

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 9, 2022**

Present: Chair, Ladleah Dunn, Vice-Chair, Keryn Laite, Jr., Josh Gerritsen, Jordan Barnett-Parker, and Town Administrator, David Kinney

Present Via Zoom: Mike Ray

The quote was read by Gerritsen.

1. Citizens' Forum:

There were none.

2. Administrator's Report:

David Kinney, the Town Administrator, noted:

- Paving: As of today, the paving projects in town have been completed. There is still shoulder work to be done, which will be done once the paving has been set, and in the next couple of days, there will be a crew out to add a lip between the pavement and driveways.
- Town Office Resignation: The custodian of the Town Office has submitted his resignation as of May 31, 2022, and then the search for a new part-time custodian can begin.
- Wave Screen: Kinney was contacted by the Maine Department of Transportation regarding an agreement we have regarding the wave barrier in the Lincolnville harbor, which has either expired or is expiring soon. This will require a Town Meeting vote to approve and Kinney explained that the June Warrant to include this.
- Absentee Ballots: Absentee Ballots for both the state and the local election will be available as of Monday, May 16, 2022, for anyone interested, please contact the Town Office, or vote in person.
- Lincolnville Central School: Congratulations to Abigail Webber, of the Lincolnville Central School, who participated in the Maine Municipal Association state-wide annual essay contest, which started with a prompt, "If I Led The Community." She was selected as one of three winners state-wide. Chair Dunn presented her today with a certificate at a school assembly and Maine Municipal Association provided her with a \$200 gift card.

3. **Meetings & Announcements:**

Administrator Kinney read the meetings and announcements.

4. **Upcoming Community Events:**

There were none.

5. **Meeting Minutes:**

Laite made a motion, seconded by Gerritsen, that the Board approves the April 25, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker – Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

6. **Village Partnership Initiative – Stephen Cole, MaineDOT Region 1 & 2 Planner:**

Stephen Cole, Regional Planner for the Maine Department of Transportation, came before the Board to discuss the new Village Partnership Initiative, which focuses on Maine’s downtowns and village centers.

Cole explained that this is a new matching grant program from the MaineDOT called the Village Partnership Program which is a matching funds program with Maine municipalities and the match is based on a sliding scale. This program intends to help enhance Maine villages or downtowns and to help increase safety in those locations for all users.

This grant program comes in two sizes, a Gateway Improvement ranging between \$200,000 to up to a \$500,000 using state funds and is meant for villages or downtown and the second is for a larger scale project ranging between \$2 million and up, which a municipality and MaineDOT can look to the Feds to partner with.

Cole stated, “The important thing about these grants, is that we provide matching grants because we have a three-year work plan that includes hundreds of projects and sometimes it’s not easy for an own priority to rise to the top of MaineDOT’s statewide list, so the matching grant program is an opportunity for us to tell you about something you would like to do and we see if there is approval or interest on our end. Then the town would provide the horsepower to do the work and we re-reimburse you at the end for our matching portion.”

Ray wanted to know what type of information would be needed ahead of time to get the DOT and the Town of Lincolnville talking and planning.

Cole suggested there needs to be strong evidence of public gathering that focused on a specific part of town, such as sidewalks in the center, and that a consensus was achieved.

Cole told the Board that he would be happy, in the future, to answer any questions from the Select Board or the Town Administrator, Kinney, by email or phone, if this is something the Town of Lincolnville would be interested in going forward.

Dunn wanted to know what the timeframe would be for completing a small-scale project such as this.

Cole reported that once the matching grant was awarded, it would be three years, and he felt that starting small makes the most sense.

The Board thanked Stephen Cole for attending the meeting.

7. Special Town Meeting Warrant Consideration (May 25, 2022):

John Pincince, a Lincolnville resident, came before the Board with concerns with the way the Special Town Meeting Warrant has been drafted.

Dunn explained that the Board discourages last-minute hand-out because we publish information to allow the public accurately and transparently participate.

Pincince stated, “The way the Moratorium Ordinance is written is that not everybody is going to read or pre-view it and I’m concerned that when it comes time to vote, people are going to see this and say, that would prohibit the construction of any new or currently proposed piers, docks, floats, ramps, and other permanent structures along the coast in Lincolnville, for which construction has not yet commenced and I would like to add, “Be enacted for 180 days beginning May 25, 2022.”

Dunn felt that this draft warrant was more than adequate, sufficient, and clear and has the facility to accomplish the goal.

Pincince told the Board that both the Town of Camden and the Town of Prospect have included the 180 days in their ordinance wording.

Barnett-Parker asked why the Town of Lincolnville has not included the term of 180 days in the Warrant article.

Kinney explained, that the language in Article 2, is what was submitted in the petition from the voters and did this petition did not include that last section, and Article 2 is written verbatim what is in the article.

Kinney cautioned the Board not to now insert their language within the article because doing so; would be contrary to what was being asked of those that signed the petition.

Kinney noted that this will be an open town meeting, where voters can come and ask questions and the 180 days can be discussed at that time.

Pincince expressed his concerns have been satisfied and he was glad that this will be an open ballot.

Gerritsen made a motion, seconded by Laite, that the Board approve and sign the Special Town Meeting Warrant for May 25, 2022. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker – Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

8. Consideration of Affordable Housing Committee:

Barnett-Parker requested that the Select Board discuss the option of creating an Affordable Housing Committee Task Force to alleviate the situation of the town and to investigate grant opportunities on both the State and Federal levels.

Gerritsen and Laite felt this was a great idea as long as we can get enough volunteers to work on this task force.

Since the Select Board has an upcoming workshop with the Comprehensive Plan Committee, Chair Dunn recommended that this discussion be added as part of the brainstorming session.

Ray felt that the Comprehensive Plan Committee is already on this and he recommended that they identify a need first and then look at ways to address that need.

Barnett-Parker also explained that it would be great to further this discussion when the Select Board holds a workshop with the Comp Plan Committee.

9. Discussion of creating a financial strategy or plan for large expenditures:

Barnett-Parker also requested that the Board discuss ways to create a financial plan and prepare for large-scale projects to avoid the financial brunt of large-scale projects.

Dunn spoke about how the Financial Advisory Committee has an incredible amount of long-term data and she recommended when the Comp Plan Committee is at that stage, it may be important that the committees communicate with each other.

Ray thanked Barnett-Parker for bringing this discussion forward and he suggested that it may be a great time to take a look at how other municipal budgets are done and see if there is a better path forward.

10. Broadband Update:

Gerritsen reported the next Broadband Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May 12th at 6 PM, where Mark Ouellette, President of Axiom, will give an update on the feasibility study.

Gerritsen encouraged everyone to go to the Town's website, (www.town.lincolnvill.me.us) under announcements, and take a speed test, which will give our Town the data to have a more accurate picture of the internet in the Town of Lincolnville.

Ray wanted to know if the Broadband Committee was in touch with Lincolnville Communications, Inc. regarding whether or not they participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program, which gives subscribers rebates.

Gerritsen explained one of the next steps for the Broadband Committee is to schedule a meeting with LCI to have a conversation to see if they would be willing to partner with the Town of Lincolnville to expand internet access.

Gerritsen will also ask LCI if they participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program at their next meeting.

11. ARPA Update:

Kinney reported the first report for the American Rescue Plan Act was due to the U.S. Treasury by April 30, 2022, for municipalities. However; many towns in Maine were denied access to the reporting portal and the U.S. Treasury is aware of the issue.

Kinney wanted to inform the Board that he is working on this issue and hopes the issue will be resolved soon.

12. June 13th Board Meeting (Warrant Only) – Establish Time of Meeting:

The first Select Board meeting in June is the evening before elections and the Board decided to hold a Warrant-only meeting on June 13th at 5 PM.

13. Selectmen Update(s):

Laite: No updates at this time.

Gerritsen: He attended a Maine Resource Recovery Association Solid Waste Summit today at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast and learned about the Extended Producer Responsibility Law which was put into place last year. This law mandates that producers to pay for a portion of the costs of recycling materials.

Ray: He wanted to thank Rich Smith and Dan Henry who recently stocked the woodshed early in the season.

Barnett-Parker: No updates at this time.

Dunn: No updates at this time.

14. Treasurer's and Payroll Warrant(s)-Approve & Sign:

Barnett-Parker made a motion, seconded by Laite, that the Board approves the Treasurers and Payroll warrants. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker – Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

15. Adjourn:

Barnett-Parker made a motion, seconded by Gerritsen, to adjourn. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker – Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa A. Geary
Administrative Assistant