

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES**

**TOWN OF LUDLOW  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**REGULAR MEETING**

October 3, 2011

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Howard Barton, Jr., Chairman	John Neal	Bruce Schmidt
Douglas Ficken	Brett Sanderson	

STAFF PRESENT:

Frank Heald

OTHERS PRESENT:

Christopher Avard	Susan McNeeley	Duncan Love (LPC-TV)
Fred Glover	Ralph Pace	
Rose Goings	Terry Thayne	

1. **Call to Order**

- A. Chairman Howard Barton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- B. All members present.

2. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings**

- A. Howard Barton advised that the minutes to be approved are from the regular meeting and public hearing of September 19, 2011.
- B. **MOTION by Doug Ficken and seconded by Brett Sanderson to approve the minutes of September 19, 2011 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Comments from Citizens**

- A. There were none.

4. **Receive and Act on Errors & Omissions from the Ludlow Board of Listers**

- A. Howard Barton advised that there are two properties on the list, a property at 17 South Hill Street and the other at 467 Smokeshire Road.
- B. **MOTION by Bruce Schmidt and seconded by John Neal to accept the Errors and Omissions report from the listers correcting the property located at 17 South Hill Street (property was listed as .82 acres and is actually .62) and the property at 467 Smokeshire has a Current Use Value Allocation of \$114,000 and not \$136,000. Motion passed unanimously.**

5. **Flood Update ( Roads & Bridges, FEMA and Funding Issues)**

- A. Frank Heald said that the roads and bridges are coming along fairly well. East Lake Road from Ellison Lake Road to the Coombs property will be a fairly extensive project. On the East Lake Bridge they will have to redo the east abutments and deck. They are working with a source for beams. They need the abutment details. They may move east of the river area for the abutments. The Pleasant Street Ext. Bridge will be paved and asphalted for winter and will get significant attention next summer. VTRANS and Federal Highways will cover the divot on Andover and on South Main by Subway and the divot at the Okemo Access. He will meet with FEMA at 9:00 a.m. on October 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss A and B categories for debris and emergency repairs. The preliminary estimate for finishing and repairs is about \$18,000,000. At issue is that we have to bear the brunt – pushing \$500,000 until FEMA finished and issues us a check. They still have not funded the towns up north for repairs done this past spring.

We will have to hold a special meeting to do a short-term loan for about \$2,000,000 for about one year. The Federal Highways funds almost all of the repairs under their jurisdiction. FEMA will fund about 75% of their repairs. The fact that this board passed the Roads and Bridge Standards gets us an extra 2 ½% from the state. We will have to pay about 10% or \$200,000 and will address that later on. Frank Heald said that he is proud of how the community pulled together to address this disaster. Everyone from staff to volunteers, citizens and contractors. People responded as well as they possibly could have.

- B. Howard Barton asked if East Lake is the only road not open.
- C. Frank Heald said yes, it is not open from Ellison Lake to Combs and there is a lot of work left to do.

#### 6. **Planning Commission Update**

- A. Frank Heald noted that the board had asked for a progress report from the Planning Commission on the town plan update. Board members were sent a copy of the document draft with noted changes. There is also a letter from Jason Rasmussen. Fred Glover and Rose Goings are here tonight to answer questions. This is not a public hearing for the town plan.
- B. Fred Glover said that what the board members have is not a completed project. He said that the best way to see all of the changes is to read both and compare them. There have been substantial additions to the plan as they are outlined in Jason's letter. The maps will help put it in context. It has been a long process. The town contracted out work on the last revision and the Planning Commission found too much statistics and not enough about goals and policies. The Planning Commission worked for about 5-6 months and realized they would need assistance. They brought in a series of experts and got assistance from Jason Rasmussen. They still need to do a final proof read. He will come back to this board when the plan is complete to discuss it in more detail. They added Chapter 3A which describes community resources and added more to goals and policies. In a Vermont Supreme Court case, the court required stated, clear policies in the town plan. This draft only shows the deletions and Fred Glover said that he has outlined some of the bigger changes.
- C. Bruce Schmidt said that a lot of work has been done. He said that he wanted some dialogue to discuss the direction the Planning Commission was taking the town plan. He noted that in Chapter 3A, he did not see how the ridgeline concept blends into the wind power concept and renewable energy. He also did not see anything about cellular and broadband coverage.
- D. Fred Glover said that wind turbines that are net-metered are controlled by the PSB and only the non-net-metered are controlled by the town. He added that he does not think the town could stop a net-metered unit on the ridgeline, but could be an interested party at Environmental hearings. It is hard to make a compatible best location for a tower on the ridgeline. The Planning Commission put in subtle references to ridgelines and your feedback is important. We need to know how the town feels.
- E. Howard Barton asked Fred Glover when the Planning Commission expects to be done with the town plan.
- F. Fred Glover said by December. He noted that some charts and graphs are missing and they need to check some of their facts.
- G. Rose Goings said that Chapter 2 is not complete and other things need to be changed. They need to include flood information from Irene, they need to include that Ludlow was approved for the Village Center designation and they must include the data from the 2010 census.

#### 7. **Consider HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant**

- A. Frank Heald said that the Regional Planning Commission and the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Planning Commission are applying for a grant and the towns within the respective regions must sign the grant. There are no financial consequences to Ludlow. He said that he has prepared a letter of support for this board.
- B. **Motion by Bruce Schmidt and seconded by Doug Ficken to approve the application and to authorize Howard Barton to sign the letter of support. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### 8. **Department Head Reports**

- A. Ambulance
  - 1. Frank Heald advised that the Ambulance report is now in.
  - 2. Howard Barton asked if the ambulance department is still covering Woodstock.
  - 3. Frank Heald said the bridge on 100A is still out so they are still covering Woodstock.
- B. Fire Department

1. Howard Barton asked about the damages to Engine 3.
  2. Brett Sanderson said it happened up at Solitude. The hard suction and rotary blade should go in for repairs tomorrow and be back within a week.
  3. Bruce Schmidt asked about the container at the fire department.
  4. Frank Heald said it is still there.
  5. Brett Sanderson said they may have tried to pick it up.
- C. Police Department
1. Bruce Schmidt said that he heard there was a resignation from one of the officers.
  2. Frank Heald said Andy Brothers resigned to take a job with Family Services. He will continue to help out part time until we find a replacement.
- D. Transfer Station
1. Doug Ficken said that the transfer station seems to have quieted down. He said that last month there were 20 containers and asked if there was a count for this month.
  2. Frank Heald said Pam Cruickshank has the number.
  3. Doug Ficken said that should be reimbursable for 75% because it is debris.
  4. Frank Heald said the people were really glad to have the containers there for debris.

9. **Other Business**

- A. Black River Good Neighbor Services
1. Frank Heald said that Black River Good Neighbors has a lot of merchandise and encourages people to contact them. The community has given food, clothes and furniture generously. There is also some money available.
- B. LPC Move
1. Bruce Schmidt asked when LPC will be moving to the Community Center.
  2. Frank Heald said that he has not heard Bruce Schmidt said that he got the impression that they plan to move in over Christmas vacation.
  3. Frank Heald said that the board of directors has been aggressively fund raising.
  4. Howard Barton asked if LPC should scale back their plans.
  5. Bruce Schmidt asked if they need guidance or help. The school needs the space where LPC is at present.
  6. Frank Heald said that there is money left in the Construction account and the town did not do the insulation yet, because LPC had not indicated electrical locations.
  7. Bruce Schmidt said that as leaders of the town, this board needs to at least talk about it. We should not be on the hook for the money.
  8. John Neal asked how big the space is.
  9. Frank Heald said about 2,000 square feet.
  10. Bruce Schmidt said that maybe they should just frame in something and increase the size later on.
  11. Doug Ficken said the elementary school has already extended LPC's time in the space.
  12. Howard Barton said that he had heard that there is a problem with the lease for the town.
  13. Frank Heald said not that he is aware of. LPC took the lease to a local attorney for review. It is the same lease as Black River Good Neighbors has. He said that he does not anticipate making any changes.
  14. Ralph Pace said that one concern that LPC has is possible drainage issues. Patrick Cody is concerned about the electrical equipment. They had over 3 inches of water.
  15. Howard Barton said the equipment is not that low to the ground.
  16. Frank Heald said they had recontoured the front and north prior to Irene. The back and east sides have silt and sediment and it needs to be cleaned out. We will possibly do that within the next week or two.

10. **Sign Warrant Orders**

- A. Warrant orders have been signed.

11. **Set Date for Next Meeting**

- A. Howard Barton advised that the next meeting would be held on November 7, 2011.

12. **Possible Executive Session/Personnel**

- A. Frank Heald advised that an Executive Session for Contracts/Personnel is required.
- B. MOTION by John Neal and seconded by Brett Sanderson to enter in to Executive Session for Contracts/Personnel. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Board entered into Executive Session at 7:44 p.m.

13. **Adjourn**

- A. **MOTION by and seconded by to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Meeting adjourned at p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisha Klaiber

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Howard Barton, Jr., Chairman

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Brett Sanderson

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Doug Ficken

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Bruce Schmidt

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John Neal