

1 Town of Lincoln, Vermont
2 Minutes of Select Board Meeting
3 Lincoln Town Office
4 March 20, 2018 7:00 p.m. {Approved 4/3/2018}
5

6 In attendance: Bill Finger, Chair; Board Members Paul Forlenza, Will Sipsey, Oakley Smith;
7 Bookkeeper/Admin Ann Kensek, Road Foreman David Cavoretto. Absent: James Needham.
8

9 Agenda adjustments: Mary Arbuckle of North East Addison Television will not attend the
10 meeting. Added approval of Annual Highways Financial Plan for Vtrans. X-session on personnel
11 matters.

12 MOTION by Paul Forlenza, second by Bill Finger, to approve agenda adjustments.

13 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.
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15 MOTION by Bill Finger, second by Paul Forlenza, to approve minutes of 3/7/18 meeting.

16 MOTION PASSED 3-1-1, Will Sipsey abstaining.
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18 MOTION by Bill Finger, second by Paul Forlenza, to approve minutes of 3/12/18 meeting.

19 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.
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21 Dave Cavoretto gave the highway report.
22

23 Winter maintenance:

- 24 • The town's entire sand supply has been depleted including 1500 yards left from the
25 previous year.
- 26 • Bristol has exceeded 1500 yards of sand and is \$20,000 over budget in salt.
- 27 • Four loads of salt have been on order since the middle of February, and one load has been
28 delivered.
- 29 • The State has \$18.5 million budget for salt and has doubled that to date.
- 30 • It was suggested that the harsh winter should be considered for future budgets regarding
31 salt and sand.
- 32 • The annual budget for salt and sand has increased from \$45,000 in FY16 to \$50,000 in
33 FY17, and is at \$60,000 in FY18.
- 34 • To date, sand is slightly over budget and salt is under budget.
- 35 • An email from Andrew Furtsch complained about Colby Hill Road not being sanded.
- 36 • Will Sipsey responded to Mr. Furtsch.
- 37 • It was stated that sanding is done on curves and hills but not on flat stretches of road.
- 38 • Middlebury College orders sand from a provider that charges triple other providers.
- 39 • A suggestion was made that a statement be sent to town residents regarding the sand and
40 salt situation.
- 41 • Because road crew members had vehicles stuck in the snow during the last storm, some
42 roads were plowed later than usual.
- 43 • Paul Forlenza offered to draft an announcement.
- 44 • A citizen approached a Select Board member about the possibility of using beet juice on
45 the roads, which presumably melts ice effectively.

- 46 • A bill for repairs to one of the town trucks will arrive for tires and a hydraulic tank
- 47 damaged in an accident on slippery roads.
- 48 • A question arose about whether a part-time contractor should have been called earlier to
- 49 help with the roads.
- 50 • It was suggested that in an emergency the budget is secondary to safety.
- 51 • A question arose about OSHA regulations regarding number of hours an employee can
- 52 work in one shift. VLCT and Addison County Road Foremen meeting will be consulted
- 53 on this issue.
- 54

55 Projects:

- 56 • Four culverts need replacing on the Gap road.
- 57 • It was suggested that the 1400 feet of road between Lincoln and Warren be bomagged.
- 58 • It was not considered wise for town equipment to work on the 18% grade.
- 59 • Warren has estimated \$85,000 in repairs on their side of the Gap road.
- 60 • It was suggested that if Warren effects repairs on the Gap road, Lincoln should make Gap
- 61 road repairs a priority at the same time, especially if the road will be closed.
- 62 • If Forge Hill Road can be reclassified as a class 2 road, it may be eligible for grant
- 63 money.
- 64 • One BBR grant has been awarded for ditching improvements and repairs on Quaker
- 65 Street.
- 66 • \$40,000 is in the 2019 budget for a grant match under special projects.
- 67 • 20% is a normal grant match, including in-kind work.
- 68 • It was recommended that Quaker Street between Downingsville Road and Zeno Road
- 69 bridge be bomagged along with necessary drainage improvements.
- 70 • Tim Parent of Parent Construction will arrive on Thursday to advise on a grant for box
- 71 culverts.
- 72 • South Lincoln Road is eligible for a structures grant, which includes any structure wider
- 73 than 36 inches, and also is eligible for a water quality grant.
- 74

75 Equipment:

- 76 • Dave Antone provided a Town Equipment Replacement Schedule showing Vermont
- 77 towns' use of graders, including miles graded, paved versus gravel roads, and age of the
- 78 grader.
- 79 • Lincoln has 17 miles of pavement and approximately 35 miles of gravel roads.
- 80 • Comparative towns to Lincoln are Huntington and Starksboro.
- 81 • The grader preliminary comparative longevity analysis indicates:
- 82 ○ Minimum 10 years for Brandon, Hartford, and Hinesburg.
- 83 ○ Maximum 25 years for Mendon and 20 years for Bennington.
- 84 • The current town grader is 13 years old but was purchased used.
- 85 • The current grader needs tires at an estimated cost of \$18,000.
- 86 • The current grader has approximately 6,000 hours on it.
- 87 • Brakes are new on the current grader but additional repairs will be needed.
- 88 • The lead time for getting a new grader is July 1, but the equipment will need to be
- 89 demonstrated before purchase to see which grader is better suited for Lincoln.
- 90 • For future reference, John Deere resale value is not as good as a Cat, based on budget

91 estimates received several months ago.

- 92 • The town has budgeted \$125,000 for new gravel on the roads and discussed ways to
- 93 efficiently use existing staff to maximize equipment use and efficiency.
- 94 • Page Hill repairs will need all crew members on deck.
- 95 • A question arose about getting professional training for current operators.
- 96 • Training and experience must be paramount in future hiring decisions.
- 97 • It was suggested that the Select Board approve advancing to the next step in considering
- 98 a grader purchase, which involves testing both John Deere and Cat graders.
- 99 • It was suggested that instead of purchasing a grader, it be leased with a municipal leasing
- 100 agreement.
- 101 • A new grader would cost \$33,000/year in payments for ten years.
- 102 • The tires on the current grader are so bad that it will be used with chains this spring.
- 103 • The consensus was that the new graders will be demonstrated.

104

105 Snow removal/plowing:

- 106 • The Lincoln School now has a contract with a private plow driver, but his truck is not
- 107 able to handle heavy snows or move large piles of snow, at which time the town road
- 108 crew assists with snow pile management.
- 109 • During the last snow storm, the road crew foreman pushed the snow piles back to free up
- 110 parking spaces.
- 111 • The town is not insured to plow the school areas, especially considering possible damage
- 112 to the school building or to a student or teacher.
- 113 • The town for years also has borne the cost of the school's emergency generator while the
- 114 school has reaped 99% of the benefits.
- 115 • It was suggested that Alden Harwood, facilities director for ANESU, be contacted
- 116 regarding plowing the school parking lot and driveways.

117

118 Oakley Smith presented check warrants:

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120 MOTION by Oakley Smith, second by Paul Forlenza, to approve Payroll Check Warrant 18/37

121 in the amount of \$3,681.95 and Payroll Check Warrant 18/38 in the amount of \$5,464.09.

122 Highlights: A lot of overtime for plowing.

123 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

124

125 MOTION by Oakley Smith, second by Paul Forlenza, to approve Accounts Payable Check

126 Warrant 18/38 in the amount of \$1,260,675.48. Highlights: \$486,000 final payment to Mt. Abe

127 and \$680,000 to Lincoln School; \$27,000 to Fire Company; \$22,000 to Lincoln Library; \$51

128 reimbursement for pizza for the 3/12/18 meeting; and tax refunds. Salt cost \$69.91/standard ton.

129 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

130

131 There were no further comments on the budget.

132

133 Old Business:

- 134 • New Town Office roof snow guards by Red Barn Roofing estimate is \$1,308.

- 135 • Snow bars will meet in the valley.

- 136 • Bars will be 3 to 4 inches lower than the current butterfly snow guards.

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138 MOTION by Bill Finger, second by Paul Forlenza, to accept Red Barn Roofing estimate of
139 \$1,308.

140 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

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142 New Business:

- 143 • Homeward Bound annual contract for animal confinement and restriction submitted a
144 contract proposal with option 1 being \$450 plus \$75 per stray dog or option 2 being a flat
145 fee of \$600 with no charge per stray dog.
- 146 • Last year the Town of Lincoln delivered one dog to Homeward Bound.
- 147 • The budget allows \$745 for dog warden and census.
- 148 • \$500 is budgeted for the Humane Society contract.

149

150 MOTION by Will Sipsey, second by Paul Forlenza, to approve option 2 of the Homeward Bound
151 contract.

152 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

153

154 The workers comp audit occurred yesterday and resulted in a \$3,000 refund because of reduction
155 in highway crew.

156

157 GMP agreed to bury the lines on upper Gove Hill based on the language in the new Town Plan.

158

159 Regional Planning Commissions hearing to approve the Town Plan is scheduled for April 5.

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161 Regular meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. for Executive Session.

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163 Respectfully submitted,

164 Ellie Bryant

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167 Select Board Addendum for Executive Session:

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169 The Select Board left executive session at 9:10 p.m.

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171 MOTION by Oakley Smith, second by Paul Forlenza, to award bonuses to Town road crew,
172 including contracted temporary plow operators, for exemplary service during the extraordinarily
173 challenging weather of the winter of 2017-2018.

174 MOTION PASSED 4-0-1.

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176 Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

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178 Respectfully submitted,

179 Bill Finger

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