for February 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Town office:

- 142 • An agenda will be prepared.
- 143 • Paul Forlenza will present an overview of the budget, and questions will be directed to
144 individuals.
- 145 • The meeting will be posted on the Town website and Front Porch Forum.
- 146 • The Town Report will be distributed at the meeting.
- 147 • The amount of \$123,500 under Highway Department Revenue should be placed under
148 State Aid.
- 149 • The Auditor's Report will become the responsibility of the Select Board and presents a
150 good opportunity to review how Select Board publishes information.

151

152 Approval of 2018 Liquor License for Lincoln General Store:

153

154 MOTION BY Paul Forlenza, second by Will Sipsey, to approve the 2018 Liquor License
155 application for Lincoln General Store.

156 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

157

158 Vermont League of Cities and Towns Local Government day will be February 15 in Montpelier:

- 159 • The meeting presents an opportunity to be informed about the legislature.
- 160 • Any wishing to attend should inform Bill Finger or Ann Kensec for group registration.

161

162 Oakley Smith gave a report on the Town Highway Garage:

- 163 • Averi Smith Construction has given an estimate to replace four keyed doors.
- 164 • Total with four keyed locks is \$7,480, including \$2,600 in labor.
- 165 • Composite jambs could account for the high price.
- 166 • Only two keyed doors are needed, which will lower the cost.
- 167 • All doors are fiberglass. Steel is more expensive and more thermally conductive but rusts
168 over time.

169 • The doors have glass to let in light.

170

171 MOTION by Oakley Smith, second by Paul Forlenza, to accept Averi Smith Construction's
172 estimate to provide four doors for the Town Highway Garage.

173 MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1.

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175 Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

176

177 Respectfully submitted,

178 Ellie Bryant

179