

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES**

**TOWN OF LUDLOW  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING**

October 6, 2008

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Howard Barton, Jr., Chairman	Bruce Schmidt
Brett Sanderson	Earl Washburn

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

John Neal

STAFF:

Frank Heald

OTHERS PRESENT:

Don Buswell	John Norton	Phil Stratman
Richard Harrison	Ralph Pace	Sophia Stratman
Dave Norton	Ted Reeves	Duncan Love (LPC-TV)

1. **Call to Order**

- A. Chairman Howard Barton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- B. John Neal absent.

2. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings**

- A. Howard Barton advised that the minutes to be approved are from the public hearing and meeting of September 15, 2008.
- B. **MOTION by Brett Sanderson and seconded by Bruce Schmidt to approve the minutes from the September 15, 2008 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Comments from Citizens**

- A. **John Norton – Discuss Town Policies**
  - i. John Norton indicted that the agenda as written is not the same as one provided to him by the town office personnel when he asked to be put on the agenda. He was to be a separate item and not listed under “Comments from Citizens.” He questioned why the agenda was changed and why he was not notified about the change.
  - ii. Frank Heald said that the office was not clear what he really wanted to discuss.
  - iii. John Norton said Town Policies.
  - iv. Howard Barton said that the board chair must approve the agenda and that he had only received a copy on Friday.
  - v. John Norton said that the board will not answer his questions under “Comments.”
  - vi. Howard Barton said the board will not act under “Comments.”
  - vii. John Norton said that the last time he tried to get something done under “Comments.” He was given the run-around.
  - viii. Howard Barton said the board may not deviate from the agenda.
  - ix. Frank Heald asked which polices John Norton wished to address.
  - x. John Norton said that he will not discuss it under “Comments.”
  - xi. Earl Washburn said it is semantics. The board will answer questions under “Comments.”
  - xii. John Norton said he would prefer to be a separate item on next month’s agenda.
- B. **Energy Conservation**
  - i. Richard Harrison asked what ways Ludlow can work toward energy conservation. He suggested a 10-hour, 4-day workweek for administrative personnel and adding pellet stoves to town properties to supplement heating. He would like to see a program to be presented at Town Meeting in March.

- ii. Howard Barton asked Frank Heald for comments.
- iii. Frank Heald advised that a number of other towns are forming energy committees to look into energy conservation. Ludlow has a small group working with other agencies to assist the elderly and the town supports Black River Good Neighbors. Many of the other smaller towns, are going to 4-day workweeks, but he does not know if that would be in the best interest of Ludlow.
- iv. Bruce Schmidt suggested looking at vehicle idling and how many vehicles to run. He added that this building is more energy efficient since the renovation.
- v. Richard Harrison suggested pellet stoves for the schools and suggested a study be done on the town properties
- vi. Bruce Schmidt noted that the town installed a waste oil furnace at the town garage and there is a lot of recycling at the transfer station. He suggested that the municipal bus routes be reviewed.
- vii. Richard Harrison asked about a 4-day school week.
- viii. Earl Washburn said that the Department of Education has strict requirements and that would mean stretching the school year. It would also involve the teachers' union.
- ix. Sophia Stratman suggested solar power in the town buildings.
- x. Frank Heald asked the board if they would like to consider forming an energy conservation committee.
- xi. There was a general consensus that the board wanted that.
- xii. Frank Heald said he would have a committee list for the next meeting.

4. **Discuss and Award Ambulance Stretcher Bid**

- A. Howard Barton advised that there were 2 proposals for this at the last meeting and that the recommendation from the ambulance department is for the bid from Stryker EMS for two (2) Model 6500 Power Pro Ambulance Cots for total price of \$21,960.00
- B. Frank Heald advised that there was confusion about what the stretcher actually was and he had thought it was for going up stairs. It does save the backs of the people carrying the stretchers. He asked the ambulance department to bring one in.
- C. Dave Norton explained the squad had tried 3 different types and this one is excellent and everyone likes it.
- D. Richard Harrison said that when he was taken in the ambulance, it was used and it is good.
- E. Dave Norton and Don Buswell gave a demonstration and showed how it does save strain on the backs of ambulance personnel. It is battery operated, a NiCad battery available at LaValleys and has an indicator when the battery is low.
- F. Don Buswell said that it is rated for 700 pounds.
- G. **MOTION by Bruce Schmidt and seconded by Brett Sanderson to approve the purchase of two (2) Stryker stretchers for a total of \$21,960.00. Motion passed unanimously.**

5. **Stearns Pit Lease**

- A. Frank Heald advised that agreement provided tonight needs some minor adjustments. The original agreement was made in 1995 and is re-executed every year at an increase based on the CPI from December 31<sup>st</sup> of the previous year. The correct amount for this year will be \$63,908.
- B. Bruce Schmidt recused himself from the vote.
- C. **MOTION by Brett Sanderson and seconded by Earl Washburn to approve the execution of this year's lease at \$63,908. Motion passed unanimously.**
- D. Frank Heald said he would get a corrected copy.

6. **Discuss Village Curbside Recycling Project**

- A. Frank Heald advised that the Village recently did an RFP for curbside recycling and bids from Adams and Gobin. The one from Gobin was very attractive. The cost of disposal will be \$15 per ton and pick up will be every other week. The recyclables will go to Newport and to a single stream-recycling center in Chittenden. The Village is hoping to collect newspapers. He would like input from the Select Board. If the trash is in black plastic bags, it costs the town \$85 per ton. In the recycling containers, it will cost the town \$15/ton. This will lower the town's overall cost.
- B. Bruce Schmidt asked for clarification.

- C. Howard Barton advised that the Village pays for the pick-up and the town pays for the disposal.
- D. Frank Heald said that if the town gives the \$15 per ton credit to the village, the town will be still be saving about \$55 per ton. The Trustees' vote is tomorrow night.
- E. Howard Barton said it makes sense. Everyone saves.
- F. Bruce Schmidt asked if the Village is going to require recycling.
- G. Frank Heald said there is currently no ordinance to require recycling. It is hoped that the community will support this because it is the right thing to do. The Village must buy the containers. They are hoping to collect newspapers and glass bottles and other recyclables. They want to keep the heavy stuff out of the waste stream. There is a lot accomplished up at the transfer station. If the Select Board agrees, he will work out a proposal.
- H. There was general agreement.

7. **Sign Municipal Planning Grant Resolution**

- A. Frank Heald advised that the Town Plan must be re-authorized every 5 years and this grant is for work on the upgrade of the town plan. Funds are available for planning grants. Some part of that money would go toward map revisions.
- B. **MOTION by Bruce Schmidt and seconded by Earl Washburn to sign the resolution for the Planning Grant. Motion passed unanimously.**

8. **Review Draft Deed – Reservoir Pond**

- A. Frank Heald said that the Select Board should review the deed that would transfer the dam from the Village to the Town. There will also be a document for the Select Board to sign to accept the property. The updated version has changed references from the LUDLOW VILLAGE DAM to LAKE PAULINE DAM. The Trustees have to give a 30-day notice that will be their December meeting. Then there is the 30-day time period required for permissive referendum for voters to get together a petition if against the transfer. After that period passes, the Select Board will sign the acceptance. Interestingly, most of the transactions pertaining to this dam are over 100 years old. Town/Village counsel prepared the deed.

9. **Set Date for November Meeting**

- A. November meeting set for Monday, November 4, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
- B. Frank Heald advised that the budget process is underway and that there will be a draft at the November meeting. It will include most everything except Insurance related items.

10. **Department Head Reports**

- A. Howard Barton noted that all reports are in.
- B. There were no other comments.

11. **Other Business**

- A. **Zoning Legal Issues**
  - i. Bruce Schmidt requested that the Select Board members be kept advised of all legal matters pertaining to the Zoning department.
- B. **Wind Energy**
  - i. Bruce Schmidt noted that at some point the town needs to address regulations concerning Wind Energy. Do they need to consider a Wind Energy Ordinance?
  - ii. Frank Heald said that Planning Commission was asked to quickly discuss this issue or abdicate it to the Select Board for an ordinance. Discussion should begin initially with the Planning Commission.
  - iii. Howard Barton asked Frank Heald to look into the progress.
- C. **Dorsey Park Drainage Issue**
  - i. Frank Heald advised that Homestead and Saratoga are both solidly behind their products and will perform any repairs at their own cost with no cost to the town.

12. **Sign Warrant Orders**

- A. Howard Barton advised that warrant orders have been signed.

13. **Executive Session/Contracts/Personnel**

- A. Frank Heald advised that an executive session was needed for contracts and personnel.  
B. **Motion by Earl Washburn and seconded by Bruce Schmidt to enter in to Executive Session for Contracts/Personnel. Motion passed unanimously.**  
C. Board entered into Executive Session at 7:38 p.m.  
D. Out of Executive Session at 8:17 p.m.  
E. No action taken.

14. **Adjourn**

- A. **MOTION by Bruce Schmidt and seconded by Earl Washburn to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**  
B. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Klaiber

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Howard Barton, Jr., Chairman

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John Neal

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Brett Sanderson

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Earl Washburn

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Bruce Schmidt