

***PRELIMINARY MINUTES***

**TOWN OF LUDLOW  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**REGULAR MEETING**

May 3, 2010

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Bruce Schmidt

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Frank Heald

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Robert Buchan	Marilyn Ledoux	Ted Reeves
Leo Graham	Ralph Pace	Patrick Cody (LPC-TV)
Brent Karner		

1. **Call to Order**

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

2. **Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings**

- A. Howard Barton advised that the minutes to be approved are from the regular meeting of April 5, 2010, and special meetings of April 19, 2010. He indicated that on the minutes of April 5, 2010, #3A and #3C, (Approve Minutes), the date for the special meeting was January 26<sup>th</sup>, not January 6<sup>th</sup>.
- B. **MOTION by John Neal and seconded by Doug Ficken to approve the minutes of April 5, 2010 and April 19, 2010 as indicated above. Motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Comments from Citizens**

- A. There were none.

4. **Route 100 Byway Project**

- A. Brent Karner advised that there are currently 6 scenic byways in the state. There is a group of people who would like to see Route 100 from Londonderry to Killington designated as a scenic byway. The primary reason for this is marketing and possible funds from state grants. They have created a council of interested people from Plymouth, Ludlow, Weston, Killington and Londonderry to work on this. Grants are available from the state and federal governments, if you have this designation. It would be at no cost to the towns or taxpayers. Grants would be 80/20 from the federal government. There will be a committee meeting this coming Friday. They are trying to market this corridor to visitors.
- B. Howard Barton asked about local matches for the grants.
- C. Brent Karner said that they could be monetary or in kind. Try to be as creative as possible.
- D. Howard Barton asked about maintenance to projects after the projects were completed.
- E. Brent Karner said that would be the town's responsibility. He referred to a brochure that he had distributed showing some typical types of projects.
- F. John Neal asked if there had been any discussion about philosophy regarding the project. How is Act 250 affected. They should have a written purpose. What is their focus.
- G. Howard Barton agreed, saying especially if the project included any construction.
- H. Brent Karner said that the details for any project would have to be outlined in the grant applications. There is only a certain amount of money available from grants and the towns would all get to apply for the funds. The group would determine which towns would get the funds. The group would like a letter from each town saying that it is in favor of the byway designation.
- I. Howard Barton said that this board would have to see how it would affect the town plan and zoning regulations.
- J. Brent Karner said they would only be affected if a town wants money from the grants.
- K. Frank Heald said that he has information regarding these designations. It is a unique way to provide marketing and directional information to the traveling public. The ability to use the program is interesting. The Connecticut River Byway runs the length of Route 5. At this point, the program is more marketing and not about regulation. It is basically a marketing program.
- L. Howard Barton asked about the effect on planning and zoning.
- M. Frank Heald said that based on what has happened in the rest of the state, there is no effect. This byway would connect Route 4 to Route 30.
- N. John Neal said that he is okay with a letter, but he would like to include an emphasis in the letter that there are no regulatory implications.
- O. Frank Heald said he would draft a letter for the board's next meeting.

5. **Review and Comment on AT&T Upgrade Proposal**

- A. Frank Heald said that the board has all the information in their packets. This is an upgrade to AT&T's equipment and would improve the service in Ludlow. The town uses AT&T as a provider for cellular service. We need the obligatory letter to sign off on this.
- B. **MOTION by John Neal and seconded by Brett Sanderson to authorize Frank Heald to sign a letter in support of the AT&T upgrade. Motion passed unanimously.**

6. **Liquor Control Board**

- A. Frank Heald advised that this is the license renewal for The Loft and it has been approved by Chief Billings.
- B. **MOTION by Brett Sanderson and seconded by John Neal to approve the license renewal for The Loft. Motion passed unanimously.**

7. **Consider and Act on The Report of the Armory Construction Committee**

- A. John Neal advised that the committee has met twice. They went through each bid, thoroughly and formulated a list of questions for Jerry Hansen to ask the bidders. There are now two finalists, Josselyn Brothers and Trumbull-Nelson. The committee will meet again, tomorrow to interview the two finalists. The committee needs more time to get through the process, 1 ½ to 2 weeks. They would like to present their recommendation to the board on May 17<sup>th</sup>. They will meet one more time with the applicant.

8. **Review and Acknowledge Receipt of 2009 Bridge Inspections**

- A. Frank Heald advised that this is the annual report the town receives from AOT. Two bridges will be rehabilitated this summer. Dorsey Bridge will get major repairs and the repairs to the Walker Street Bridge will be about \$50,000. This is contingent upon receiving Structures money from the state. The balance of the bridges will get what attention we can give and we will work on them little by little. We only need to acknowledge receipt of this report tonight.
- B. **MOTION by Brett Sanderson and seconded by Doug Ficken to acknowledge receipt of the report. Motion passed unanimously.**
- C. Ralph Pace asked about the Mill Street Bridge.
- D. Frank Heald said it is still a walking only bridge. It is a 1929 Pony Truss bridge and in order to get money from the state, it must be restored to original condition. That would mean about \$1,000,000 and there are more important bridges in town to fix. If the town replaces the Mill Street Bridge it would cost about \$200,000. For the Dorsey Bridge, we can only get about \$175,000 and the town will have to pay for the balance of those repairs over the next 5 years.

9. **Black River High School Girls Snowboard Team Proclamation**

- A. Frank Heald advised that the girls won the 2010 state championships. He read the Proclamation in to the minutes. Please see end of minutes for copy of the Proclamation.
- B. **MOTION by John Neal and seconded by Brett Sanderson to authorize and sign the proclamation. Motion passed unanimously.**

10. **Department Head Reports**

- A. Howard Barton advised that all reports are in.
- B. Green Up Day
  - 1. Howard Barton asked if there had been special pricing at the Transfer Station on Green Up Day.
  - 2. Frank Heald said no. He added that there had not been as many High School students as in the past. We did get most of the roads covered and 2,400 lbs. of trash went

across the scale. The roads were not as scruffy as they have been in the past, except for Bixby Road. They had a nice barbeque.

- C. Treasurers Office
  - 1. Frank Heald said that as of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, there is about \$400,000 languishing or about 2% of the \$20,500,000. That is a reasonably acceptable delinquency rate.

#### 11. Other Business

- A. VLCT Report
  - 1. Frank Heald advised that we had received a check in the amount of \$1,570 for our participation on the Workers' Compensation Program. We were 3<sup>rd</sup> of about 30 municipalities. This is the first year of the actual program and the troops are into it.
- B. Loyalty Day
  - 1. Frank Heald said that our fire trucks were the best in the parade. They were clean and well presented. He added that there is an incredible amount of money invested in all of the combined fire trucks and it is interesting to watch.
- C. Dorsey Park
  - 1. Doug Ficken asked about Dorsey Park.
  - 2. Frank Heald advised that they had reached the point of frustration and called Chris Callahan. Chris Callahan wrote of letter of demand. Frank Heald met with the principals of Homestead and they discussed a number of remedies. Frank Heald received a letter from them, today at 5:45 p.m. and he is not happy with it. He still needs to discuss this with Chris Callahan. He does not feel that their offer is sufficient. They only want to fix 2 low spots. He is also disappointed that they only responded to him so late this afternoon. He is not convinced their offer will fix the field. He will have to have another meeting with them. He would rather have it fixed right this time.
  - 3. Doug Ficken said that it sounds like a band-aid to him.
  - 4. Frank Heald said that this might come to the point where we will need to litigate and that is a costly process.

#### 12. Set Date for June Meeting

- A. Howard Barton noted that the date for the next regularly scheduled meeting is June 7, 2010. We will also hold a special meeting on May 17,2010.

#### 13. Sign Warrant Orders

- A. Warrant orders have been signed.

#### 14. Executive Session/Contracts

- A. Howard Barton advised that an Executive Session is needed.
- B. **MOTION by John Neal and seconded by Brett Sanderson to enter in to Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously.**

- C. Board entered in to Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.
- D. Board exited Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.
- E. **MOTION by Doug Ficken and seconded by Brett Sanderson to approve two-year contract for Frank Heald as presented. Motion passed unanimously**

15. **Adjourn**

- A. **MOTION by Doug Ficken and seconded by Brett Sanderson to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 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

**PROCLAMATION TOWN OF  
LUDLOW, VERMONT  
BLACK RIVER HIGH SCHOOL  
GIRLS SNOWBOARD TEAM**

**WHEREAS:** The Black River High School Girls Snowboard Team won the 2010 state championship; and

**WHEREAS:** The Black River High School Girls Snowboard Team is establishing a tradition of success in repeating as state champions; and

**WHEREAS:** The Black River High School Girls Snowboard Team displayed outstanding excellence in sportsmanship and preparation; and

**WHEREAS:** The Black River High School athletes and coaching staff and their accomplishments are a true credit to the school and community; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Select Board for the Town of Ludlow does hereby congratulate the 2010 Black River High School Girls Snowboard Team for their outstanding victory and does hereby proclaim the month of May as Black River High School Girls Snowboard Championship month in the Town of Ludlow, Vermont.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE** have hereunto set our hands and caused the Executive Seal of the Ludlow Select Board to be affixed this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2010.

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Howard Barton, Jr., Chairman

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John Neal

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Bruce Schmidt

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Brett Sanderson

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Doug Ficken