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3 Town of Lincoln, Vermont
4 Special Meeting of the Lincoln Selectboard
5 (This meeting held from multiple remote locations via GoToMeeting).
6 December 29, 2020 6:30 PM
7 Recording of the meeting and a transcript is available
8

9 **In Attendance:** Selectboard Chair Bill Finger; Vice-Chair, Paul Forlenza; members Bay Jackson,
10 Will Sipsey, and Oakley Smith; Selectboard Ass't/Bookkeeper Ann Moreau-Kensek
11

12 **Guests:** Sarah McClain, Lincoln representative on the MAUSD School Board; Kate Doer,
13 Andrew Furtsch, Mary Gemignani, Nate Gusakov, Sarah Hanf, Josiah Jackson, Andrew Jesdale,
14 Bill Jesdale, Wendy McIntosh, Coco Mosely, Laura Newman, Sally Ober, Patti Schoenhuber,
15 Tommie Thompson, Erin Warnock, Jim Warnock,
16

17 Bill brought the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and introduced the meeting.
18

19 1. Agenda adjustment and approval: Bill asked for any changes to the agenda, and none being
20 heard moved to approve the agenda as presented. Paul seconded, vote called and passed 5-0-0.
21

22 2. Consent Agenda: Bill reviewed the items:

23 Minutes of the 12.15.2020 Regular Meeting

24 Minutes of the 12.18.2020 Special Meeting

25 Payroll Warrants #21/26 for \$3,243.19 and # 21/27 for \$2,986.36

26 Account Payable Warrants #21.27 for \$13,078.93 and #2128A for \$3,150

27 There was no discussion. Bill moved and Will seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote
28 called and passed. 5-0-0.
29

30 3. Public comment: Bill talked about the possibility of hearing public comment on agenda items
31 and noted this area of the agenda is still for public comment on the agenda.

- 32 • Joe Jackson commented that he noticed the posting link to GoToMeeting doesn't have
33 a password and thanked the Selectboard for making it easier.
- 34 • Paul asked why guests were at the meeting, and most replied they were there for the
35 discussion on the school.
36

37 4. Reports:

38 a. Highway-

- 39 • The Dump body on the new truck has not arrived yet- it is coming from Canada.
- 40 • Snowplowing has gone well so far.
- 41 • Dave gave Bill a list of names and contact info and will get this to all the Selectboard
42 members in case Dave is unavailable and drivers need to be called out. There is also
43 someone interested in snowplowing.
44

45 b. Selectboard Ass't/Bookkeeper:

Lincoln Selectboard Special Meeting 12/29/2020 Line 12 amended from ANESU to MAUSD
and Davis Dewar was amended to be Kate Doer. Date amended from 12/31/2020 to
12/29/2020 Approved as amended 01/05/2021

- 46 • Ann reported on the CARES Act Grants. Reimbursement has been received for the
47 Digitization Grant and the LGER Grant.
48
- 49 c. Clerk/Treasurer: Bill noted that Sally will be here later and will do her report then.
50
- 51 d. Budget: Paul and Ann-
- 52 • Paul reviewed the first draft of the FY 22 budget. Discussion on legal fees, the sand pit,
53 and ongoing replacement of signs, the York Hill Bridge and Grimes Road.
54
- 55 e. Zoning: Will Sipse, Acting Zoning Administrator:
- 56 • He's up to date with applications and dealing with a few Boundary Adjustments. He
57 noted that the job responsibilities are in Section 700 in the ZA Handbook, and that
58 communication needs to be improved between the Selectboard and the Planning
59 Commission.
60
- 61 • Follow up with Nate Gusakov- he is working with Matt Atkins and will send an email
62 to both boards. He expects to have a report by the next meeting.
63
- 64 • Also noted was that Bay has been working on a ZA job description. Let her know what
65 changes are needed. Paul suggested she send to Nate and Planning Commission as a
66 draft, not approved.
67
- 68 5. Old Business:
- 69 a. Closing on MALT/Jackson land and discussion on how best to thank Will Jackson. Various
70 ideas were floated. Bay and Paul will check with Jamie at MALT.
71
- 72 b. Sand Pit: Nothing has happened since the last meeting. Tonight, the Selectboard needs to
73 move to extend the deadline. Bill moved to request an extension from Chuck Norton on the
74 Purchase and Sales Agreement. Paul seconded. Discussion on whether there should be a time
75 limit on the extension. The time limit would be for six months. The amended motion is to
76 request an extension for six months from Chuck Norton on the Purchase and Sales Agreement.
77 Vote called and passed 5-0-0. Discussion on the next steps and holding a meeting with Chuck
78 Norton, Otter Creek, etc.
79
- 80 c. Addison County Communication Union District (ACCUD) Program: Paul updated the
81 Board. There are 16 Towns in the program and there is federal money available. There is a good
82 chance this program will partner with Green Mountain Access.
83
- 84 d. Hiring Counsel for legal matters viz. MAUSD School closing proposal:
- 85 • Discussion on hiring Ronald Shems, of TCR Law Offices who has experience in this
86 area. He sent an agreement and Paul recommended the Town hire him immediately.
87 Will moved to approve Paul to execute an agreement with Ron Shems at TCR Law
88 Offices. Oakley seconded.
89

- 90 • Discussion on whether the Town has standing with the Court, and the potential
91 expenses involved.
- 92 •
- 93 Discussion on deficit spending and taxes expected in March. Discussion on stated
94 objective, long and short term. The simple concept is to pause the process so there is
95 more time for consideration and hopefully make a collaborative decision.
- 96
- 97 • Bay also updated the Board on information she's learned through Tim Lueders Dumont,
98 who is in communication with Starksboro regarding financials at MAUSD.
- 99
- 100 • Further discussion on legality of what the Superintendent is recommending, and the
101 Lincoln School bond. It's important for the Selectboard to be prepared.
- 102
- 103 • Discussion on getting the correct data and what that would be. Many positive reasons to
104 keep the school open, including bring more people into Vermont.
- 105
- 106 • Paul asked Sarah McClain if she had insights on the data. She reported that after the last
107 School board meeting the majority of the board agreed to have Patrick make his
108 information public.
- 109
- 110 • Bill moved to authorize Paul Forlenza to act on behalf of the Selectboard to hire TGR
111 and Atty Shems. Will seconded. Brief discussion on bringing in the Planning
112 Commission. Vote called and passed, 5-0-0. Bill thanked everyone.
- 113
- 114 e. Discussion on how to structure Town Meeting to meet town needs and comply with State
115 direction, Sally Ober
- 116 • Sally wants the Selectboard to look into the legislation passed that enables the
117 Selectboard to change how we vote on articles. Many towns are hanging voting on the
118 floor to Australian Ballot. The Selectboard has the right just this year to change this.
119 Sally encouraged them to go this way. If the Board decides soon, she can do all the prep
120 for voting this way.
- 121 • The legislature will also be voting on January 19 whether to allow Towns to change the
122 date for Town Meeting.
- 123 • Paul noted advantages of postponing Town Meeting:
- 124 People value Town Meeting in person.
- 125 Budget- we won't know what taxes are coming in till March and may need to
126 adjust the budget if revenues are short.
- 127
- 128 • Sally talked about there also being a Hannaford and a MAUSD vote, and it would be
129 good to vote for all of them in one election.
- 130 • Will talked about waiting for revenues and to also see what comes from Washington.
131 The Selectboard could authorize another vote.
- 132 • Sally noted the soonest the Legislature could authorize this decision is January 19th, and
133 we need to prepare anyway.

- 134 • Bill asked Sally to pull together a one-page document as a proposal. Paul and Sally will
135 work on this. Sally asked if people have questions for the proposal. Bay talked about
136 amendments on the floor and how that would happen.
- 137 • Discussion on having two or three meetings on GoTo prior to the vote. Bay noted not
138 everyone has access to this. Oakley observed it is ironic that when an online meeting is
139 held more people attend.

140
141 f. Town Office IT Meeting and Security:
142 Bill introduced this and asked Sally to talk about the estimate submitted by the Tech Group.
143 She summarized what the contract is and what services would be supplied. Discussion on
144 doing an RFP. Sally has a list of other Towns who use the Tech Group to call and see if they are
145 happy.
146 Bill noted that budgeting is a big issue- \$5,000 to 10,000 a year. Further discussion on IT services
147 and needs at the office and developing an RFP.

148
149 Bill asked if there was any other business.

150
151 Nate Gusakov noted the ZA hiring process was on the agenda Brief discussion.
152 Bay pointed out that at the end of the last meeting the Selectboard agreed to have Aaron
153 Thomas to come to the next meeting to talk about. Paul will contact him.

154
155 Bill wished everyone a Happy New Year.

156 Meeting adjourned.

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