

**LYNDEBOROUGH BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 26, 2022**  
*Final*

**I. Call to Order:**

Chairman Fred Douglas called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. Introduction of Members Present:**

Chairman Fred Douglas, Selectman Mark Chamberlain and Selectman Robert Howe  
Town Administrator Russ Boland and minute taker Kathleen Humphreys

**Public & Media Present:** Jessie Salisbury and Road Agent Mark Chase

**III. Appointments:**

**6:05 p.m.: Road Agent Mark Chase re: 2016 Ram One-Ton Dump Truck**

The 2016 One-Ton Dump Truck is at the Ford dealership. Some of the wiring cover melted as a result of the engine overheating. The truck has 58,826 miles on it.

PRIMEX offered \$2,641.66 without knowing if the engine needs to be repaired. Chairman Douglas asked if they are aware that all the dash cluster electronics went out and the gauges read zero. T/A Boland said he spoke with Karen at PRIMEX about this and she agreed. Road Agent Chase confirmed that right before he shut down the truck it went to zero and that there was “definitely a fire”. Mark Chase said, “My fear is they are going to see more than I can. I’m afraid if we fix it and keep this, that it will be an electrical nightmare. It had a fire in it once”. The engine diagnostics will be performed next week.

T/A Boland said that the insurance company, “Will make us whole”. The Board discussed options. Road Agent Chase has started researching the cost of a new truck, plow and sander and will continue talking with other dealers. It appears that Ford will offer a \$15,000 trade-in value. Chairman Douglas provided estimates received from another town. It was discussed that a gas engine is preferred over diesel because of the type of usage the truck gets.

The Board is not comfortable making a decision without knowing the status of the engine. There is \$69,000 in the CIP with another \$8,000 being added at Town Meeting. It was discussed to draft a Warrant Article asking to take out up to \$75,000 to purchase a new truck. Mark Chase said that the plow setup will be \$2,800 if the current plow is kept and the sander will be \$8,000 installed.

Two-wheel vs Four-Wheel vehicle availability was discussed.

Chairman Douglas brought up a situation where several cars were parked on Center Road in Wilton which impeded the plowing operation. It was discussed that if the vehicles are parked on the road during future plowing situations, that the Road Agent shall call Wilton Police to report the situation. The Wilton Highway Department has been told that Lyndeborough won’t plow that section that if the cars are there. The Wilton Police Chief is aware of the problem. The Road Agent was instructed to report the situation so it gets it on record that the vehicles are there and you are not plowing. He was informed to take the plow up if there are vehicles at the end of the road and don’t pass with the plow down.

Liability was a concern. Selectman Chamberlain said the cars were parked into the road just last night.

Road Agent Chase asked if he could schedule time to talk with the Selectman at a non-public session. It was agreed to schedule this after Town Meeting.

Road Agent Chase asked if anyone in town have any complaints about plowing or sanding. Selectman Chamberlain said there was a complaint regarding Cummings Road. It was discussed they have been getting up to Cummings Road. It is a tight turn-around there. The Freightliner will have to be the truck that services that area since the smaller vehicle is out of service.

T/A Boland asked about the oil pan for the 2002 Mack and was informed it has not arrived. It will be to undercoated prior to installation.

**Community Forum and Public Comment:**

Jessie Salisbury reported the "Welcome to Lyndeborough" signs were ordered.

Fun Fact: Scott and Stephane Roeper own the foundations of the Hadley Brothers Lumber Company. It was operating in the 1890s. The Historical Society just received a collection of business papers related to that business. The Society will be looking at the documents at their meeting on Friday as well as hear a history presentation from Stephanie Roeper. The Roeper's ordered a Historical Marker for the site.

**Decision Making Actions:**

**Old/Tabled Business:**

**2022 Town Report Update**

Dawn Griska is assembling the Town Report and has the cover photos. Jessie Salisbury is editing it.

**b. New Business:**

**Employee Healthcare Insurance Policy Discussion**

The Town policy is that new employees are eligible for health insurance 30-days after the first of the month following the date of hire. It was suggested to change that to on the first of the month after the hire date. It was discussed this can help with recruitment if health insurance is offered sooner.

A motion was requested to allow T/A Boland to insert this language and notify insurance company of the change. **"Enrollment will take place on first of the month following the eligible employee's date of hire"**.

**VOTE: Selectman Chamberlain moved, Selectman Howe seconded to accept the verbiage suggested by T/A Boland to update the insurance policy. "Enrollment will take place on the first of the month following the eligible employee's date of hire" Motion passed 3-0.**

T/A Boland will update the documents, employees will receive a copy and he will call the insurance company

**c. Items not on Agenda:**

No items to discuss

#### **IV. Town Administrator Report**

The open elected positions have been posted on the website.

The office will keep working on the \$50,000 grant proposal for emergency equipment to deal with the Covid-19 crisis. The goal is to get reimbursed for the portable radios and the police vehicle tablet.

It was brought to the attention of the office that other towns print the entire audit report. After a discussion it was decided to continue with the printing the summary only in the Town Report. The auditor suggested the two-page summary is sufficient. There is a cost per page to print the report, which is lengthy.

The complex Mitchell abatement is ongoing and there has been communication between the Town and property owner. The new Assessor visited the property and had a conversation with the former assessor. There is a question if half the house is in Lyndeborough.

Last night the Budget Committee expressed their displeasure the proposed budget went up 16% and as a result they removed \$90,000 from the highway funds. We are looking to see if ARPA funds can be used. T/A Boland will be attending a class tomorrow regarding the changing guidelines, which are becoming more relaxed.

After a discussion the Board took the position of funding all the Warrant Articles out of the Unreserved Fund Balance. If the Budget Committee agrees with that and gives back the \$90,000, the budget increase would be at 4%.

T/A Boland attended a webinar with Sen. Shaheen regarding money for broadband. Selectman Chamberlain said it is infrastructure money, not specifically for broadband.

Other drivers increasing the budget are: ambulance services up \$50,000, personnel up \$30,000 and paving up \$40,000. Selectman Chamberlain mentioned that everything has skyrocketed such as the cost of culverts, salt, gas, pavement and there is only so much we can do. We still have to plow the roads and protect the people

T/A Boland spoke with former Budget Committee Chairman Burton Reynolds who felt with the health of the Unreserved Fund Balance, it is something to consider.

Chairman Douglas said it is hard for taxpayers to sit there and see that jump as well as the inflation and to see what is happening in the country.

The Board discussed not paving Mountain Road (Whittemore Hill, both sides) and Osgood Road. That is about \$40,000-\$45,000. Mobilization costs were discussed. The paving project will be \$165,000 to do New Road, on the turnpike side, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> NH Turnpike. This action will drop the increase by 2.5 – 3%. Guard rails were discussed.

**VOTE: Selectman Chamberlain made a motion, Selectman Howe seconded to authorize the Town Administrator to construct the CIP Warrant Articles to be funded from the Unassigned Fund Balance and to request the Budget Committee to**

reinstate \$50,000 in the paving line item (4312-03-688) which is contained in the highway department operating budget. Motion passed 3-0.

**V. Selectmen's Report**

**a. MACC Base Action & Agenda**

They did not meet as scheduled today.

**b. Transportation Committee**

No meeting this month

**c. Planning Board**

The Planning Board had two meetings including a public hearing for zoning amendments, which has since been pointed out that the posting wasn't correct in relation to timing so it appears we may have to pull those zoning amendments this year. The postings were put around town but didn't get in the newspaper and on the web within the 10-day timeframe. This information was not passed along to the Planning Board until after they could do something about it.

The Airsoft permit was on the agenda. Attorney Drescher, Jay Minkarah and the Board Chairman Charlie Post will collaborate on the conditions then share that with the applicant. Enforcement actions will need to be in the conditions.

There was a conservation subdivision that was continued. There was a question if there was a subdivision by deed that occurred without Planning Board approval. Town Counsel is supposed to receive information from the application and look into this.

There was a five-lot Lot Line Adjustment that might be reduced to a three-lot lot line adjustment. This application has not been opened yet, the Board deferred consideration.

The items above took until after 11:00 pm and the Board tabled the rest of the agenda.

**d. Heritage Commission**

Their next meeting will be Friday at the J.A. Tarbell Library.

**Conservation Commission**

The Commission met briefly prior to the Planning Board meeting, then attended the Public Hearing.

**Consent Agenda:**

**VOTE: Selectman Chamberlain made a motion, Selectman Howe seconded to accept the Consent Agenda for January 26, 2021. Motion passed 3-0.**

**VI. Information Items Requiring No Discussion**

Chairman Douglas mentioned a bill, that if it passes, would affect the way this Board operates when it comes to RSA 91-A. Allowing full access is part of the bill as well as time changes for postings. Selectman Chamberlain mentioned another bill that wants to dissolve all school cooperatives.

Jessie Salisbury said that this spring will be 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first graduating class from the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative High School, which was 1972. Fred Douglas and Jessie's daughter, Leslie, and her husband were members of the WLC Class of 1972.

**VII. Non-Public Session RSA 91-A:3 II**

None

**VOTE: Selectman Chamberlain made a motion, Selectman Howe seconded to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. Motion passed 3-0.**

**Adjournment:**

All scheduled items having been addressed, the public meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Next regular meeting: February 9, 2022 at Citizens' Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Kathleen Humphreys, Transcriber

Chairman Fred Douglas\_\_\_\_\_

Selectman Mark Chamberlain\_\_\_\_\_

Selectman Robert Howe\_\_\_\_\_