

**Town of Lyndeborough NH
2019 Town Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2019**

Meeting was called to order at 10:00am by Moderator Walter M. Holland on Saturday, March 16, 2019 at Citizens' Hall located at 9 Citizens' Hall Road in Lyndeborough, New Hampshire. Selectman Richard McQuade was excused for personal reasons.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Lyndeborough, in the County of Hillsborough in said state qualified to vote in Town affairs; You are hereby notified to meet at Citizens' Hall, 9 Citizens' Hall Road, in said Lyndeborough on Tuesday, the twelfth (12th) day of March 2019, at ten o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening, for ballot Voting of Town Officers and all other matters requiring ballot vote; and, to meet at Citizens' Hall, 9 Citizens' Hall Road in said Lyndeborough, on Saturday, the sixteenth (16th) day of March 2019, at ten o'clock in the morning, to act upon Articles 4 through Article 18:

Article 1: Selection of Officers: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

*-indicates elected (191 ballots cast- 1231 Registered Voters)

Results:

Selectman (3 years)	*Frederick Douglas Jr	149
Treasurer (3 years)	*Ellen Martin	174
Trustee of Cemeteries (3 years)	Mark S. Chase	44
	*Robert H. Rogers	114
Library Trustee 2 (3 years)	*Sally B. Curran	136
	*Nancy J. Howe	102
	Robert H. Rogers	100
Trustee of Trust Funds (3 years)	*Richard Herfurth	2 write-in
Budget Committee 3 (3 years)	*Geoffrey Allen	136
	*Stanley Greene	137
	*Walter M. Holland	169
Budget Committee (1 year)	*Geoffrey Brock	4 write-in
Zoning Board of Adjustment (3 years)	*Richard Roy	166
Zoning Board of Adjustment (2 years)	*Linda Anderson	168

Article 2: (Question 1) To see if the Town will vote to accept the following zoning articles, with minor changes, to replace the corresponding existing articles.

200.02 Accessory Dwelling Unit. Recodify as voted on March 2018 to a new Section at the Planning Board's discretion.

200.05 Automobile Graveyard

Any lot or portion of a lot which is maintained, used, or operated for storing, keeping, buying, or selling wrecked, scrapped, ruined, dismantled or abandoned motor vehicles or motor vehicle parts. (3/9/99)

404.00 Exclusive Optional Method of Developing Large Tracts of Land (3/18/00)

As an exclusive optional method of development, not a required process of subdivision, any lot of record may be subdivided in accordance with the following criteria: (3/18/00)

- a. The average size of the subdivision lots shall not be less than 25 acres with a minimum size of 10 acres.;

- b. The lots shall be accessed by a private road constructed to meet the minimum standards established in the *Town of Lyndeborough Street and Road Standards*.
- c. No further subdivisions would be permitted using roads existing as of January 1, 1997 to meet zoning frontage requirements. Further subdivision will require adequate frontage on a Class V or better highway constructed after January 1, 1997, as required by the zoning ordinance in force at the time of any further resubdivision. (3/18/00)

408.00 Soil-Based Zoning Requirements (Overlay District) (3/18/00)

All lots in the Rural Lands One (RL1) or Light Industrial zoning districts with less than 5 acres shall require a minimum of 2 contiguous acres of “slight” and/or “moderate” limitations rated soils for septic tank absorption fields, as determined by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service criteria and published in Table 11 of the “Soil Survey of Hillsborough County, New Hampshire”, issued October 1985. A Site specific soil survey conducted by a NH Certified Professional Soil Scientist may be required by the Planning Board to ensure that the requirements of this section are met. Contiguous shall mean any area undivided by wetland, ponding (seasonal or perennial) or seasonal or perennial drainage ways. Lots of record shall not be affected by this soil-based zoning for residential usage.

All lots in the Rural Lands One (RL1) or Light Industrial zoning districts with less than 500 foot frontage shall require a minimum of 2 contiguous acres of “slight” and or “moderate” limitations rated soils for septic tank absorption fields, as determined by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service criteria and published in Table 11 of the “Soil Survey of Hillsborough county, New Hampshire”, issued October 1985. A Site specific soil survey conducted by a NH Certified Professional Soil Scientist may be required by the Planning Board to ensure that the requirements of this section are met. Contiguous shall mean any area undivided by wetland, ponding (seasonal or perennial) or seasonal or perennial drainage ways. Lots of record shall not be affected by this soil-based zoning for residential usage. (3/18/00)

[Note of Clarification: This section 408.00 does not apply to the Village District, section 500.00; Rural Lands 2, section 800.00; Rural Lands 3, section 900.00; or the Large Tracts of Land, section 404.00.]

601.00 Permitted Uses.

The following uses and their associated accessory uses are permitted in the Light Industrial District subject to all other applicable provisions of this Ordinance and Site Plan Review and approval by the Lyndeborough Planning Board.

- Light manufacturing;
- Research and/or testing facilities;
- Offices;
- Newspaper and printing facilities;
- Warehouses;
- Retail stores;
- Banks;
- Personal service businesses including but not limited to service or repair of jewelry, appliances or other personal or household items, photography studios, beauty/barber shops and tailors.
- Utility structures less than 200 square feet in area.

1001.00 Permitted Uses.

Any of the following uses that require a permit by NH DES are also permitted by this Ordinance.

- a. Forestry operations and management in accordance with best management practices;

- b. Agriculture in accordance with agricultural best management practices;
- c. Water impoundments and wells;
- d. Drainage ways - streams, ditches or other paths of normal water runoff;
- e. Wildlife refuges;
- f. Parks and recreation uses consistent with the purpose and intent of this Ordinance;
- g. Conservation areas and nature trails; and
- h. Open space as permitted by the Subdivision Regulations and other sections of this Ordinance.

(Recommended by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen)(Majority Vote Required)

Yes 129 No 55 **Article Passes**

Article 3: (Question 2) To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Zoning Articles to the following:

1101.00 Purpose:

To provide an alternative pattern of land development for single-family homes in the Village District (V) and along a corridor 1000 feet either side of State Route 31 in the Rural Lands One-RL1 district.

It is intended to encourage the preservation of open space and, at the same time, provide for a greater variety of housing types and affordability, with similar densities and more inclusive building permits than permitted elsewhere in the Zoning Ordinance, without causing an increase to Town maintained roads.

It is planned that in a PRD, the setbacks for dwelling units in a PRD in the Village District shall be the same as required in Section 502.03 of the Lyndeborough Zoning Ordinance. The setbacks for dwelling units in a PRD in Rural Lands One District (RL1) shall be the same as required in Section 702.03 of the Lyndeborough Zoning Ordinance except that no dwelling unit shall be less than 300 feet from Route 31, nor more than 1000 feet from Route 31.

The dwelling units shall be constructed in clusters that are in harmony with neighborhood developments and housing and with the natural surroundings. These clusters shall not detract from the ecological and visual qualities of the environment, or from the value of the neighborhood or Town. Every PRD unit shall be occupied by an owner occupant who is at least 55 years of age or older and should add to the variety of housing types in Lyndeborough to accommodate the Master Plan purposes. The overall site design and amenities should enhance the quality of living for the residents of the development and, in general, the neighborhood and Town. The Planning Board shall determine whether the proposed PRD, namely the site plan or layout, number, type and design of the proposed housing is suitable to the neighborhood within which it is located and is consistent with the Master Plan and reasonable growth objectives.

1102.00 Conditions:

An applicant for approval of a proposed PRD* shall make application to the Planning Board in the same fashion as specified in the Subdivision regulations. In the course of review of the proposal, the Board shall hear evidence presented by the applicant and all those requiring notice and determine whether, in its judgment, the proposal meets the objectives and purpose set forth above, in which event the Planning Board may grant approval to the proposal, subject to reasonable conditions and limitations as it shall deem appropriate.

1102.01 Minimum Net Tract Area. Planned Residential Developments may be permitted on single or adjacent tracts of land, under one owner, or to be brought under one owner, which have a net tract area* of no less than twenty (20) buildable acres. Irrespective of the net tract area size, the PRD shall not contain more than twenty (20) dwelling units. Net tract area shall mean the total area of the tract, or tracts, less the area of wetlands, identified flood plains and areas of slope equal to or greater than 20%. To maintain comparable densities, as calculated using existing Lyndeborough zoning regulations, (as determined by the soil based zoning section 408.00 of the zoning ordinance), PRD septic systems are to be of the “shared- type, located in the Open Space on soils that are rated “slight to moderate” as spelled out in the Hillsborough County West published soils survey. (Recommended by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen)(Majority Vote Required) Yes 126 No

58 Article Passes

Article 4: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of, **Two Million, One Hundred and Forty Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighty Six Dollars (\$2,140,986)**, representing the Operating Budget for fiscal year 2019, as prepared by the Budget Committee. Said sum is exclusive of all special or individual articles addressed; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

Motion made by Selectman Fred Douglas to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Mark Chamberlain.

Moderator Walter Holland: Article has been moved and seconded.

Burton Reynolds, Budget Committee Chairman gave an overview of the budget.

Moderator Walter Holland: Ready for the question? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 5: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000)** to be added to the **Repair and Replacement of the 1994 Fire Department Pumper Capital Reserve Fund** previously established for that purpose; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

Motion made by Selectman Mark Chamberlain to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Fred Douglas.

Moderator Walter Holland: We have a motion to move and second. Any questions or comments? Ready for the question? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 6: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500)** to purchase a Fire Department Rescue Cutting Tool and other associated equipment including, but not limited to, set up costs. Further, to authorize the withdrawal of up to **Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500)** from the **Repair and Replacement of Lyndeborough Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**, previously set up for this purpose. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the equipment is purchased or December 31, 2020, whichever is sooner; or to

take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

Motion made by Selectman Fred Douglas to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Mark Chamberlain.

Moderator Walter Holland: I have a motion and a second, any questions on this?

Jon Lavoie: The seven thousand five hundred is completely being paid for by the reserve fund?

Moderator Walter Holland: Yes, the money is already in that Capital Reserve Fund. We need to say the words raise and appropriate, we have to use that and then we say alright where is that coming from, is it coming from taxation or not. This is coming from the fund.

Fire Chief Brian Smith: Just to confirm, Walter already spoke to it. We have a cutter tool now, it is roughly fifteen plus years old. Its cutting strength is about sixty thousand psi. In the new technology the cars being built now using a laminated steel that our cutters just can't cut through. So, with these new set of cutters it has the capability of two hundred thousand psi so we are almost four times the amount of strength. These cars are getting tougher so we just need something to get through them to help our rescue of these people.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any other questions or comments on this article? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

Article Passes

Article 7: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000)** to purchase a Fire Department Cardiac Monitor / Defibrillator and other associated equipment including, but not limited to, set up costs. Further, to authorize the withdrawal of up to **Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000)** from the **Repair and Replacement of Lyndeborough Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**, previously set up for this purpose. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the equipment is purchased or December 31, 2020, whichever is sooner; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

Motion made by Selectman Mark Chamberlain to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Fred Douglas.

Moderator Walter Holland: Again, this is just like before it will not affect your taxes at all. It is coming out of the Capital Reserve Fund and the money is already in there. Any questions? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it.

Article Passes

Article 8: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000)** to be added to the **Repair and Replacement of Lyndeborough Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**, previously established for that purpose; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

Motion made by Selectman Fred Douglas to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Mark Chamberlain.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any discussion or comments on this. We are just putting some money back into that fund.

Geoffrey Allen: Every time we withdraw from one of these funds one of the things that is said is it won't affect the tax rate. Then we go down to Article 8 and we are putting money back into

this fund which will affect your tax rate. So every time we vote to expend money and say it won't affect the tax rate, it does because the money has to be put back.

Selectman Fred Douglas: Sir, with all due respect, I agree with what you are saying but the alternative to that is to do nothing, put no money back into this and have the tax rate jump a lot higher when you want to buy it all at once. You have to start saving right away.

Geoffrey Allen: I will open my statement by saying I love the CIP, I think it is a great purpose and I think it does do exactly what we said which is to help keep the tax rate level. However, as I also said we can't say that when we spend money out of that that it doesn't affect the tax rate when we put it back in.

Moderator Walter Holland: I guess what I was saying is it won't increase your tax rate over what it is. Are we ready for the question? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 9: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty Three Thousand Dollars (\$23,000)** to partially defray the cost of the replacement of the 2016 AWD Ford Police Vehicle. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the vehicle is replaced or December 31, 2021, whichever is sooner; or take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

Motion made by Selectman Mark Chamberlain to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Fred Douglas.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any questions or comments? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 10: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000)** to be added to the **Repair and Replacement of the 2008 Volvo Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund** previously established for that purpose; or take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required.)*

Motion made by Selectman Fred Douglas to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Mark Chamberlain.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any questions or comments? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 11: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Eight Thousand (\$8,000)** to be added to the **Repair and Replacement of the 2008 Backhoe Capital Reserve Fund** previously established for that purpose; or take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required.)*

Motion made by Selectman Mark Chamberlain to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Fred Douglas.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any questions or comments? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 12: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000)** to be added to the **Repair and Replacement of the 2016 Highway Department One-Ton Truck Capital Reserve Fund** previously established for that purpose; or take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required)*

Motion made by Selectman Fred Douglas to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Mark Chamberlain.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any questions or comments? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 13: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000)** to be added to the **Repair and Replacement of the 2016 Mid-Size Dump Truck Capital Reserve Fund** previously established for that purpose; or take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required.)*

Motion made by Selectman Mark Chamberlain to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Fred Douglas.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any questions or comments? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 14: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000)** to purchase a Highway Department Backhoe / Loader and other associated equipment including, but not limited to, set up costs. Further, to authorize the withdrawal of up to **One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000)** from the **Repair and Replacement of the 2007 Backhoe / Loader Capital Reserve Fund**, previously set up for this purpose and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any steps to facilitate said sale including, but not limited to, the right to convey title of any vehicle(s) being provided in sale or trade. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the vehicle is purchased or December 31, 2020, whichever is sooner; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (Majority Vote Required.)*

Motion made by Selectman Fred Douglas to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Mark Chamberlain.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any discussion or comments about what this is and what we are going to do with it?

Selectman Fred Douglas: Mr. Moderator, I would like the acting Road Agent to step forward and speak to this Warrant Article please.

Highway Department Supervisor Mark Chase: This is something that we came to the Budget Committee with and the Selectmen. We wanted a Loader, the Highway Advisory Committee wanted a Backhoe and the Selectmen agreed with the Backhoe.

Moderator Walter Holland: So is it a Backhoe/Loader or kind of combination.

Highway Department Supervisor Mark Chase: Backhoe.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any other comments or questions?

Selectman Fred Douglas: On June 4th 2018 the Lyndeborough Highway Advisory Committee, the committee and Road Agent Perry discussed the possibility of trading in one of the Backhoes

for a Front End Loader. Road Agent Perry agreed it is worth of exploring further as the way the Highway Department operates has changed due to the decrease in personnel. Road Agent Perry also conducted research on the Front End Loaders and provided the committee with the brochure from John Deere on the articulating Front End Loader that was those minutes. Going on further, on September 10, 2018 again the Lyndeborough Highway Advisory Committee, Mark Chase reviewed the condition of the John Deere 710, which we are discussing. It is estimated the cost to repair the John Deere 710 would be in excess of twenty thousand dollars. Additionally the size of the John Deere 710 limits where it can be used. Mark Chase recommended using the John Deere 710 strictly as a yard machine at the Highway Department and trade it for a Loader in the spring of 2019. The committee was in agreement with this assessment and instructed Mark Chase to propose a Warrant Article for the 2019 Town Meeting. That was the end of that particular reading. November 26, 2018 Lyndeborough Highway Advisory Committee. The Committee was presented with the proposed 2019 Highway Department operating budget. Mark Chase advised it was a draft Warrant Article to purchase a Loader to replace the current 2007 John Deere Backhoe. Scott Brown, who serves on the committee expressed concern with the purchase of a Loader, he felt strongly that the Backhoe provides more versatility to the Highway Department operations. The committee discussed the pros and cons of both the Loader and the Backhoe and decided more information was needed to make an informed decision. That was coming out of those particular minutes and the last one, this is December 17, 2018. Mr. Chase stated that the Highway Departments opinion, a Loader would better serve the Department's needs. I in fact asked the committee to determine if they wished to recommend to the Board of Selectmen a Backhoe or a Loader. Clayton Brown who serves on the committee, Roger Reynolds who serves on the committee, Leo Trudeau and Ray Humphries stated a Backhoe is their recommendation. The other person serving is a gentleman by the name of Dennis Slocomb abstained from offering an opinion. With that information provided we felt that based on what the committee had offered throughout the course of the year we had to really evaluate what they were saying. Again, Mark Chase, and to a certain extent the Board of Selectmen felt that they were correct, he was correct in a sense that a Loader is much quicker. As you know these dirt roads are getting narrower and narrower. The Backhoe, you are going to run that over the back of the mountain, this was my position, and you have the boom on the back and it is constantly doing this. Well this is one of the reasons, and I have to articulate this to you is the boom on that Backhoe that they want to retain is eight thousand dollars just to fix that because of it banging back and forth. The Loader is much quicker, according to Mark it has a lot of versatility when we are doing that ditching, correct Mark, (Mark Chase said yes) It is quicker, so we were caught in catch 22, we value what the committee was saying to us about purchasing another Backhoe but at the same time it came from the people who use it and are going to have to use it that the Loader was going to be invaluable. Because, these dirt roads have to be opened up and anybody that lives on a dirt road knows that, especially in mud season.

Moderator Walter Holland: So Article 14, purchase a Backhoe/Loader, any other comments, questions.

Stephanie Roper: Just to make sure are we clear that this is money that is already in the fund? So, we are not adding any taxes to it right now.

Town Administrator Russ Boland: That is correct, it is in excess of a hundred and fifty thousand from previous tax dollars.

Moderator Walter Holland: Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Could not tell voice vote. Yellow voting card, All those in

favor of Article 14, at this time raise your yellow voting card if you are saying Yes. All those that are not in favor of this, if you are voting no, raise your yellow voting card. 39 Yes 13 No
Article Passes

Article 15: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote, pursuant to RSA 35:16, to change the purpose of the existing **Repair and Replacement of the 2007 Backhoe / Loader Capital Reserve Fund** to the **Repair and Replacement of the Backhoe / Loader Capital Reserve Fund**; or to take any other action relative thereto. This article is contingent on passage of Article 14, failing which; it shall be null and void. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this Article. (2/3 Vote Required.)*

Motion made by Selectman Mark Chamberlain to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Fred Douglas.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any discussion on Article 15, we are just changing the purpose, we are not putting in any money away this year. We are just going to change the purpose of that fund and get rid of the word 2007. Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. (All Ayes, No Nays from audience)

Article Passes

Article 16: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **Seven Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$7,400)** to implement the recommendations of the Street Lighting Committee, which shall include but not limited to; the elimination, replacement and /or additions of street lights as directed by the Board of Selectmen. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until the project is complete or December 31, 2020, whichever is sooner; or to take any other action relative thereto. *The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend this appropriation (Majority vote required)*

Motion made by Selectman Fred Douglas to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Mark Chamberlain.

Moderator Walter Holland: I would like to ask somebody from the Street Lighting Committee to explain what we are doing.

Steve Brown: I am a member of the Street Light Study Committee. Most of the Street Light Committee is here. We had help from Charlie Post, John Pomer, Greg Kreider, Andy Roeper, Stephanie Roper and we also had help from Lisa Post with the minutes and Russ Boland and Rick McQuade. The work we did was based on a Warrant Article that came out in 2018 to take a look at the streetlights in town. We have currently twenty plus or minus, twenty streetlights in Town, most of them are of the incandescent variety. So these are the older, 105 watt incandescent bulb, it is a lightbulb. One of the reasons we were asked to take a look at this is because, there are actually three reasons, one, Eversource is starting to tailback on servicing those. It is getting harder to maintain that kind of light. The second reason was to take a look at where we had streetlights in town. Did we have them where we didn't need them, were we missing them in places we thought we should have them, so we looked at that as well. Lastly, with technology being what it is, a lot of lights are being moved over to LED, much more efficient. The luminaires, the actual light at the end of the pole, the design has changed so they are now full cutoff so they don't spray light everywhere, they put it down where you want to have the light. So we took a look at it from those three perspectives. Probably we would be changing over to LED because that is what made sense, there was some discussion on what type of LED was going to go in. Where we were putting them and then of course when we put the LED's in that gives us a cost savings because they are much more efficient. We have twenty

lights in Town, currently, the recommendation, that is all this is, a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen was to bring it down to nine. Of those nine we were adding four of them, I will talk about those four, and converting all the remaining ones to LED lights. So, what that means if we were to adopt this recommendation is that right now we spend about three thousand dollars a year on street lighting. If we go to less lights, and change those less lights to LED it goes to about five hundred and fifty dollars a year. There is an investment, it is about a seven thousand dollar investment that is what is in the Warrant Article. It takes about three years to pay that off. So, we would spend the money now and in three years that would all be behind us and then we would have an annual operating cost of around five hundred and fifty dollars a year, there a bouts. We took a look at where street lights were and the thought was to concentrate them, I will say in the Village District, so we have some lights, you will be driving down the road there is a street light and you will go a thousand feet and there is another street light, they are not doing a whole lot for us. So we would take and concentrate them in the Village area. One area where we added one was essentially across from the Library or right next to the Fire Department. So as you come through the Fire Department section on Route 31 there are currently two lights, we would add a third one. The thought for that was as we have Fire Fighters responding they have to cross the road, sometimes they park in the Library, it just illuminates that area a little better so from a safety perspective. We talked about adding one, I think on that pole out there, on Citizens Hall Road, so as you come up here, many times, depending on the time of year, it is dark, we have to park down there for events that are up here so that would keep that section laminated. We talked about adding one at the intersection of Center Road and 31, main intersection, just to highlight where the intersection is. The fourth one we talked about up at Center Hall because we have Town functions up there as well so put one out at Center Hall. The lights, the color temperature, the spectrum, what they look like whether they are yellow or blue was to go with the lower ones, that is the recommendation actually for a number of reasons. There have been a lot of medical studies saying that the blue lights aren't that great for you at night. So these would like, I will call them warm white kind of lights. I would expect that when they go in, if they go in, they will put much more light down on the road, so you'd be luminating things under there, people mostly and not so much sideways. So that would hopefully tend to reduce glare as well. I want to thank everybody that participated on the committee, we met probably a dozen times or so last year, so thank you very much.

Sharon Akers: Would you replace as they blow out?

Steve Brown: This would be a wholesale change. There would be a work crew that would come in, probably in a day, we did speak with a number, a couple of suppliers that do that work, they come in, depending upon if they have to set a new goose arm, if we are putting a new light on that's not there. The ones that have lights, they come in, they change the ends so all of them would be changed out. I would say all of them, we have mostly incandescent, there are a couple of metal halide lights. There was some discussion about whether the school owns them or not, again this is something the Selectmen will have to work out when we finally decide to do it. The intent will certainly be to replace all of them at once.

Selectman Fred Douglas: The committee that served on this Board did a fabulous job. It is one of those committee's where it can fall by the wayside. This Board doesn't want to see the committees doing this type of work just fall by the wayside that is why it is in front of you. The question I have for you Steve is I had a resident come to me on voting day and said she left the Library, I believe the night before, it was extremely dark. Do you know if that light that you are proposing down there will have any positive effect on the parking lot?

Steve Brown: I believe there would be some, and the reason I say some is, the lights are designed to put the light down for the most part, some does go out. The pole, if I recall correctly is almost directly in front of the Library. Whatever bleed light goes out would go there. There are five different patterns that you can get with these lights. One of them is down, one will spread out a little more broadly. There is some adjustments you can do in terms of the pattern on the ground. That might be one that we say, we want one that has a broader reach to light up the Library. You would still llluminate straight down but you would have the option to maybe push it out a little more.

Charlie Post: Statement reference Eversource.

Steve Brown: Eversource has a program now that if we convert over to the LED lights there is a cost that is incurred by the Town through a supplier to put the lights up. If they are the LED lights, which saves Eversource generation capability if you will, they will give us a hundred dollars for every light that we change. We were talking about upgrading nine street lights, going from twenty to nine. For those nine we would get nine hundred dollars back from Eversource. That is figured into the calculations on the payback.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any further questions or comments? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 17: To see if the Town of Lyndeborough will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer or convey such property rights in the below described parcel of town owned land as may be necessary so that the same shall be subject to a conservation easement, in perpetuity, the particular terms of the easement to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, with the concurrence of the Conservation Commission, said authorization to include the authority to execute any and all deeds, documents or other instruments in the name of the Town that may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing. It is understood that the intent of this article is to cause the conservation easement to be held by a “qualified organization,” as defined in section 170(h)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, existing for the purchase of, or holding of, property interests, or facilitating transactions relative thereto when such purchase carries out the purpose of RSA 36-A, said organization as determined by the Board of Selectmen with the concurrence of the Conservation Commission. The property to which this authorization, if approved, will apply is land known as Tax Map 216 Lot 4 located off Scout Road, which was designated in 2016 as a Town Forest. The authority contained in this warrant article shall expire if the Board of Selectmen has not exercised the authority within two years of the date of the passage of this article; or take any other action relative thereto. *Conservation Committee and the Board of Selectmen Recommend this Article (Majority vote required)*

Motion made by Selectman Mark Chamberlain to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Fred Douglas.

Greg Kreider: To explain what is going on, Scout Road when it leaves Pinnacle goes past the wet area and starts going uphill and the road in that section is very badly worn over the years. It has probably sunk in a couple of feet down from where the surface was originally. It is a very rocky bottom, very uneven and it seems like there is always water coming down the bottom of it. It is not a pleasant way to get up to Rose Mountain. Three years ago in 2016 we voted to make the parcel on the right side of that stretch which is what the Town owns, to call it Town Forest. Turns out that calling something a Town Forest doesn't do much to preserve the land, it's a name. It allows the Conservation Commission to take responsibility for managing the property instead of the Board of Selectmen. It doesn't actually preserve the land, it doesn't guarantee that

we have access to Rose Mountain to preserve purpose, so that is why we are back today. The way to preserve land now a days is with a Conservation Easement. That is a legal document that the owner of the land, the Town of Lyndeborough in this case, creates with a second party. It sets out a number of restrictions of what you can and cannot do with the land. These restrictions hold no matter who owns the property in the future. So, you can go ahead and sell the land and the conservation goals will be kept. It is sort of like a Deed restriction which is another way of doing this except there is more security built into this, it is a recognized legal way across the nation of doing conservation. Since we designated the parcel Town Forest, we put in a hiking trail, you can go up to the road, you can go up there, there is a cellar hole there. There was an old shack, cabin that has been taken down and mostly cleaned up. I think there is a little more work to be done once the snow disappears. What we want to do today is to guarantee access to Rose Mountain through this property in the future. The Conservation Easement is a legal document, the first section will define the property and goals of the easement that you want to protect the land and then there is a couple of sections of what is prohibited and what's allowed usage. These seem to be boilerplate legalese. Disallowed uses are putting up structures, putting up buildings or for whatever reason doing mining which probably doesn't apply here. Standard allowed uses would be agricultural which includes logging, includes sugaring. What easements don't usually, it seems from the ones I have seen, include, is actually guaranteed public access. So, that the easement that covers the top of Winn Mountain does not have this language in it. The property owner is perfectly well within their right to post the property and you should really talk to them and ask permission to go hiking up there. On the other hand we have an example where the Town holds an easement on some of the properties off of Bullard Road. That is the road that is behind the Woodmont Orchard Building as you come up Center Road. Before they sub-divided that they put a three hundred foot wide stretch on the back end of that, that stretch included Purgatory Brook and some of the trails. The easement specifically says that you are guaranteed access to those trails so that the land owners once they were divided up cannot close off access, cannot block the trails. That easement also says you can put up signs down there, trail signs or if somebody wanted to make a nature walk out of it you could put up signs for that. It is certainly the intention of the Conservation Commission that we put this language into this easement to guarantee access to the property. I think that is also the intent of the Board of Selectmen for what they will be looking at when they approve the language. The easement is held by somebody, it is a two party transaction, it is a legal document. The rest of the document talks about what the responsibilities are of the holder of the easement which is basically to monitor it to make sure that the current land owners haven't closed off the trails or done things they aren't supposed to. If there is a problem, there is a resolution procedure for how to go about solving the problems that ends up actually escalating up through the State level, to the State Attorney General. The long, long description here of having a qualified organization according to the IRS is basically just saying that, sorry, let me back up a second. One of the costs for doing the easement is that you are giving up development rights essentially for the land. You are not allowed to put up structures. This means that the land is going to be worth less. If you were to put an easement on your property, the government, the IRS would recognize that change in value and you could recover some of it through your taxes. For a Town we don't have to worry about that but that is one reason for having the requirement for the IRS recognition in this. It is just to say that you are working with a recognized organization that is qualified to be doing this and you are following the government restrictions. The qualifying organizations are going to be somebody like the Piscataquog Land Conservancy up in New Boston who we have been working

with. In 2015 they bought the top of Rose Mountain and last year they bought two properties along Cold Brook on Mountain Road down towards New Boston. Another option might be the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests up in Concord. They are actually the biggest easement holders in Town, they have over a thousand acres of the Town under easement. There is of course other land trusts around, New England Forestry Foundation has quite a bit of land in the northeast corner of Town. People that aren't active here might be the Monadnock Conservancy or the Nature Conservancy, but our ties are with the PLC and with the Forest Society. These are certainly the guys we would go to first. The Land Trust has an obligation to monitor the property every year, to visit the property and to document it. This brings us into the second cost of doing this, because it takes staff, I think the Forest Society has five full time staff people to monitor all their easements across the state, it's something like a hundred thousand acres that they own. That cost money for them, so, if you put an easement on these, groups are going to come to you and ask you for help to defray their cost. We don't know what that amount is, we haven't talked to anybody officially about doing this and we won't until this passes. We have heard numbers in the order of ten to fifteen thousand dollars. Right now we have ten thousand dollars available in our budget. It may happen that when we get the final number done that, that's what we have in that point in time is not enough and we would have to come back next year to fill in the difference. Again, we don't know what it is, we will certainly be working. We have heard there might be other chances, that people have other projects in that area that we could piggy back onto to help save money. That is all for future discussions. Quick summary, we have a Town Forest, we want to guarantee access to it. The way to do that is to put a Conservation Easement on together with one of the Land Trusts in the area that will protect the property to go forward and we ask for your support in voting for this.

Jane Lifset: How big is the Town Forest?

Greg Kreider: It's about ten acres. It's really just along the road and it hooks into the PLC land at the top.

Lisa Post: Will there be parking available for people?

Greg Kreider: Kind of off road parking, there is maybe a chance there at the bottom where we could develop something that is something that we would have to look at. Right now you are kind of parking off to the side of the road. There is a flat area that works but there is not a lot of space.

Lisa Post: What would be allowed there?

Greg Kreider: So that would have to be defined. Camping and horseback I don't see a problem. ATV's are probably not going to want to go up through the forest, there are no trails through there so they would try to use the road but at the top of that steep section the PLC has blocked it off to prevent vehicle traffic from getting into their property.

Lisa Post: I know you did fund raising for PLC for Rose Mountain, would that be an option?

Greg Kreider: That might play into it. We have really good relationship with the PLC again. We ended up contributing substantially to their Proctor parcels. Some of that money actually came back this year. They are also very interested in making sure that this goes through just because it does give access to their parcel on the top.

Ray Humphries: Can you give us an example of what recreational limitations they have put up on the properties?

Greg Kreider: The Swartz easement on the top of Winn Mountain that the Forest Society holds, its just a standard landowner, the landowner can post it if he wishes. For the Bullard Road, there you are guaranteed at least foot traffic to go through. Generally I haven't seen them

explicitly laid out. Remember that the Conservation Easement holder doesn't actually have any real status here, they don't determine what can be done. They are just monitoring it to make sure that you are obeying the terms of the agreement. The Selectmen and the Conservation Commission will set this up.

(Further discussion reference ATV's and other off road vehicles from audience members)

Andy Roeper: I would like to move the question.

Moderator Walter Holland: One more question.

Mike Kaelin: There is another piece of land off the back of my property probably closer to Tarn Road. I didn't know if it is in Lyndeborough or Mont Vernon but it is right on the border. Is that also a candidate for being part of the Town Forest?

Greg Kreider: We haven't designated it. If it is State then we have no control over it. It would have to be a Town owned piece of land.

Moderator Walter Holland: Ready to move the Question?

Selectman Fred Douglas: The Conservation Commission is going to get involved with another person or another organization in order to acquire this land. There is going to be an easement made. That easement document is going to come to the Board of Selectmen. There will be public hearings relative to that where anybody here can come in on what the use is going to be. It will be on the minutes, please come in because we want your side of it too.

Moderator Walter Holland: The Selectmen are acting as agents and before anything happens there will be open meetings on that. (Inaudible discussion from members of the audience) Ready for the Question? Read Article. All those in favor signify by saying Aye, those opposed signify by saying Nay. Ayes have it. **Article Passes**

Article 18: To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting. We would also like to discuss the Fire Station location, additions etc... I would like to open up Article 18 for discussion.

Motion made by Selectman Fred Douglas to move article as read. Seconded by Selectman Mark Chamberlain.

Moderator Walter Holland: So we have a motion to open up this other business and we are going to discuss the Safety Complex Study Committee and John Pomer and Fire Chief Brian Smith are here to discuss. Last year we had a meeting and it was the results of this study committee, Safety Complex Study Committee and John gave a wonderful presentation about all the studies that had been done over the last three years and came up with some recommendations, suggestions. Now we are ready to move on it and find out what you, the townspeople want to do. Where do you want your Fire Department?

Town Administrator Russ Boland: If you could all turn to page 52 for a second. It was brought to my attention if you look midway down, that you will find a Trust Fund that just says Town. That was corrected last year and I honestly don't know how it made it through the way it is. That should be titled and as of Monday morning it will be titled The van Ham Family Trust. I just wanted to make sure everyone was aware of that and the mistake occurred a couple of years ago and we corrected it and it showed up again. In fairness to the van Ham family I wanted to bring that to your attention.

Moderator Walter Holland: Discussion on this Fire Station addition, location, what we are going to do. Are we going to be digging test pits or looking at ledge, parking? Just so you will know, this committee, I was part of this committee, we went to a lot of different Fire Stations, Police Stations, Safety Complexes around the neighboring towns of our size, some bigger, some

smaller. It was a lot of work put in there. After we looked at all these other stations and different things we took a big analysis of our station and there are a lot of issues with our station, if you are interested in hearing about them it is in the report. We have water flowing at times where water shouldn't be flowing through there. The size of the building. Chief Smith has some pictures that show you the inside of it, some of the deficiencies that they have to put up with and work with all the time. I understand there is a picture that shows six inch clearance between the top of our fire trucks and the entrances that they have to back in and out and the side. The one thing that we are most intent on is what is going to work for our Town and that is why Chief Smith is here, to tell us what they think they need as a Fire Department.

Fire Chief Brian Smith: As the Fire Department was discussed and some of the options that have come about as possibly putting a sub-station in somewhere up towards the Center. At this point I am not opposed to that, I just think we have major safety concerns at the current station we are at now that we need to address before we do anything else. Some of those issues that we have may not be easily fixed, some can, so basically we are looking to see what we can do. Most of our calls, they are spread out throughout the town but a lot of them intersect with the 31 side of things. So, obviously we can't just abandon where we are at now. We definitely need to maintain where we are at and bring it up to current standards, cost effectively the best that we can. Some of the issues we have, we don't have any type of vehicle ventilation so when these trucks start all that exhaust is inside the building getting into our gear, getting upstairs and it really poses a health risk to my members. Some of the issues that we have, we do not have a septic system, we have a holding tank. So, we can't wash our gear after each call. There is a lot of contaminates that get into our gear, one it destroys the gear and it is not safe for us as well. We do not have a contamination area that separates us from everything else inside the building so if there is an incident where we get contaminated we really have no place to go to correct that issue. The reason that we would like to get contamination, we are not bringing this contaminates back home with us. We don't have any good parking per say, we park at the Library during the day and that is tough because we are interfering with the Library activities. In the report you will see the position paper that the Fire Department came up with, there is a list of other deficiencies that are there. Like I stated in the beginning I am not opposed to a sub-station, I just think we need to update, fix and correct any safety concerns we have at our current location.

John Pomer: The committee went through and looked at all different possibilities within the town that would be useful and we listed them even though they are the ones that we may not necessarily could go with at this point here. There are two different possibilities, one is staying in our present location and the other is going up and using the Center or some combination of something in between. There are admittedly a lot of deficiencies in the current station. A structural engineer had come by and given us an informal summary of what is going on and that the plans we showed last year of having two more large bays set off to the side if we could purchase land from the neighbor. If we do all that, do all the other things we are still going to be getting only about two of the ten big things that need to be done in the station. There is a lot of limitations in that and we would be putting in a lot of money. If we go up to the Center, the advantage of that is we do have some Town property, we don't have to purchase it. We do have space to move around, there's some things that we need to go ahead and adjust up there and test out. The other advantage of the Center is in addition to expansion we will be able to cover the five mile radius that insurance companies like to have to get everybody's fire insurance portion to be more affordable. We need to have at least a sub-station there but we need to have something that we could actually grow into. The current station that we have had was built

around 1950 and that was after the Town had a fire truck that they kept in a local barn and one time they were answering a call, this is the story I heard, went out to answer a call to a fire, put the key in the ignition and nothing happened because the farmer at that barn had trouble with his tractor battery and grabbed the fire department one. We have come a long way. The Town realized we needed a building, we built one. Not too long after that, we found that the two small bays were not enough, we built the other new bays and we got along very well. It served us pretty well for the last seventy years. But, it is very constrained, it does need a lot of work. As we go forward we are going to have to spend some money, I know some people don't like to spend money but we are living in a society where we do have to spend some and most of us want fire protection. We want to make sure that that money we spend is going to be useful for another seventy years, not just another five or ten years. The different types of proposals that we looked at we could build a whole new Fire Station up in the center to cover everything. We meet all the requirements of things. If we did everything, kept it right here in the village we don't cover things where we are going to get the five mile radius. We are not going to have the ability to expand in the future and more than likely still be struggling with space to move the vehicles. We are still going to be dealing with a building that has water running through it on the floors. So, we need to consider different possibilities. If you look at where the calls are coming from for the Fire Department, they do have a large amount of accident related calls going up along the Route 31 corridor. The structural fires tend to be spread around randomly throughout the Town, so we want to keep that in mind as we look at things. One of the ideas, I am going to speak for myself as opposed to the committee here, my idea was we would want to go ahead and get some bays in the Fire Station started up in the Center area where we could start purchasing standard Fire Engines versus custom ones and save us some money. We would have that space. We could do it in a step wise function and in the meantime maintain down here the most important vehicles that would end up responding to traffic accidents along the 31 corridor. We could do this in the step wise function, spread out the cost, that was my personal preference. Other ones have had other ideas, but that is where we would like to go to. For the immediate, I know Brian would set up things so they can work the best for them but he is always going to be limited. How do we want to spend this money? Do you want to spend it making do with what we have now or do we want to build for the future. Another thing I like to think about is when we do spend money I hope that we do it in a way that most everybody here can get some value out of it.

Jon Lavoie: You mentioned your personal opinion, did the committee come up with a joint proposal.

John Pomer: The committee as a whole did not come up with a specific, single plan. We purposely did that because we did not have time or we did not have any real public input during that time period. Last year we presented what the options were as we had seen it. We were hoping that this year you would go ahead and discuss things. In the middle of the year I was wondering if anything was going on, but in the meantime we had the Selectmen going through and working up, checking out different things, different proposals. We have had an individual in Town who was actually evaluating what it takes to get to a call location using both the Village one and the Center one and seeing what the time difference and it was basically negligible, it was very little difference.

Andrew Chawla: I am really concerned as to what this is going to do to the character of the area because I live very close to the area. I live on Crooked S and I can hear fire trucks and sirens as they pass on Center Road, then my dogs go berserk. I am really concerned about noise and light pollution. It is just going to change the character and we moved here for the peace, the beauty,

the serenity, the solitude and we can be woken up with sirens going off at all hours of the night. I also don't see the value in raising everybody's taxes by a lot just so a handful of people can save a little bit of insurance, which they can still get, they just have to pay more for it.

John Pomer: It is not just that handful of people that would be able to get a lower insurance rate. Those people who are closer to a station will also get a decrease in what they are paying. It is not an absolute, you pay one price if you are within five miles, you pay another price if you are outside of it. Everybody is going to gain from it. Fortunately, we are in an area that is not an urban area. So when a siren goes on and trucks go on, we all hear it because that is the exception not the common thing. Putting the structure in the Center, when we were evaluating the area we had great input from the Historical group. We really want to make sure, is this a possibility in this location which abuts the Historical area. Does this lend itself that we can make the station blend into the area at marginal costs versus something that is grotesque, cinder block buildings sitting there and those things are possible. The property that we have that is behind the old Highway Barn, it is slightly down lower than the level of the street. Also, there happens to be a stonewall going across there. If you look at that stonewall and the trees there, if we added more trees in there, you know evergreen ones, we could actually block the view or reduce the amount of visual distractions that we would have there. So, it is very possible to do all that.

Andy Roeper: I was also on the committee. Our primary task was to look and evaluate existing conditions and make recommendations, not necessarily to come up with one plan. So, that is why you were given a number of options. As regards to staying in the current location, you are paying a significant premium every time you go for an engine because you have to get a custom engine. So, when you look at the long term we have to look at it in terms as, not only do we have to address the facility on basically a postage stamp with a few feet around it, but then every time we go to have, to go for additional capital equipment we are paying a real premium. So, that runs into the long term cost. As far as the question of, it makes noise. As a Town we are required to provide services and fire services are kind of important so that is part of the territory. Regarding the Center location, we looked at several locations throughout Town. In the long term, we could try to plan and look at other locations where we would have to spend more money to buy more property. The Center location as was mentioned offers a possibility for probably the least intrusive location where it could be down lower and out of site. Yes, there will be fire engines traveling down the roads. More of concern is making sure we provide a facility that makes it as practical and easy for our firemen. Because one of the biggest things we found at looking at different locations, not only the equipment issues, contamination, cleaning, exhaust and service, but also maintaining enough fire personnel. The biggest long term hazard right now has been the volunteers that are available. All of this went into the mix, so we are just asking for your consideration as you look at all these aspects of it. Not only do we look at what happens in the Village where we may continue to maintain a rescue presence but then also what makes more appropriate space for expansion. And lastly, it used to be you could just put a fire truck in a barn, not in a barn but in another out building. Now that is not so simple. You have to have a second set of turnout gear etc... So as you are building out facilities and you are looking at these Capital Improvements, again you have to figure out do we put a lot of money into squeezing into a little spot, do we put the money into a more expansive spot and then maintain a sub-station here. A lot of different options on the table so I am just asking everybody to be as objective as possible in considering this.

John Pomer: When we went around to visit the different fire stations that were in Towns similar to our size we found that when they built a new one they always built it in a place where

they had a lot of space. Sometimes, they are just a little bit out of the center of their business districts. They tended to be somewhat centralized in there Town. When we looked at Greenfield they are able to be in there Center and they had that space available, they could build right there, they could expand that was a good availability of it. But that extra space was very important to everybody when they built the new stations. No one invested in one where they had just a small lot like we have here. We do have complications with the Deed on that lot. The Town does not own the land that the Fire Station is on at this point here. So it makes a few different complications. We have it free to our use as long as it is used for Fire Department, one way or the other. To maintain that it would make sense that if we used this as the primary point for the rescue type vehicles that could quickly respond to Route 31 stuff it would be a very useful use of that.

Charlie Post: So the volume you were talking about a hybrid approach leaving the station here for basically responding to car accidents on 31. What percentage of the volume in terms of sirens going out would that be? I am assuming that would be the bulk of what the group does is mutual aid going to other Towns and then handling cars. Would a larger truck come down from Center of Lyndeborough for a car accident?

Fire Chief Brian Smith: Average, Lyndeborough does about a hundred and sixty calls a year. We respond to everything from medical, car accidents to fires. So we are rolling on every single call. I don't like the idea that people are getting, that 31 is just all we do is accidents. We have more fires in this area probably than throughout the Town. So it is not a correct statement. Obviously the population is more dense here so we are going to have more fires. It is spread out but more congested in this area. We would respond for every call so you'd be hearing the sirens a hundred and sixty plus times a year.

Charlie Post: So all the equipment would roll for any call?

Fire Chief Brian Smith: Usually for just a medical call that's our rescue but then we have our personal vehicles that the officers respond in to get there quicker. So you always hear sirens on every call. One other note I would like to add. If people on the Mountain were worried about their protection or service or something like that, we know that it takes us a long time to get there. But during the day, even some night hours we have mutual aid responding automatically. There is Tarn Road, there is the back side of the Mountain that Frankestown, New Boston can get there quicker than we can, we know that, so that is in place already. So it's not that you aren't going to get protection it may be coming from another Town but we are working on that and we know that it has always been an issue.

Selectman Mark Chamberlain: A Structural Engineer that I know came in and looked at the station. The construction is just unreinforced masonry which is what they did back then. Unfortunately if you do anything to one of those stations now a days, the building code requires that you reinforce it which means you are going to have to spend a lot of money just to keep what you have. There is a lot of code issues and you have to, once you start, you have to bring everything up to the current code. There is an option that we could build a building next to it that wasn't structurally attached. If we didn't touch the original station we wouldn't have to bring that up to code. However, we would still end up with the same situation as far as water service, septic service. We would have to spend money on that as well. As far as the number of calls like Brian says it's a hundred and fifty to a hundred and sixty a year, I don't think that the sirens coming off is that big a deal. My engineer basically said that you could spend a million dollars and fix two of the items and you'd still have everything else left. To me we need to come up with a plan where obviously it's going to be multi-year plan. We have to figure out whether

we are going to do multiple stations or whatever we are going to do we need to figure out how to go forward. We are at the point where we need to start spending some money for planning, for testing the lot. Behind the Center Hall it has ledge issues like most of Lyndeborough. We need to find out how extensive that is and how much money it would take to build a station up there. We need to locate anything down here as far as expansion. We will have to talk to the owner of the abutting property. We need to look at is there anything we can do for any of the services that are down there. I would rather spend a little bit of money now, in the next couple of years, to do that testing so that we would know what we are doing. And, end up with something that we can have for forty, fifty, sixty years, in the future because that's how long that new station is going to be, around I mean. We haven't built a new station since 1974, so that gives you some idea of how long this facility, however we do it, is going to have to last. So we need to look that far down the future, it's hard. We may get it wrong but hopefully we can get it right.

Greg Kreider: Discussion has been about a Fire Department, is this just a Fire Station or is it a Safety Complex that would also include Police and potentially Ambulance or medical?

John Pomer: We have looked into all the different possibilities and the ideas could we potentially have Police and Fire together. That is a possibility if the Town wants to have it. At the current point now having the Police Department located next to Citizens' Hall here is the preferred location by the people who have all the money coming in and out from our taxes and stuff like that. They just feel better protected if that is happening and that does make logical sense. If we had everything wholesale move up to a different location wherever it was, at one point we were talking about whether the school here was not going to be used, that was one of the possibilities. There was talks about could we turn that into our Town Hall Safety Complex combination, which some Towns have done. It's possible, today we haven't said one way or the other, right now we are focusing on the Fire Department. Where they are now there is no space for them to quickly get into their equipment, get on the trucks, disconnect the charging equipment, stuff they have to have on there and get out to your site without falling over each other, and that takes extra time to do that. When they are on a call they measure things in seconds they don't take things in hours or days to get done and that is critical that we want to give them the best facility to get going there. Because it could be one of your loved ones that they will walk through a wall of fire and take them out.

Geoffrey Allen: It could be mine, I hate that argument. The discussion we are having here I am not entirely, are we trying to decide whether we want to test at all these certain areas to see where we want to go. Because as I understand it, now we are kind of looking at three options. Either we move up to Center Road and scrap down here, we maintain both Center Road and down here on 31, so we will maintain the annual expenses from both or we do nothing and keep things as we are now. Are we going to vote on something that we are going to do, or are we trying to decide what we want to look at?

John Pomer: We are looking at this as being a point where we can get everybody to listen to what the different possibilities are. We do now need to start doing some type of testing for the different primary sites that have been identified. We have at least five thousand dollars from our committee that we have (TA Russ Boland said \$5,486.00). We really want to get started on getting the basic checks for those areas. It is going to take several years for us to get to the point where we are actually fully break ground, we know that. We want to have everything preplanned so we are ready to go and make it the most cost effective and beneficial for the whole community. As I have said before, I want to make sure we can do this so that everybody feels like they are getting something out of it.

Ellen Pomer: One thing with all these discussions that I haven't heard a whole lot talked about, it was sort of glossed over, is the health and safety of the firemen themselves. We are talking about a location in this Town that the Fire Department works out of, there is no decontamination area for them. If there is no decontamination area that stuff gets carried home whether we want to think about it or not and many of those fire people have little kids. So, it is not just the fire people we are discussing, we are discussing their families. Having been an environmental health and safety person for over twenty years I completely understand the impact of those kinds of problems that can arise. Something today a person gets exposed to it, they don't get sick today, they don't get sick five years from now, twenty five years, forty five years down the road. That's when they get sick. Our fire people are exposed to asbestos whether we would like to think about it or not. They are exposed to lead, there is lead paint in these houses. That gets carried home to their kids and it gets carried home to themselves and their wives. We don't have any facility in this Town right now to address these issues and we need to make sure that whatever we do those issues are addressed as well.

Lisa Post: Do we have any plans in place for something like that while we are waiting to make all these decisions.

Moderator Walter Holland: There is no room, no room in the current building to do that.

Lisa Post: But we are talking about their safety and we are talking there is another lot next door we could do something with, possibly build on. It's going to take years for this to be done because we don't know what sites are going to work or not. Don't you think that is something we need to address?

John Pomer: Right now we are looking to have the Fire Department to give us a plan what they want to do for the immediate future. Have they presented anything yet to the Selectmen as to their plan of action?

Town Administrator Russ Boland: Not currently but the Chief is working on it with his command staff. We have been trying to approach this from a two prong point of view. Like the Chief had said, what do we do to improve the safety of the current station. There is many physical limitations. I mean it is too close to 31, we can't move 31, we can't move the building. There are some things that we can't overcome. But the things that we can improve the Chief and his command staff are working on putting together a plan to do so.

William Anderson: Is a motion in order?

Moderator Walter Holland: Yes

William Anderson: I move the Town of Lyndeborough to proceed with the planning and testing of the Center Road location for the complete relocation of the Lyndeborough Fire Department.

Moderator Walter Holland: There is no money associated with this so we can start procedures this year and then next year maybe have a Warrant Article.

William Anderson: I understood that one of the things that still needs to be done before this can go forward is that this site, the Center Road site has to be tested to make sure that it is suitable for this relocation. So, it sounded to me if you are looking for the next step that next step has to be a determination whether or not this second site that the gentleman over here said there is only three, sounded like there is only three alternatives, a, b or a and b. I am suggesting that we go with the Center Road site as the sole site because of the limitations on the present site. But that the first thing that has to be done in order to find out whether or not that is even a decent idea is that has to be tested. If there isn't any money for the testing of the site as a suitable site the other piece of it we found out was that wherever you live in the Town the time it takes to get from the

new site or the old site to your place is practically nonexistence difference. So as long as that is the case and the new site has that five mile radius around it, just like some of the old site is, or maybe even better. So, all the stars are aligning in favor of the new site as long as it is tested out, if it's not tested out then we are not going anywhere. You can't develop a new property without first making sure that it is appropriate. If we don't fund that then we are dead in the water. It sounded to me like you were looking for something from the voters, the taxpayers. I am suggesting that as an open that we abandon the current site as hazardous and insufficient on the short term and hazardous and insufficient in the long term. And, we proceed instead with the testing necessary to make the new site our new home.

Moderator Walter Holland: So you are proposing to motion to have the Selectmen to pursue testing. There is no money in the budget this year.

John Pomer: We really want to test both sites, just in case, we don't know for sure. We want to know what both sites are.

Town Administrator Russ Boland: There is money available in a previous Warrant Article voted by this body that named the Selectmen as agents to expend. You put five thousand dollars in there and the reason there is five thousand four hundred and eighty six is because it has grown a little bit over the last few years. That money is available, the Board of Selectmen are the agents to expend. The reason we want to bring it up is, up until this point there has been a lot of hard work done by the Fire Department, by the committee but it hasn't cost tax dollars. So we are now talking about spending tax dollars to do soil borings or pits or whatever to test the area to see if behind Center Hall is a viable location. In conjunction with that, possibly testing the land next to the current station. That is the question that is being posed to you because we don't want to start spending taxpayer dollars without having a conversation.

Sharon Akers: I don't feel that all the stars are aligned at all to go forward with the Center Hall location. Especially because once we do we won't be able to see the stars from there. I am concerned enough as it is with the street light that is there. I can only imagine how incredibly different the rural character of our Town would be if we had a Fire Station with search lights and all of the other light pollution that you would see from all of our mountain tops and all of the areas you can see Center Hall from. I was wondering if the option of taking down our current facility completely and starting over in the site we currently have has been looked at all.

Andy Roeper: Mr. Moderator, point of order, we had a motion. I believe you first have to have a second and then a discussion. What is exactly the wording of the motion?

Town Administrator Russ Boland: The motion was to have the Selectmen to pursue testing of sites. It would be nice to have it in writing.

William Anderson: I move that the Town of Lyndeborough to proceed with the planning and testing of the Center Road location and the Forest Road location for the complete relocation of the Lyndeborough Fire Department to the Center Road location. (inaudible comments from audience regarding wording) Alright, I move the Town of Lyndeborough to proceed with the planning and testing of both the Center Road location and the Forest Road location.

Moderator Walter Holland: Do I have a second? Second from Sally Curran

We can open up for discussion, we had discussion between the motion and the second but it looks like everyone would like the Selectmen to proceed so that next year at this time at least we will have some results. I have motion to give the Selectman the authority to pursue testing of the two locations, there is money in the budget leftover from a couple of years ago when you voted to give the committee five thousand dollars. So there is money to do testing and maybe surveying with that. I have the motion and a second.

Ray Humphries: I think the motion needs to say both departments. Because last year if we look back at Article 14 in our Warrant it says good response for both departments. And, two next bold item down or maybe it's the third one it says Cost Effective Options. I haven't heard that yet for the Police Department. So, if you are going to come to us, the Townspeople and ask to build a Fire Station somewhere, your major costs, being in the business, are excavation and foundation, site work and foundation. Are you going to come to us in several years and say we need to put the Police Department somewhere, oh, we are going to put it on the back of here and we are going to move that hillside away. There is additional foundation and excavation costs. We haven't heard that addressed yet.

Moderator Walter Holland: Any other discussion on the motion to allow the Selectmen to pursue testing of the sites so we will know where we are going to go. (audience member said move the question) The question before us is **to have the Selectmen pursue testing of the Center Road, Lyndeborough Center location behind the Old Town Hall and also the Route 31 current location possibilities of expansion there.** All those in favor signify by saying Aye, All opposed signify by saying Nay. **That Motion passed.**

I would like to thank the office staff for helping to set up this room and Michael Kaelin, he is the one who set up the microphones and everything for the sound system. At the end of this meeting, those that were elected, if you could meet me down front I can swear you in. Do I have any other motions before the assembly here?

Selectman Fred Douglas: Mr. Moderator I don't have a motion but I have a statement to this forum. I would like, as the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to thank all the employees that work for the Town and all the volunteers who work for this Town throughout the course of this past year. In particular I want to recognize one employee and that is Russ Boland. I cannot tell you the amount of work that this man does on a daily basis. He is very open to everybody, he is very cordial, he makes himself accessible. I don't know how we lasted this long without you Russ and I want to thank you very much. (Standing round of applause)

Town Administrator Russ Boland: Thank you Fred I definitely didn't expect that. I started here five years ago now. But as I look around, just about ninety nine percent of you have been in the office and it is a team effort and that is why this previous question, trying as it might have been, is important because you do come into the office and say things that I sit back and say why I didn't think of that. It is an honor working with all of you. Thank you.

Moderator Walter Holland: I just want to thank Russ. Sometimes he is the one that calls me with the good news but sometimes he calls me and says Walter I am sorry I have to tell you something. He is the one that sometimes has to pass on bad news. He is a trusted person I can go to with any of my concerns. So thank you Fred for saying that.

Motion to adjourn by Stephanie Roper, second by Andy Roeper. I declare the meeting adjourned Meeting adjourned at 1250pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia H. Schultz
Town Clerk/Tax Collector
Town of Lyndeborough NH

