

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES– Final
Public Health Emergency Response Update Virtual Meeting
Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order
Suspending Certain Provisions of
Open Meeting Law.
Zoom Meeting ID# 98658051198
Monday June 1, 2020
6:30 P.M.**

PARTICIPANTS: Jennifer Glass, Selectmen Chair
(Virtually) James Craig, Selectman
Jonathan Dwyer, Selectman
Tim Higgins – Town Administrator
Trish McGean – Public Health Nurse
Becky McFall – School Superintendent
Carolyn Bottum – Council on Aging Director
Chris Fasciano – School Building Committee Chair
Kim Bodner – School Building Committee
Trish Miller – Board of Health
Ruthann Hendrickson – Chair, Water Commissioners
Peggy Elder – Administrative Assistant

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

- Ms. Glass opened the meeting and noted that this meeting is being held remotely in a way that is consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020 in order to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 virus. The order suspends the requirement to hold meetings in a publically accessible physical location and it allows bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as there is reasonable public access. Ms. Glass noted that this evening a public comment portion has been built into the meeting that will take place after they have gone through the discussion items on the agenda. She respectfully asked that the public participants keep their video and microphones off until that time. Ms. Glass reported that in addition to Zoom, this meeting is being broadcast on Comcast channel 8, Verizon channel 33, and is available through the Town website at www.lincolntown.org. She noted that this meeting is being recorded and that attendees are participating via video conference.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mr. Dwyer took a moment to recognize the events of the past two weeks that were sparked by the murder of George Floyd, saying that everyone deserves to be trusted, treated with dignity and respected. The systemic racism and aggression, the violence against black and brown communities must stop. He added that as a Board of Selectmen along with Town Administrator Tim Higgins, we are responsible for the public safety of our community. Mr. Craig added that he commended Chief Kennedy for his public statement on the situation as well as the entire Police Department and the type of policing that they do in Lincoln. Ms. Glass underscored their comments and noted that the letter was well done. She added that Chief Kennedy joined Police Chiefs from across the Commonwealth to condemn both the actions and the inactions of the police officers involved in Mr. Floyd’s death. She thanked Chief

Kennedy as well as Superintendent McFall for directly addressing the Lincoln community about the issue.

APPOINTMENTS:

- Carolyn Bottum, Director of the Council on Aging – Ms. Bottum asked the Board to appoint Amy Gagne as the new Assistant Director of the Council on Aging and introduced her to the Board. Mr. Dwyer made a motion to appoint Amy Gagne as the Assistant Director of the Council on Aging. Mr. Craig seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Dwyer: Aye; Craig: Aye; Glass: Aye. The Board welcomed her to Lincoln.

Ms. Bottum also asked the Board to appoint Rev. Garrett Yates of St. Anne's Church to the Emergency Assistance Committee. Mr. Craig made a motion to appoint Reverend Garrett Yates to the Emergency Assistance Committee. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved by a roll call vote: Dwyer: Aye; Craig: Aye; Glass: Aye.

- Ruth Ann Hendrickson, Chair, Water Commission – Ms. Hendrickson reported that the Lincoln Water Department's (LWD) FY21 Budget will be voted on as part of the Consent Calendar at Town Meeting. In addition, the Water Commission will have an Article to cover project bonding. She explained that the reason the LWD's budget has increase is due to deferred maintenance in conjunction with being short staffed. Costs were incurred when the Department had to hire consultants to fill Operator positions. The State requires them to have a certain number of operators and because the Department is short staffed, they needed to hire consultants as operators in the short term as they worked to bring new operators on board. MaryBeth Wisner, the Superintendent of the LWD, has hired new full-time personnel, including new experienced operators and an excellent administrative assistant. Ms. Wisner and the Commission have identified capital investments which are necessary in order to meet EPA minimum mandates and ensure reliable, safe water. The Warrant Article is for \$270,000, which covers chemical and ventilation system replacements at the treatment plant, residuals handling and neutralization system upgrades, and programmable logic controllers.
- Chris Fasciano, Chair, School Building Committee (SBC) – Mr. Fasciano reported that the SBC is working on a slide presentation for community forum presentations on Thursday afternoon and next Monday evening. The presentation will prepare residents for the SBC Warrant Article being considered at Town Meeting. He reported that the project is on time. Classrooms are being packed up, construction zone fencing is in place, the temporary school and parking lot are complete, and the demolition is beginning. Value engineering has been a very important piece of the project since the beginning. Each decision was made with the Town's core value's in mind. When the project went out to bid, it came back \$3.5 million dollars over budget. The last round of value engineering cut parts of the project that impinge on the Town's core values. In response to COVID-19, the Finance Committee revised its Free Cash guidelines to allow a request up to \$840,000 and suggested that the SBC identify the most urgent items. The previous guidance had indicated that up to \$1.5M of Free Cash could be requested. Mr. Fasciano reported that when the SBC was reviewing its list of items, it asked three questions of each item: What is the decision deadline?; Is it something that can be added later?; If added later, what is the cost impact? He presented a list of items which totaled \$828,945, which is down from the March list totaling \$2,015,520.

DISCUSSION:

- Public Health Emergency Response – Update

Public Health Nurse Trish McGean reported that there are 36 confirmed cases in Lincoln. The Town has added two new cases each week for the last three weeks. She added that unfortunately we are up to 7 deaths, all of which are from The Commons. In each case the individual had co-morbidities. The good news is that all of the independent living residents at The Commons have been tested and all 154 of them were negative. She noted that this shows her that their self-quarantining has been successful. The Commons had 31 positive staff members. Of those, 28 have recovered and have returned to work. Ms. McGean reported that she will be working with the staff of the Parks and Recreation Department on how to rund camps. Ms. McGean said she will post COVID testing locations on the Town's COVID webpage.

- Town Meeting

Mr. Higgins reported that the Warrant and various documents were completed a couple of weeks ago and the Town Meeting packet will be mailed out to residents tomorrow.

Mr. Higgins reported that everyone involved in the planning has looked at every detail to make this unique Town Meeting as safe and efficient as possible while still allowing people to participate in important discussions and decision-making. He drew the Board's attention to the planned Town Meeting layout of the Hartwell parking lot.

- Re-opening Planning - Mr. Higgins reported that the staff started thinking about the reopening plan a few weeks ago when the Governor's announced plans for a phased re-opening statewide. The staff is making sure that they are meeting or exceeding minimum requirements. The first challenge is to understand what the requirements are. He added that Departments know their services and know the needs and wants of the residents they serve. They have been thinking about what is essential and what is less essential and how to keep residents and staff safe.

- Liaison Reports -

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) – Mr. Dwyer reported that they have a meeting scheduled for Wednesday evening. They are looking at running a pilot of adding a bicycle lane. This will require some staff report. They will be discussing what type of support they think they will need before bringing it up to Mr. Higgins to see when BPAC can move forward.

Hanscom Area Towns Committee (HATS) – Mr. Dwyer reported that they have a meeting on June 18th and their special guest is Eastern Massachusetts Mosquito Project with the EEE testing and reporting. They hope to learn more about their testing methodology and the reports they generate.

Oriole Landing – Mr. Craig reported that he would be keeping the Board up to date as the project approaches completion. In order to add all 60 units to Lincoln's subsidized housing inventory (SHI) this year, the project has a June 30th deadline for receiving a certificate of occupancy.

South Lincoln Planning (SLPIC) – Mr. Higgins reported that they met to review the status of SLPIC’s work when the pandemic hit. They will be evaluating the make-up of the committee, including representation on various working groups.

OPEN FORUM:

- None

ACTION ITEMS:

- None

WARRANTS:

- Mr. Dwyer made a motion to approve the warrants. Mr. Craig seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Dwyer: Aye; Craig: Aye; Glass: Aye.

MINUTES:

- May 18, 2020 - Mr. Craig moved to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2020 meeting. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Dwyer: Aye; Craig: Aye; Glass: Aye.
- May 20, 2020 - Mr. Dwyer moved to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2020 meeting. Mr. Craig seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Dwyer: Aye; Craig: Aye; Glass: Aye.

Mr. Dwyer made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Craig seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Dwyer: Aye; Craig: Aye; Glass: Aye. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 P.M.

Submitted by Peggy Elder
Approved 06/22/20