

**Town of Londonderry, Vermont**  
**Selectboard**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, February 3, 2020**  
**Twitchell Building - 100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, VT**

**Board Members Present:** James Ameden, Georgianne Mora, Taylor Prouty, and Robert Forbes.

**Board Members Absent:** Thomas Cavanagh.

**Others in Attendance:** Town Officials – Town Administrator Shane O’Keefe and Road Foreman Joshua Dryden. Others – Residents Steve and Heather Swinburne, and Bruce Frauman (GNAT).

**1. Call meeting to order**

Selectboard Chair Jim Ameden called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**2. Additions or deletions to the agenda**

O’Keefe noted that the agenda discussion under Roads & Bridges of the proposed boot drop for Ruck Up, Inc. (Item 9.b.) should be deleted from the agenda as the organization had asked to come in at the February 17, 2020 meeting. He also noted that the New Business agenda item on the US Census municipal boundary validation should be deleted as he had received word from the Windham Regional Commission that there were some inaccuracies in the mapping in Londonderry and some other communities that needed to be fixed.

*George Mora moved to delete from the agenda the discussion on the Ruck Up, Inc. boot drop and the US Census municipal boundary survey, seconded by Bob Forbes, passed unanimously.*

**3. Minutes Approval – Meeting of January 20, 2020**

*Taylor Prouty moved to approve the minutes of the Selectboard meeting of January 20, 2020, seconded by George Mora, passed unanimously.*

**4. Selectboard Pay Orders**

Pay orders were reviewed and signed by the Board members.

**5. Announcements/Correspondence**

Correspondence included in the meeting package was as follows:

- A notice of appeal to the Vermont Environmental Court of the Development Review Board decision regarding an application of Vermont Woodchips Real Estate Holdings LLC for property at 170 Winhall Station Road. O’Keefe noted that more filings are anticipated shortly, and he would bring this matter up at the next Selectboard meeting.
- A document titled Project Londonderry Survey Synthesis, which is the result of the recent survey conducted by the Planning Commission to gather comments on community desires. It includes feedback received as well as elements of the Londonderry Town Plan.

- A notice of a 2/19/2020 Development Review Board public hearing on a proposed subdivision of land on Derry Woods Road (Application #2020-03) at VT Route 11, to which the Town is an abutter. The access permit for this subdivision is to be considered later on in the Selectboard agenda.
- A notice from the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation regarding the Southern Vermont Economy Project, which has received a second round of USDA Rural Development funding. The notice includes a survey of community projects that are in the works, and O'Keefe stated that he'd handle that and provide a copy to the board.
- A program information packet received from Restorative Community Justice of Southern Vermont.

Jim Ameden gave a reminder of the upcoming candidates night, which will be at 6:00 PM at the beginning of the 2/17/2020 Selectboard meeting.

Bruce Frauman noted that it will be a busy time this spring in Londonderry, with the water/wastewater survey, the broadband survey and the US Census, and he noted that he would be writing an article on these efforts.

## **6. Visitors and Concerned Citizens**

### **a. Update on School District FY2021 budget – Dick Dale**

Dick Dale gave a lengthy and informative presentation to the Board on the proposed FY2021 budget of the Taconic and Green Regional School District. He encouraged residents to attend the School District annual meeting at 7:00 PM on 2/25/2020 at the Dorset School to get more information on the budget, and to vote to approve the budget and vote for all of the candidates by Australian ballot on 3/3/2020.

Dale explained that the budget is proposed to increase from \$32.6 million to \$33.9 million, and the tax rate is estimated to increase from \$1.525 to \$1.637 for Londonderry taxpayers. Cost increases include a significant increase in health care insurance expenditures due to the State negotiations with teachers. He said that he was very positive and encouraged by the quality and effectiveness of the education provided to our students. He also provided information on programs and reserve funds to the Board.

The Board thanked Dale for his presentation.

## **7. Town Officials Business**

None.

## **8. Transfer Station**

### **a. Updates**

O'Keefe thanked Josh Dryden for the Road Crew's willingness to plow snow out to the former septage fields to allow for the recent PFAS sampling. He noted that the sampling took place and that one of the sampling wells was dry, which may save the Town money.

Ameden noted his concern that there had been some difficulty getting ahold of the plowing contractor for on-call sanding and the Town Road Crew has had to handle this work twice recently.

## **9. Roads and Bridges**

### **a. Updates**

Dryden noted the following usage for the month of January 2020, through 1/26/2020:

Salt – 282 tons	Sand – 832 yards	Vehicle Fuel – 1,731 gallons
Heating fuel (gallons):	Town Garage 300, Town Office 251, Town Office Generator 15,	Transfer Station 0

It was mentioned that the generator ran the previous week due to a power outage caused by an auto accident with a utility pole on Main Street.

### **b. Consider request for warning signs on Main Street**

Heather and Steve Swinburne addressed the Board about their request for signage on Main Street in the vicinity of the former Wiley's Garage due to the curve of the road and the high rate of speed of passing vehicles. They suggested sharp curve warning signs and/or more 30 mph speed signs in the vicinity of the curve.

Mora mentioned that VTrans would be putting up new traffic warning signs along Thompsonburg Road this coming summer, and perhaps that effort will be handling such warning signs. Ameden suggested that any signs we put up should be consistent with the VTrans project.

Dryden stated that combined speed and caution signs could easily be placed along this stretch of road. Ameden suggested similar curved arrow signs on Middletown Road by Brooks Lane.

*Taylor Prouty moved to purchase and install a pair of warning signs for Main Street by the Wiley's Garage curve, and on Middletown Road by Brooks Lane, for a total of four signs, seconded by Bob Forbes, passed unanimously.*

Frauman spoke of the need for guardrails on the river side of Main Street. It was mentioned that it had been looked into in the past and there is no means to anchor guardrails there.

### **c. Consider agreement on request to improve and maintain portion of Under the Mountain Road (TH36) and Legal Trail #2**

Following up on the discussion of December 16, 2019, the Board reviewed and discussed the proposed agreement, which was prepared by the Town Attorney, with Jamaica property owners Willoughby Britton and Jared Lindahl to improve and maintain Under the Mountain Road and the legal trail that extends from that road into Jamaica to their property. O'Keefe noted a revision had come through that day from the Town Attorney regarding the required turnaround.

*Taylor Prouty moved to approve the agreement between the Town and Willoughby Britton and Jared Lindahl allowing them to improve and maintain a Class 4 section of Under the*

*Mountain Road (TH#36) and Legal Trail #2, and to authorize the Selectboard Chair to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board, seconded by George Mora, passed unanimously.*

**d. Access Permit 2020-01 – Derry Woods Road, Parcel #110002.000 (Hunter Kaltsas)**

The Board reviewed and discussed an access permit application for Lot 2 of a proposed subdivision along Derry Woods Road

Prouty stated that he was an abutter to the subject property.

O’Keefe noted that the access previously approved for Lot 1 of the subdivision, approved last year for the Farmer’s Market, could see vehicles backing up onto VT Route 11 if there is any significant congestion at the entrance to the Farmer’s Market.

Pit Road was discussed, and there was question as to whether this private road is a second access for the property. The plan shows that that access will no longer be used.

Ameden stated that he had no issues with the permit application as submitted.

*George Mora moved to approve the access permit application submitted by Hunter Kaltsas for parcel # 110002.000 on Derry Woods Road, seconded by Bob Forbes, passed 3-0-1, with Taylor Prouty abstaining.*

**10. Old Business**

**a. Town Office generator – Discussion on connection to Town garage**

Following up on the previous meeting, O’Keefe noted that he had been in contact with the State Wetlands Coordinator and the wetlands consultant used for the TOPP phase I project to see about connecting the Town Garage to the Town Office generator by way of buried conduit through or adjacent to the designated wetlands. It is clear that the conduit could run through the wetland buffer but would in all likelihood penetrate a little into the delineated wetlands near the Town Garage. There is a difference in the permitting cost depending on whether it is run through the buffer or the actual wetlands, but there is a chance that we could simply amend the previous permit as opposed to submitting a new application, and therefore save consultant costs.

He mentioned that he had contacted Gary Barton and asked for an estimate on the cost of running the conduit and cables, and making the connections, and assumed that the Road Crew can handle the trenching work.

It was the consensus of staff and the Board that making the connection was critical, and running the connection underground made the most sense.

Funding the project through the building reserve funds as discussed briefly. O’Keefe will continue to research this and report back to the Board as appropriate.

**11. New Business**

None.

**12. Adjourn**

*Bob Forbes moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by George Mora, passed unanimously.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

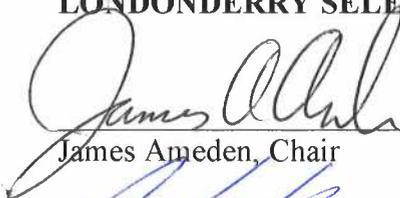
The next regular meeting of the Selectboard is scheduled for February 17, 2020.

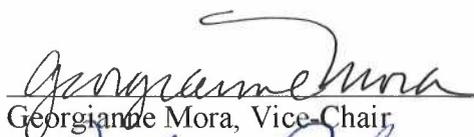
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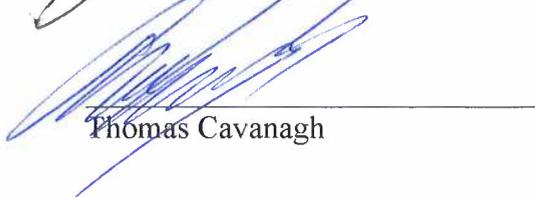
Shane P. O’Keefe  
Town Administrator

*Approved February 17, 2020.*

**LONDONDERRY SELECTBOARD**

  
James Ameden, Chair

  
Georgianna Mora, Vice-Chair

  
Thomas Cavanagh

  
Robert Forbes

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Taylor Prouty

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