

**July 8, 2020  
Town of Lyme  
Regular Monthly Meeting 6:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order:**

Supervisor Aubertine called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. opening the meeting with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those present included Supervisor Aubertine, Deputy Supervisor Bourquin, Councilwoman Gosier, Councilman Terry Countryman, Councilman Villa, Town Clerk Ariana Henderson (via video) and Pat Weston (via video).

**Privilege of the Floor**

**Debra Kitzi- Sportsman's Hideaway Campground:**

Supervisor Aubertine stated that Debra Kitzi was present to represent Sportsman's Hideaway Campground. According to the October 2019 minutes the Board asked Ms. Kitzi to have a survey of her property done so that PDD#2 could be reopened and amended. The only thing she would like to change is to have her tent sites made into RV sites on the PDD. Councilman Villa asked if all the sites had water and sewer hook ups. She stated all but 6 sites had it. She also stated that the Board of Health has approved her campsite to allow her to have 36 RV sites. All of the sites are seasonal residents and the residents have all been there for 30 years. She would like to get the amendment in place so she can move forward with the sale of the campground. Councilman Villa agreed that the Town should do whatever they could to expedite the process and move forward. Supervisor Aubertine stated that the County will have to complete a 239M review and that it needs to be submitted by July 15, 2020 to meet the deadline for the July 28, 2020 Meeting. The Board will hold a public hearing prior to the regular monthly meeting for the amendment of PDD#2 on August 12, 2020 at 6:25 p.m.

**Resolution 2020-76:** Councilman Villa made the motion to send the amendment of PDD#2 to change 20 tent sites and 14 RV sites to 36 RV sites for Sportsman's Hideaway Campground to Jefferson County Planning Board for 239M review; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

**Legislator Bill Johnson:**

Legislator Johnson stated that the County Legislators had their first in person meeting last night in three months. He reported that David Norbut from Norbut Solar Farms has backed out of the entire project. Advergent Energy has bought the property and is trying to resurrect the project and the Town should be hearing from them. The County approved the JCC budget last night; they also approved two board of trustees for JCC. Babette Hall is retiring from the Jefferson County Elections Office and Michelle LaFave is taking her place. Councilman Villa stated that JCC has been a great asset to our community and that everyone just needs to hang in there for the difficult financial times that we are facing. Deputy Supervisor Bourquin asked about the new radio systems and if Legislator Johnson had any updates for the Board. Legislator Johnson replied

that the system is up and running but there are still tweaking a few things before going online. They will first put the non-essential traffic on such as the highway department and then add the first responders. Deputy Supervisor Bourquin stated we should be getting a bill for the radios shortly then.

#### **Supervisor's Report**

Councilman Countryman asked what the interest rate was for the Savings account at Citizens Bank. He mentioned that there may be an opportunity to get a better interest rate. Supervisor Aubertine stated he will check with the bank and that he will have to make a trip to the bank to put \$1 in any account that hasn't had any transactions in five years or the state can claim the account.

**Resolution 2020-77:** Councilman Countryman made the motion to approve the June Supervisor's Monthly Financial report; Councilwoman Gosier seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

#### **Highway Superintendent's Report**

Pat Weston was present by video and stated that the highway equipment reserve funds will be down \$200,000.00 when the new plow truck comes in that was ordered last year. He is going to use the old truck to haul stone and save wear and tear on the newer trucks.

#### **Clerk's Report- June 2020**

Monthly Receipts were as follows: Total Local Shares Remitted: \$6,312.90; Total State County & Local Revenues: \$6,731.90, Total Non – Local Revenues: \$59.00

#### **Audit of the Bills (Abstracts #13 & #14)**

**Resolution 2020-78:** Deputy Supervisor Bourquin made the motion to approve Abstract #13 in the amount of \$512.32; seconded by Councilman Countryman; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

**Resolution 2020-79:** Deputy Supervisor Bourquin made the motion to approve Abstract #14 in the amount of \$104,208.78; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

#### **Approval of the June 10, 2020 Minutes**

**Resolution 2020-80:** Deputy Supervisor Bourquin made a motion to approve the June 10, 2020 Minutes; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Assessor's Report:**

Supervisor Aubertine read Marsha Barton's Assessor's Report as follows:

## Final Assessment Roll

Total Assessment- 2019	420,689.577
Total Assessment- 2020	423,657,226
Increase:	2,967,649

There are currently 3,363 parcels in the Town of Lyme.

### **Still Problem with People Not Getting Permits**

As we are reviewing properties, we are still finding many structures being built without a permit. We always alert Jim that someone has built without a permit. We understand that if they built without a permit, the fee is doubled. We just wondered if the fees are being imposed on all who build without a permit.

Councilman Villa commented on the building permit issue and said that if they are building a shed the fee is \$50.00 and then the fine is doubled it would only be \$100.00. This really isn't a harsh penalty. The Board discussed the process of how building permits were communicated from the Zoning Officer and the Assessors.

### **Municipal Water Board Report:**

Supervisor Aubertine read Marsha Barton's Water Board Report as follows:

The Water Board met on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Gregor and Rachel from Bernier & Carr attended with some of the statistics from the study for the proposed water project; for Route 12E, east and west, Bourcy Shores and Swamp Road.

We have had them use several different ways that we might be able to accomplish this district. We have requested some more information from them. They will be attending our July Water Board meeting with the final results.

They will be coming to the August Town Board meeting with our recommendation.

They are also preparing an information sheet. The Water Board will be visiting each property owner in the proposed district and distributing the sheet and answer any questions they may have. This will give us more information on whether they will pay the proposed fee or not.

There were no questions.

### **Planning Board:**

There was no Planning Board Report.

### **ZBA:**

There was no Zoning Board Report. Supervisor Aubertine would like Susan Locy the secretary of the Zoning Board of Appeals to send him a copy of their minutes.

### **Youth Commission:**

Supervisor Aubertine sent out the Youth Commission Report. Soccer will start August 4<sup>th</sup> for 2 weeks and they will see how it goes. There will be no games or scrimmages. It will be like a clinic/camp with drills and learning opportunities. Supervisor Aubertine asked Clerk Henderson to look into temperature guns that can be ordered to take the children's temperatures before playing that day. He also asked her to order hand sanitizer.

### **ZEO/CEO Report:**

Total Permit Receipts: \$2,739.00; Total RV Permit: YTD: \$1,200.00; Total Permit Receipts YTD - \$7,437.00.

Councilman Villa stated that the report from BAS doesn't include the addresses on the Seasonal Mobile Permit. He would like to see all of the addresses.

### **Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA):**

There was no report from the ZBA.

### **TMB Cemetery:**

Councilwoman Gosier reported that she has been helping families and advising them on how to fix headstones in the cemetery. She spoke to Harry Wilson and he plans to work on the cemetery in early August. He will be completing the second half of the contract that was previously agreed on with the Town. She usually lets families know when he is there so they can hire him to fix their family stones. Councilwoman Gosier thanked Supervisor Aubertine for his help getting the mowing situation straightened around. They have received several compliments on how well it is being maintained.

## **New Business**

### **Field Use Requests:**

Supervisor Aubertine stated that there has been two field use requests. Supervisor Aubertine contacted Bob Hagemann and asked "if the safety protocols are not followed, and a resident files a complaint with the County, would the town of Lyme be held responsible and liable for any penalties, punishments or repercussions?" Mr. Hagemann assured the Town they would not be liable if anything happens at the fields. It will be up to the coaches to follow Coronavirus guidelines. The Youth Commission will be using the fields Tuesday through Thursday 6pm to 8pm. The other teams will have to work around this schedule. They most likely will only be able to use the field Monday, Friday and weekends. The two teams that have requested the fields are Black River Soccer Academy and Derrick Parker's Softball Team.

**Resolution 2020-81:** Councilman Countryman made a motion allow Black River Soccer Academy and Derrick Parkers Softball Team to use the Town of Lyme sports fields with the understanding

as of August 4<sup>th</sup> these teams will only be able to use the field Monday, prece Friday and Weekends until further notice and follow the Coronavirus guidelines.; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

**Assistant ZEO Position:**

Supervisor Aubertine reported that Craig Stevenson is still interested in the Assistant ZEO position and will send Supervisor Aubertine his resume as soon as he can but has not had the chance because he is working out of Town. The Assistant ZEO would be mainly for zoning not building and codes. The decision will be tabled until next month.

**Fireworks Request:**

Supervisor Aubertine stated that there has been a request to use the Town of Lyme Public Park to launch fireworks for a wedding on August 8, 2020. He called Nicole the wedding planner and requested a letter from Young Explosives stating that the Town of Lyme will not be held responsible if any damage is caused by the fireworks. They sent Supervisor Aubertine a letter but it did not state what it needed to. Supervisor Aubertine stated that there are several concerns from the board including dry grass and nearby structures and boats. Councilwoman Gosier is concerned about old structures being at risk for damage. One suggestion from the Board is that Young Explosives should set them off at the Crescent Yacht club where they are getting married. Councilman Villa stated that it is a very short time request and there are several factors that needed to be discussed without enough time. Countryman stated that is we do allow it that it will set the precedent for other events.

**Resolution 2020-82:** Councilman Villa made a motion to DENY the fireworks at the Town of Lyme Public Park for the wedding because of the close proximity of several structures and the two marinas/yacht clubs; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; Aubertine, Villa, Countryman, Gosier: Denied the request; Bourquin: Abstained and the motion was denied.

**Transfer Site Dumpster Purchase:**

Al Crouse has requested another dumpster at the transfer site. He thought a divided dumpster would work best. This would allow for plastics on one side and cardboard on the other. Councilman Villa asked Legislator Johnson if the County had any extra dumpsters. Legislator Johnson said he would check on this for the Town. Councilman Bourquin stated that it bothers him that we have to buy the bins for the County to haul. Councilman Villa stated that he believes we should purchase a new bigger bin to replace the one that is in rough shape and use the other bin as a back-up. Councilwoman Gosier stated that she agree to buy a new bin this year and put it in the budget again next year for another new bin. Supervisor Aubertine stated we need to get three written quotes unless it is declared an emergency purchase or ask Highway Superintendent Pat Weston to receive the quotes. Councilman Villa stated we have always had issues with people coming and dumping their garbage and they are not Town residents. He recommends that the employees need to start checking the vehicles and issuing permits again. Councilman Countryman stated one of the problems is the residents that live for example in Watertown are bringing their trash to the Town of Lyme Transfer Site on their way to their cottage because it is free. One solution Councilman Villa suggested is to hire a few high school

people with the money we have left from the Summer Recreation budget so they can start issuing permits. Supervisor Aubertine stated that Highway Superintendent Pat Weston should make his best faith effort to get three quotes for a new transfer site bin. If he can't get three he should document his calls to receive a quote.

**Resolution 2020-83:** Councilwoman Gosier made a motion to ask Highway Superintendent Pat Weston obtain (if he can) three written quotes for a transfer site dumpster and purchase the best option; seconded by Councilman Countryman; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Eagle Scout/Cemetery Cleanup:**

Councilwoman Gosier stated that she called Darrell Main father of Zach (the person applying for Eagle Scout) and he did not answer. She wants to make sure that they clean the stones the proper way. She will call Darrell again.

**Resolution 2020-84:** Councilwoman Gosier made a motion to allow Zachary Main to complete his Eagle Scout project with the understanding that it is done with the proper tools adult supervision; seconded by Councilman Villa; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

#### **STAT Communication Quotes:**

Supervisor Aubertine stated that Steve Weed decided to withdraw and not to submit a quote. Councilman Bourquin stated Clayton, Alex Bay, and Rodman use STAT communications. Clayton uses GoTo Meeting and Alex Bay uses YouTube to broadcast their videos. The Town would have to have a laptop to use specifically for this use only. Councilwoman Gosier stated that we should talk to the Towns that use it. Councilman Countryman stated that we would lose out on the video quality such as zooming in on individuals. Councilman Villa stated that we need something that is cost effective for all Boards to use, especially considering that the meetings have been closed to the public. He stated that they have been very successful and happy with Steve Weed Productions. There was further discussion on what would be best for the Town to use for taping/videoing their monthly meetings. Councilman Villa suggested STAT to come and do a demo for the Town before the next meeting. He is going to call STAT and set up a demo for the Board.

### **Online Privilege of the Floor**

There was no online privilege of the floor.

### **Privilege of the Floor**

**Legislator William Johnson:** Legislator Johnson asked where the Town was at with the new park. Supervisor Aubertine stated Bernier and Carr is working on the paperwork for the REDI funds for the park. The SEQR was completed and 6 agencies have to approve us as the lead agency. Supervisor Bourquin stated that JW Properties is mowing the Town Public Park because he

hasn't had to mow the Town fields twice a week like contracted. He offered because of how dry the fields have been.

**Water Facility:**

Supervisor Aubertine reported that the village is down a man and so they do not have time to clean the water facility anymore. Pat Weston will have to have one of his guys clean the facility once a week. Supervisor Aubertine cleaned it on Sunday and Village Clerk Karen and Clerk Henderson cleaned it on Thursday last week. The Village guys are also not mowing our Morris Tract field once a week but it hasn't needed it.

**Transfer Site:**

Councilman Villa asked if there was going to be any further discussion regarding the Transfer Site and not issuing permits. There was a suggestion from Supervisor Aubertine to allow one person in the building to get permits for vehicles. Councilman Villa stated he didn't think this would help the issue. Supervisor Aubertine stated he thinks that this summer will have to be taken as a loss cause.

**Executive Session**

**Resolution 2020-85:** Supervisor Aubertine made the motion to enter Executive Session regarding (5) matters relating to collective negotiations under the Taylor Law; seconded by Councilwoman Gosier; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

**Return to Open Meeting**

**Resolution 2020-86:** Deputy Supervisor Bourquin made the motion to enter Open Meeting at 10:03 p.m.; seconded by Councilman Villa; all were in favor and the motion was carried.

**Adjournment**

**Resolution 2020-87:** Councilwoman Gosier made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilman Countryman; all were in favor and the motion was carried; meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

*Ariana Henderson*

Ariana Henderson  
Town Clerk