

Town of Lyme
May 9, 2007
Evidentiary Hearing for Vann Property
6:15 P.M.

Regular Monthly Meeting
6:30 P.M.

In Attendance: Councilmen Countryman, Madill, Johnson, and Schreib, Attorney Mark Gebo, ZEO Suzann Cornell, ZBA Chairman Harry Staudenmayer and Clerk Kim Wallace and approximately 12 others.

The Evidentiary Hearing was called to order at 6:15 p.m. The town Board needs to review the evidence and close the hearing. We must decide if we have enough evidence. The Hearing was closed at 6:21 p.m.

The Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Bob Thomas reported that there is a special committee that is being appointed to look at the needs of the Sheriff's Department and the Drug Task Force.

Tax Collector – Amy Barton – Made her annual visit with reports for the board. There was nothing too outstanding, interest increased 2% in April and we earned an extra \$900.00. She has had a lot of positive feedback on her new collection box that was installed in the Municipal building. Tax bills have been able to be viewed on line this year for the first time. Amy returned the Town's laptop computer. The County has implemented a new tax program and it does not work on the laptop. The County will provide her with a computer. She has done a five-year collection comparison.

Charlie Brennon – Had approached the Board last year, asking to put a soda machine down at the Morris Track field. At that time the Town was going to look into the Association of the Blind and placement of a machine. The Association of the Blind did not contact us regarding this situation. Mr. Brennon said that the Town would make commissions from the machine sales, which would be 15 cents per bottle. Checks will be made payable to the Lyme Parks and Recreation Committee. Councilman Madill would like to see the machine installed on a temporary basis.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 50: Motion by Councilman Madill and seconded by Councilman Countryman to entertain the thought of putting a soda machine at the Morris Track Field, with the proceeds going to Parks and Recreation at a 10% commission. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report: Councilman Madill spoke to Superintendent Parker on Monday and Tom asked to be excused from this meeting, he promised to attend the next meeting.

There will have to be a discussion regarding the latest labor hours; there were 27 hours of overtime, possibly put against the wrong account.

RESOLUTION 2007–51: *Motion by Councilman Madill and seconded by Councilman Countryman to approve the April 2007 Meeting Minutes as written. Four ayes. Motion carried.*

RESOLUTION 2007 – 52: *Motion by Councilman Johnson and seconded by Councilman Madill to accept abstract # 9 in the amount of \$1965.56. Four ayes. Motion carried.*

RESOLUTION 2007 – 53: *Motion by Councilman Johnson and seconded by Councilman Countryman to accept Abstract #10 in the amount of \$38,335.62. Four ayes. Motion carried.*

Supervisor's Report

Bookkeeper Gotham reported we are on target for Budget.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 54: *Motion by Councilman Countryman and seconded by Councilman Madill to put \$100,000.00 into “flex” CD at the Citizen's Bank of Cape Vincent. Four Ayes. Motion carried.*

RESOLUTION 2007–55: *Motion by Councilman Madill and seconded by Councilman Johnson to approve the Supervisor's Report for April 2007. Four ayes. Motion carried.*

Transfer Site Committee has a quick plan for refurbishing the Transfer Site. They have gotten a rough estimate of approximately \$22,000.00 for materials plus the concrete. Overall cost would be \$30,000.00 and double that if we have to put out a bid for labor. 84 Lumber said that the material costs could go down approximately 10%. We cannot put out a bid until we have drawings and specs. Councilman Madill does not like the idea of putting \$60,000 into the Transfer Site. The renovations done up there Volunteers did the first time.

George Perkins feels that the Transfer Site Permits are being misused and that there is garbage coming in from actual garbage routes. There is also an ongoing problem with people bringing their garbage in from other areas.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 56: *Motion by Councilman Countryman and seconded by Councilman Madill to go forward with the transfer Site upgrades. Four ayes. Motion carried.*

Web Site Committee

Townoflyme.com is still under construction. Charlie Croncrite has the framework up. With the account we have we can get 500 email addresses. We will be assigning names and addresses to the Town employees for use of the email. There will be an email address added for the Town of Lyme “general” and “wind”. The site should be in full swing within the next couple of weeks.

Youth Committee

Councilman Madill reported that there was a Youth Committee Meeting last night and there was a lot of excitement over the new uniforms and

equipment. Dr. Metzger gave \$1000.00 to the boys Grasshopper Team to make these purchases possible.

The Youth Committee is looking for new members. They have several functions throughout the season, Willie Putnam, Parks and Recreation, Lyme Triathlon, car washes, can drives and dances for sources of revenue. Everybody involved is doing the work of 2 or 3 people. What the Town pays covers wages, insurance, and uniforms.

The Summer Recreation Program has lost two assistants; they will be submitting an ad in the newspaper to seek replacements.

Cemetery

Julia Gosier gave two written reports. Joe Repp, was hired to do the Three Mile Bay Cemetery maintenance, the job started May 1st. By May 2nd the Cemetery had been mowed and trimmed beautifully. Julie is absolutely amazed at what he gets done in 5 or 6 hours a day. The Town Board needs to make an approval.

Julie said it was a pleasure to have conducted the interviews. They were all great applicants and they would be very good at working independently.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 57: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Countryman to accept Julie’s recommendation of hiring Joe Repp as the new Three Mile Bay Cemetery Care Taker. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Repp will also be doing supervision of burials. He will have to come into the Town Office and fill out a formal application.

Assessors – Marsha Barton turned in a written report.

Municipal Water Board

Marsha Barton handed in her written report. She also explained that Dave Hutchinson is very upset due to the fact that he is being billed for a quarter EDU but he has no access to municipal water because the Allen’s have cut his water line. He has no accessibility to water and he feels he should not have to receive a bill for it. Attorney Gebo stated that if he truly has no way to connect he truly has an argument. The Water Board feels he should be reimbursed from the day it was cut. He would like to have the water hooked up to his property. Attorney Gebo suggested looking into the expense of hooking up a waterline that would be approximately 400’ long.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 58: Motion by Councilman Madill and seconded by Councilman Countryman to accept the water Boards recommendation of not charging Dave Hutchinson for his water and reimbursing him from the day the water line was cut. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Attorney Gebo suggested wrapping our hands around the magnitude of the situation and find out what the cost of a installing a 400’ water line would be.

Kris Dimmick of Bernier and Carr got the easements for the waterlines and he should share in the cost of a new hook up if there was an over site regarding this property and the problems that have arisen due to this whole right-of-way issue.

The final, formal application is going to Rural Development next week regarding the Old Town Springs Road Project.

The Water Board is going forward with the Route 12E project, west of Three Mile Bay; they will be starting the feasibility study.

Councilman Schreib feels that the Town should deal with one water district project at a time.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 59: Motion by Councilman Countryman and seconded by Councilman Johnson requesting a Water District # 2 Extension Bid for the 12E Project. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Zoning Enforcement Officer

Suzann Cornell submitted a written report. She also spoke to the Board about the Lynn Goutremout situation and the problem she is having trying to get him to respond to his Zoning Violations. Attorney Gebo said he would speak to Lynn and have him stop into the office and take care of his paperwork and fee.

Sue has not heard from the Wilson's regarding the clean up of the burned debris on their Pont Peninsula property.

She would like to see Fire roads improve their numbering and has composed a letter for the Lyme Light reminding people it is a law and private roads have to be marked by property owners in this Town. Councilman Countryman reiterated that the 911 numbers are extremely important. He would like to see the situation addressed through the Lyme Light and also something put in the Fire Departments fund raising letter.

Julie Gosier stated that when they get an ambulance call they run into serious problems trying to locate residents that are waiting for help to arrive. She feels this is a very serious issue. The Points and County Route 179 are serious examples of missing road names and 911 numbers.

Superintendent Parker could take an inventory of how many signs might be needed.

Councilman Madill indicated that the State has a uniform code on street signs. The County Highway Department could also give us codes. Councilman Countryman will work on the situation and provide the necessary information before the next Town Board Meeting.

Sue has three applicants for the Zoning Enforcement Deputy position. She will be giving interviews in the near future. Councilmen Countryman and Schreib will be present during the interview process.

New Business

Councilman Schreib stated that we are getting a lot of traffic out of the Town Clerk's Office; for security purposes he would like to make a resolution for the use of the window and half door to be utilized to conduct business out of the Clerk's Office rather than having people within the confines of the office area. The Board will ask Tom Parker to put a new door in the Clerk's Office and move the copy machine into the corner that now is the ZEO's Office area. By making these changes the Clerk's Office will be able to function proficiently while doing business through the window and half door.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 60: Motion by Councilman Schreib and seconded by Councilman Countryman requiring the Clerk's Office to conduct daily business through the window and half door, keeping the office door closed for security purposes. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2007 – 61: Motion by Councilman Johnson and seconded by Councilman Madill to give the Volunteer Center of Jefferson County \$400.00 for services provided to the Town of Lyme for transportation of senior citizens in the year 2007. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Councilman Johnson would like to bring everybody up to date on the Wind Farms. The Planning Board is putting a lot of time and effort in. He has the second writing of the massaged Clayton Zoning Laws. They are reviewing them again to make sure they have dotted their i's and crossed their t's. Right now the Planning Board is in the process of making a survey to all taxpayers on Wind Farms and transmission lines in the Town of Lyme. When they are finished with it they will bring it to the Town Board for approvals and suggestions. The Planning Board will do all the mailing and do all the compiling of the data so we have some good source data to make our decisions.

Also, overlay maps for an overlay wind farm district has been received by the Planning Board, thanks to Marsha, the Board appreciates that effort. Right now they are working on that to try to get an overlay for the wind farms and transmission lines. It's a big job they have taken on but they are doing a very good job.

There are three great candidates for the Citizen's Committee Group that is being formed. They would like to be resource people for the Planning Board. The candidates are Dianne Scanlon, Sue Warner and Norm Alheim. They are going to be acting as resource people for the Planning Board.

Councilman Schreib feels we should put an article in the Lyme Light concerning the Transfer Site Permit abuse.

Councilman Countryman is suggesting we have more control on the volunteer people in the Community using our Highway Department men. They are consistently being asked to do projects around the community.

Councilman Schreib referred to an email from Judy Tyndall regarding the use of a sweeper, the County Highway Department will pay for the rental.

Councilman Madill stated that Tom Parker is doing the Downtown area as our elected representative. The State is paying for the men. Jimmy Price is doing the rest of the Village streets as Mayor with Village employees. The coordination will be set up through the Clerk's Office; all Tom has to do is rent that piece of equipment. The State will notify the Clerk when they will come through on their cleanup. It is the Highway's responsibility to clean up the sand and salt. The street has already been swept twice, now we need a bobcat with a broom on it to do the sidewalks. The work is being done collectively.

Judy Tyndall would like to see the sidewalks swept because the Garden Club will be putting their pots out.

Councilman Countryman's biggest concern was at Budget time when we gave the Garden Club \$3,500.00, it has been his complaint for the get go. How it ever got to be a line item, he has no idea. It was a one-year deal and now it has become a line item and the rest of the Town is being forgotten.

Councilmen Johnson and Madill will coordinate the work for cleaning up sand.

Councilman Johnson stated that Tom always does a good job cleaning up the sand.

Councilman Madill questioned the ZEO about storage containers. Reggie Schweitzer tells his customers if the containers are road worthy and licensable they should not have to pay for a permit to keep them as storage units on their property. Attorney Gebo feels that trying to take land use and apply it to moveable objects is a difficult thing. ZEO Cornell said she had recently attended a conference at JCC and they had indicated that this is a problem throughout the entire State. County Planning may have examples. Let Sue continue to work on it.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 62: Motion by Councilman Countryman and seconded by Councilman Johnson to declare Vann property is in a dangerous or unsafe condition. Four ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2007 - 63: Motion by Councilman Countryman and seconded by Councilman Madill authorizing a written certified letter to give the Vann's 30 days from the date of the letter to clean up the property. At the end of the 30 days if the property is not clean the Highway Department will move in and clean it. If the Town has to do the clean up work then the cost will be applied to the property taxes. Four ayes. Motion carried.

The letter should address what needs to be done and state that as an end result the property should be able to be mowed. With no debris being left behind.

At the last Meeting Attorney Gebo was asked about alternate members for the ZBA or Planning Board. Clearly for the Zoning Board if someone is away you can call the alternate member and then we would be sure to have a quorum and a full Board. A Public Hearing should be set for that at the next Meeting.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 64: Motion by Councilman Countryman and seconded by Councilman Johnson to set a Public Hearing for May 9, 2007 at 6:15 p.m. to have alternate members appointed to the ZBA for certainty of a quorum. Four ayes. Motion carried.

Privilege of the Floor

ZEO Suzann Cornell asked in reference to the Wilson and Vann situations, how should she proceed. Attorney Gebo responded by saying in Section 4 of the Laws that exist now, it gives specifics for a notice to send them. It says they have to commence to work within 30 days. Now would be the time to send the notice. Give them a time frame.

Julie Gosier questioned the Board regarding last years Budget and the \$5000.00 that was set aside for walleye stocking. Councilman Schreiber answered by stating that was incorrect, the \$5000.00 was put in the Budget for Recreation. It will not be used for walleye; they have yet to determine what the money will be used for. It is a flexible fund that could be used for recreational promotions per Councilman Madill. It is for the promotion of the Town. Julie said that the answer clears it up; apparently there is some misinformation floating around, that the Town was authorized to pay an organization to stock walleye. Councilman Madill said that was the original intent but after some serious thought they decided to change that in a work forum. The Board was looking for something to help the Town recreational wise. Julie feels it would be a good idea to get the word out that the Board is receptive to ideas because there may be some good ideas out there that we don't know about.

Amy Barton asked if the money could be used to fix up the beach? Councilman Countryman stated that the Beach belongs to the Village. Councilman Madill stated that the Summer Recreation Program does use that Beach. There is a lifeguard on staff. Amy said that there has been talk in the past of the Town acquiring the Beach. She feels the Beach needs help and hates to see such a wonderful asset go to waste.

Harry Staudenmayer asked if the State has set a law letting the Town set the speed limit on their roads? Nobody knew an answer for sure. Councilman Countryman said we would check on that for him. He has also heard that Dollar General was coming to Town.

Motion to move into Executive session at 8:50 p.m. for collective bargaining and negotiations.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

**Kim Wallace
Town Clerk**