

1 **PENDING APPROVAL**

2 Town of Lincoln  
3 Regular Meeting of the Selectboard  
4 Via various locations on GoToMeeting  
5 May 4, 2021 6:30 p.m.  
6

7 In attendance: Bill Finger, Chair; Paul Forlenza, Vice Chair; Members Oakley Smith, Will  
8 Sipsey, and Bay Jackson; Select Board Assistant/Bookkeeper and Interim Zoning Administrator  
9 Ann Kensek

10 Guests: Christina Haskins from Dufresne Group; Mike Winslow from Addison County Regional  
11 Planning; Steve Harris (resident); Chris Mattrick from the US Forest Service; and Steve  
12 Huffaker from Maple Broadband  
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14 Bill introduced the meeting at 6:32p.m.  
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16 1. Amendments to the Agenda: Add reconstituting an approach to restructure the ZBA and  
17 Planning Commission. Will moved and Bay seconded to approve the agenda as amended.  
18 Passed, 4-0-1 (technical difficulties).  
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20 2. Public Comment  
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22 3. Consent Agenda

23 a. Minutes 4.6.21 Regular meeting

24 b. PR Warrant # 21.44 for \$3,894.40 and PR Warrant # 21.45 for \$3,846.47

25 c. AP Warrant # 21.45 for \$24,437.27  
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27 4. a. Christina Haskins, Dufresne Group Bike Ped Study

28 Christina presented two revised Alternatives for the northern half of the study and the  
29 southern half, based on input from previous meetings. She reviewed the next steps:

- 30 o Select a preferred alternative
- 31 o Further refinement of preferred alternatives
- 32 o Draft Report
- 33 o Final Presentation and Report

34 She also briefly reviewed options for a bike/ped lane.  
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36 Brief discussion on the costs of the two alternatives, and grant funding, which would be at 80%.  
37 Grants are open right now, due June 1. Projects will take four or five years.  
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39 The Board chose to wait to hear from Steve Harris to do his presentation on utilizing the Jackson  
40 land for the path.  
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42 b. Steve Harris described two potential routes to school where a bikeway could be created that is  
43 wide enough to accommodate pedestrians. He talked with Chris Acker to get an estimate on the  
44 costs. Funding was discussed. The Town may have to fund it, and the State may pay 50%.  
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46 Bill noted he'd like to accept the concept that would use part of Dufresne's plan from the end of

47 the existing sidewalk to the Truchon Bridge, and then use the Jackson property. Discussion on if  
48 that would work with the scoping study grant.

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50 Bay moved to accept Dufresne's Alternative 1; Paul seconded. Passed, 5-0-0.

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52 Bill moved and Paul seconded to approve the concept of Steve Harris's plan.

53 Discussion on finding a grant and timeline.

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55 Bay noted that this needs to be communicated to MALT.

56 Vote called and passed, 5-0-0.

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58 c. Chris Mattrick, USFS

59 He wants to work together with the Town.

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- The Forest Service requests the Town to turn over the road up to Cooley Glenn.

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- Firing Range on Cobb Hill is a dead issue. Schedule to clean it up and rehab it.

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- Gap Road parking and recreational access-hoping to increase from about 30 cars to about 50. Parking is an issue at the end of French Settlement Road. The Town and USFS can collaborate with funding. Discussion on how the funding works.

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- Bridges that provide access to USFS property- Bill asked about the York Hill Bridge, which is needed to go to South Mountain and discussion followed on ways the Town and FS might work together to fund a new bridge.

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- Unauthorized ski trail cutting, and ATV/dirt bike use in some areas.

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- There is as much maple tapping in the National Forest in Lincoln as in the whole rest of

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the National Forest.

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- Discussion on the USFS assisting with maintenance on the far end of South Lincoln Road and what that process would look like. Master Road Agreement, annual agreement and reimbursement of costs.

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- Question on potential for increase in funding for the Forest Service land because so much of Lincoln is the national Forest. A- Not much to do about it- the rate is set by Congress.

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- Brief discussion on whether a certain piece of property at the end of Cobb Hill Road is in

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the National Forest.

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Steve Huffaker, Maple Broadband Communication Union District

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Steve gave a presentation that included the following:

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- Lincoln is one of 20 towns in the Maple Broadband Communication Union District

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(CUD).

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- 2021 Operational and financial activities and the construction process as well as why they need financial help from their members was reviewed.

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- The Department of Treasury is distributing funds for the American Rescue Plan that will be infrastructure oriented. VLCT will provide guidance. He asked the Town to consider \$100,000 of the coming funds for the CUD. Small towns don't have much infrastructure like sewer and water, so the money may go to broadband. Brief discussion on how this model works on the eastern side of the mountains. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for funding.

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- Timeframe was briefly discussed.

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## 95 5. Reports

### 96 a. Highway:

- The tree situation on York Hill has been taken care of.

- Culvert by Mark Benz's house has been fixed.

- The washouts on the Gap Road have been repaired.

- The Gap Road will be open on the 18<sup>th</sup>- we are coordinating with Warren.

- A speed study was done. Someone on South Lincoln Road was clocked at 104mph. Brief discussion on what to do about speeding in Town.

- Culvert on Hall Road: Jaron Borg from the State came to look at the Culvert. There will be RipRap and other work done on the northern side. Dave talked with Chuck Norton about straightening and fixing the railings. The paving grant for Downingsville Road will extend to paving over the culvert.

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- b. Selectboard Assistant: Ann has been finishing up the Heavy Weight permits and will have the Annual Lincoln Emergency Management Plan update ready for approval at the next meeting.

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### 111 c. Town Clerk/Treasurer

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- d. Budget: Paul reviewed the numbers for April. Brief discussion on replacing NEMRC. Bay asked for clarification on grant reimbursements.

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### 116 e. Planning and Zoning:

- a. Progress Report, Interim ZA: Ann continues to organize and update the Zoning files and applications. There have been 36 permits issued so far this year, with several subdivisions in process.

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- b.
- f. Green-up Day recap and thanks to Dawn Mikkelsen: There was a small turnout this year, but Dawn did a lot of work and the day was well organized. Thanks to Moose Rubbish and recycling for donating a trailer for the Green-up bags, and thanks to everyone who participated.

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- g. Discussion on restructuring the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Adjustment. Bill would like to form an Ad-hoc committee with two members from each board and perhaps a couple of citizens. Oakley's committee for hiring the ZA worked out well. The work Nate Wallace Gusakov did can also be considered. Will explained that the Planning Commission does the vision work, and the Development Review Board does the work. Discussion on bringing in VLCT to come in and work with us as a neutral party and to include both the ZBA and PC.

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134 Ann has been talking to VLCT about doing a training for all Boards and Commissions in the  
135 Town on Open Meeting Law.

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## 137 6. Old Business

- a. 2021 Appointments- Several people have said they'd like to serve in the position they

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139 held last year. Positions have not been posted to FPF yet.

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141 ZBA recommendation for appointments to fill vacancies on the ZBA:

142 The Zoning Board of Adjustment recommended three candidates to fill vacancies- Jim  
143 Warnock, Josiah Jackson and Serena Fox.

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145 Paul moved to accept recommendations of the three candidates to be nominated to the  
146 Zoning Board of Adjustment. Bay seconded. Brief discussion of candidates. Vote called  
147 and passed 4-0-1 (conflict of interest recusal).

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149 b. MAUSD School Closure Proposal: Bay- A highly effective presentation was made by  
150 Jim Warnock and the team. The people on the subcommittee did an enormous amount of  
151 work, and regardless of outcome and deserve a lot of gratitude. The school board has  
152 decided to move forward on a merger, and they won't be voting in August after all.

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154 c. Town Office IT Management: Nothing new to report

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156 d. Website- Bay: The new website continues to move along.

157 e. Sand pit - Bill reported his attendance at the April 26 special meeting of the ZBA. He  
158 explained that he had entered conversation with the ZBA. He suggested that because of the  
159 comments made and concerns expressed, we could, perhaps, convene a joint meeting of the  
160 Selectboard and ZBA where the Town's Attorney, Benj Putnam and Lincoln resident Jim  
161 Dumont, who is also an attorney, could discuss their observations of the proposed project and  
162 the Town's current application for a Conditional Use Permit. The ZBA hearing on the  
163 Conditional Use Permit would be scheduled for May 17. After leaving the April 26 meeting  
164 he realized that the joint meeting and discussion that he suggested was already effectively  
165 planned and anticipated in the normal ZBA hearing process for Conditional Use Permits.  
166 Therefore a special joint meeting would be duplicative in content and potentially more  
167 hindrance than help in moving the process forward.

168 Paul moved to request the ZBA to convene a Conditional Use Hearing for the sand pit.

169 Will seconded. Further extended discussion of the required hearing process

170 Paul called the question. Second, Bill. (Not debatable) 4-0-1

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172 Paul suggested substituting the word "encourage" for "request" in the motion. There was  
173 no objection from the board.

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175 Motion passed 5-0-0.

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177 [Bill will contact the ZBA to say the Selectboard encourages the Zoning Board of Adjustment to move forward to a  
178 hearing without an intermediate informal meeting with the full Zoning Board and Selectboard.]

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181 f. Letter from Nick McDougal on neighbors riding dirt bikes without mufflers. He would  
182 like the town to take up a noise ordinance. The Town will take it up more formally, and  
183 perhaps combine a speeding and noise ordinance.

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185 Paul noted that he talked to Spence Putnam about the Energy Committee.

186 Meeting adjourned.

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188 Minutes respectfully submitted by Ann Moreau- Kensek

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