

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, July 6th, 2021
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Therrien called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

Present: Diane Beijer, Chair (via zoom), Richard Therrien, Vice Chair, Gary Madden, Paula Penny, Ed Tasker, Karen Montgomery, Town Administrator, Andrew Horohov, Recording Secretary. There were 9 members of the public in attendance as well.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everyone present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW: K. Montgomery reports that E. Stone, who was leasing the old Houle building, notified them that June 30 was the last day and wanted to thank the Board for allowing her to lease it.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of June 8, 14, & 22 2021 on a motion made by E. Tasker and seconded by G. Madden, with the following vote recorded; D. Beijer, abstained; R. Therrien, yes; G. Madden, yes; P. Penney, yes; and E. Tasker, yes.

ACTION ITEMS: The Board reviewed and signed the following items: Payroll & Manifest, 1 Raffle Permit, Quitclaim Deed, Comstar Letter, and Leave Request. D. Beijer motions to have the Vice-Chair sign the Advanced Lock and Alarm contract for the police station. P. Penny seconds. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A) **Primex Premium Holiday:** K. Montgomery says Primex is reducing the amount of money they were supposed to contribute this year. R. Therrien says that will reduce the amount allocated in the budget to \$46,000.
- B) **Letter to Black Dog Farm:** P. Penny says this letter indicates that they should not operate until they go to the Planning Board and Zoning Board. R. Therrien says that's correct. P. Penny says they should make sure that is followed up on.
- C) **Lien/Deeding Notices and D) Monthly Fire Rescue Report**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: The Board reviewed miscellaneous items. M. Cipriano says Locke Lake is having their food truck night this Friday between 5-8 p.m. on the Colony Beach.

APPOINTMENTS: E. Neister says they are prepared for the milfoil treatment for the river tomorrow. E. Neister says this summer is the perfect storm for milfoil due to the weather and the milfoil grew abundantly. E. Neister says they know for a fact and did a survey for Suncook River and it is in bad shape. E. Neister says they hope the treatment they do will stop the seeds. E. Neister says they are progressing with Suncook and treating it tomorrow. E. Neister says he is hoping the treatment will start showing results next weekend. E. Neister says they did treatment in Locke Lake and Suncook Lake in 2019 and had excellent results. E. Neister says people at Locke Lake were very pleased with the 2019 results. E. Neister says they got a 25 acre result on that treatment and when they did a survey after the treatment, they didn't see any milfoil. E. Neister says in 2021 the milfoil that was found was not due to the treatment but the seeds that were there. E. Neister says they hope to take care of the Suncook Lake

and Locke Lake area. E. Neister says the diver pulled about 20 gallons of milfoil in the cove area. E. Neister says they only treated 8.3 acres in 2019 in Locke Lake but it traveled throughout and covered 25 acres total. E. Neister says everybody was quite pleased and when they took a total survey, they only found milfoil past the dock area. E. Neister says he wasn't involved in the 2020 treatment so he didn't know about the issue. R. Therrien asks if this is the first time working on Suncook River. E. Neister says that's correct and they needed to save the river and treated the two lakes prior to that. E. Neister says this year, they felt they had to put the treatment towards the river and didn't request \$6,000 from Locke Lake and felt they should put all their work on the river this year. E. Neister says he thinks they are on schedule to do that and that next year, will ask the town for \$20,000 to continue down the river and feels that they should complete the river by then. R. Therrien says his concern is that they did a good job on Locke Lake and Suncook Lake but now they're seeing the milfoil coming back. R. Therrien asks when they know it will be done. E. Neister says they have to have a diver group to watch and maintain the lake and they won't know if they are done until 2 to 3 years. E. Neister says it's possible they will see more plants growing somewhere else due to the seeds, which can stay in the soil for 3 years and they have to manage this. E. Neister says this is not a short term fix. R. Therrien says he understands that but wants this to be taken care of before it gets out of hand. E. Neister says that is a knee jerk reaction and the plants don't grow that quick.

E. Neister says Locke Lake won't get out of control unless they don't have divers go in there. E. Neister says he thinks Locke Lake might not have the right things to maintain everything correctly. R. Therrien asks why they don't treat the area right now. E. Neister says they do. E. Neister says D. Bartlett pulled multiple gallons in the cove. E. Neister says D. Bartlett needs to go back in a couple of weeks and check for new shoots. E. Neister says if you're depending on the herbicide, it doesn't work that way. G. Madden says if they know the milfoil is coming back, why are they directing attention to the river instead of the lakes. E. Neister says he doesn't feel that is a fair analogy. E. Neister says they are spending effort on the first half of the river, otherwise people can't use that river. E. Neister says if they don't hire a diver for Locke Lake, then it's going to get out of hand. E. Neister says Suncook Lake has divers who do work every weekend. R. Therrien says last time E. Neister came in here, he told them there was no milfoil in Locke Lake. E. Neister says they did a search in 2019 and they didn't see any milfoil besides the far end of the dock. E. Neister says that condition wasn't permanent due to the seeds that can last up to 3 years. P. Penny asks if E. Neister looked at the information provided to them. E. Neister says yes. P. Penny says on the maps it shows that a highlighted area was contracted to be treated but didn't. E. Neister says he doesn't know that situation. E. Neister says Solitude will only charge what they treat and will guarantee that Locke Lake did not get charged unfairly. D. Beijer says on November 10, he came before the Board and stated that Locke Lake was basically clear with the exception of the docks. D. Beijer says in seeing there are other areas in Locke Lake that were not clear and that this was recent, asks if they did a purview in 2020. E. Neister says no and they didn't have many meetings in 2020. E. Neister says he had no contact with anybody in the Lake Health Committee. D. Beijer says at the meeting of November 10, he stated that he would get in contact with the Locke Lake Health Committee and asks if that meeting ever happened. E. Neister says they didn't have any meetings in 2020. E. Neister says to address the difference between 2020 and 2019, the map shows a different area of where they were treated. R. Therrien says if they treat a specific area that is budgeted for, and they know seeds can come back, why doesn't the project plan include going back to treated areas to make sure the milfoil doesn't come back. E. Neister says they did the first treatment in Locke Lake and Suncook Lake in 2019. E. Neister says in 2020 they did a spot treatment of specific areas and were successful in getting rid of areas that weren't affected by the herbicide. E. Neister says in the past they felt the best use of money was to use divers to find where the milfoil is and have them work on the

milfoil, but the new herbicide works better than any previous one they used. E. Neister says he asked the town for \$20,000 for milfoil treatment and \$10,000 to maintain the D.A.S.H but wasn't able to get the \$10,000. E. Neister says without that, they weren't able to properly survey after the treatment. E. Tasker asks how much money they need. E. Neister says they usually ask for \$10,000 for the D.A.S.H and divers. E. Neister says they are past what they usually are now and doesn't know how much they need. E. Neister says they got a grant from NH for spending \$50,000 and weren't able to do it this summer because they didn't get the \$10,000. E. Neister says he thinks they are okay and will make due. E. Tasker says it seems obvious that E. Neister is working hard to clean up the lakes and asks about Brindle Pond because to him that's where the milfoil is coming from. E. Neister says he would have agreed with E. Tasker on that, but checked out that area and was pretty certain no milfoil is coming from Brindle Pond. E. Neister says the unique thing about Suncook River is that the wind will blow the milfoil back to the boat ramp near the old police station. E. Neister says they plan to do a treatment on Brindle Pond, but when it is appropriate. E. Neister says that Brindle Pond doesn't have much tax base so it's a question of when they do a spot treat, if they can add some money to the budget to treat 3 to 5 acres of Brindle Pond. E. Tasker says the only thing he disagrees with is that the general public can go fishing on Brindle Pond with no restrictions. E. Tasker says they owe the people to keep the water clear of milfoil and that E. Neister has been working for nothing and asks him to keep them posted. E. Neister says that Locke Lake is a private lake so it makes it hard to getting funding for it. E. Neister says the only way to get rid of milfoil is vigilance.

E. Tasker asks M. Cipriano what she knows of the milfoil committee at Locke Lake. M. Cipriano says she sent the email and most of what is in the email, is stuff she got from the Lake Health Committee. M. Cipriano says they have a diver who comes weekly and has 7 volunteers on the boat. M. Cipriano says the diver does come back to the area and checks to make sure the milfoil is not coming back. M. Cipriano says all the people who are working against the milfoil are all volunteers. M. Cipriano says the volunteers have provided information about milfoil as well. M. Cipriano says she gave the board a packet which shows two maps and the highlighted areas on the first map shows what was to be treated last year, but the yellow/green area is what was treated. M. Cipriano says E. Neister was correct that they were not charged for the non-treated area. M. Cipriano says when they went on the airboat and said they didn't see any milfoil, there was milfoil on her dock and other people complained as well. M. Cipriano says the contract was originally for over \$15,000 and not all of that was treated so they didn't pay that. M. Cipriano says the contract for last year was to treat 9.34 acres and should have been sufficient but only 3.5 acres was treated so 60% was not treated. M. Cipriano says they collected a lot more than 20 gallons of milfoil in one area. M. Cipriano says she knows what milfoil is and when they explained to Solitude on where to treat, was told that they didn't see any but then it bloomed. M. Cipriano says when Solitude came out, the water was cold and milfoil doesn't bloom until the water is warm. M. Cipriano says she understands that Locke Lake won't get the money this year and her concern is that Locke Lake is considered again for this treatment and reimbursement so they don't fall behind. M. Cipriano says they contracted Solitude to do the treatment down the cove where the milfoil is and will do it in August at their expense. M. Cipriano says they also found the area that was treated two years ago, some milfoil plants are spreading back up which could be from seeds and is working on that area with the diver. M. Cipriano says she just wants to say that it's a shame that Solitude decided not to treat the entire area and put them behind. M. Cipriano says she feels that Solitude has a monopoly in the state of New Hampshire so they are in the position of what they want to do and what they don't want to do. M. Cipriano says they are not a private lake, but a private access lake and just wants the town and the Board of Selectmen to be aware that if Locke Lake is not treated, they're going to see a bigger issue downstream. M. Cipriano says she wants to be treated fairly in terms of

reimbursement. M. Cipriano says she knows the survey was done in 2019 but warned them in 2020 and now they are having issues. E. Tasker asks if they have funds to pay Solitude. M. Cipriano says their funds come from assessments and hopes they have enough. R. Therrien says they should have money saved from not being charged in the past. M. Cipriano says the reimbursement was not there last year because they were not treated. G. Madden asks if they contracted Solitude. M. Cipriano says yes and it will be done in August. G. Madden says in that agreement, do they have stipulations. M. Cipriano says they have a contracted area and it took a lot for them to consider doing that area and had to prove how much of an issue they are having. E. Neister says there is a misunderstanding on how permits are granted and what Solitude has say in treatment. E. Neister says Solitude can't choose where they can and can't treat. E. Neister says one of the biggest issues Barnstead had in 2003 is there was no representative in town who could certify that milfoil needed to be treated. E. Neister says he certifies the areas that need to be treated. E. Neister says for example, he does the survey on Suncook River and has someone from the Department of Agriculture to certify that as well. E. Neister says the state of New Hampshire will not give a grant to Locke Lake because they are a private association but will give one to Suncook River and Suncook Lake. E. Neister recites the tax base for Suncook Lake, Suncook River and Locke Lake. K. Montgomery says she kayaks Suncook River and earlier this year there was very little milfoil but was amazed how quickly it grew making it hard to kayak. K. Montgomery stated that a lot of people live along the river and a lot of people go there to kayak it is open to the public and has public access. D. Beijer says she doesn't know if they are getting anywhere due to emotions and suggests that because Locke Lake is important to be treated, and if the committee can get together with E. Neister and his committee, they can make sure they are on the list for treatment next year. R. Therrien says he agrees and that working together will accomplish so much more. E. Neister says they know what they are doing and they just need to work together and make a plan. R. Therrien says he knows the milfoil will keep coming back and they need to work together on that. E. Neister says it's not forever though and it is a struggle to work on the issue. The Board thanks E. Neister.

L. Bramante says it was probably about five years ago E. Neister reached out to members of Suncook and Locke Lake to work together and they've been working together ever since. L. Bramante says since working together, they have been able to help each other and they were able to meet every month until 2020 and hope to do that again this year. L. Bramante says they were able to get divers in Half Moon and work on treatment and now they found nothing last night but will continue looking. L. Bramante says having E. Neister pull them together as a community was an important step to get everybody involved. R. Therrien says he knows this is going to be a long on-going battle. S. Demars says she would applaud the effort to pull the town together and represented Locke Lake in the past. S. Demars says she wanted to clarify the certification of having someone show milfoil and having a certified diver to identify the plant. S. Demars says the lion share of the finance is out of the pockets of the Locke Lake association members and it is a significant expense beyond the volunteers they have. S. Demars says she just wanted to not have such a huge burden. S. Demars says they are such a high risk due to the lake depth they have and the shallow waters make it opportunistic for the growth to happen rapidly. S. Demars says the herbicide they used is new and Locke Lake was one of the early adopters and they took the chance due to them being a high risk lake and it could have backfired on them. S. Demars says the town benefitted from them taking the risk but when they got to the end of the road, the attention went somewhere else. S. Demars says there was talk in one of their last meetings they had where there was discussion of having Locke Lake taken off the permit application and spoke up that she was not comfortable with that but it happened anyways. S. Demars says they didn't finish the job and whatever money they are spending, that they are going to get the end result they wanted. S. Demars says she knows that the contracted area that was to be treated was not treated and they run the risk of starting

where they were before. G. Madden says everybody is concerned and they have to put all their energy in a positive manner to clean up the water ways. G. Madden says they are fortunate to have these volunteers and hope they find a solution. C. Panagopoulos asks why Locke Lake wasn't included in the permit. G. Madden says state regulation. E. Neister says the State will not permit Locke Lake as it is a separate corporation and has limited access to who can use the water. G. Madden says that should be looked into. C. Panagopoulos says that Locke Lake is listed as a public lake under DES. S. Demars says there are different rules under the DES umbrella and for a different reason, she inquired with legal counsel on the relationship of Locke Lake Colony and the lake itself and was told from the attorney that the state of New Hampshire has jurisdiction and it is a public body of water. S. Demars says they are trying to address the loss of depth and that the DES has final say of what they can and cannot do and will not give them agency on what they can do to that body of water. R. Therrien says he doesn't see how that is a public body of water when access is restricted to Locke Lake members. E. Tasker says this is two separate issues. D. Beijer says to recap, Locke Lake is requesting to be included in next year's budget and will see them in November. K. Montgomery states that Locke Lake Association has to submit a request and a warrant article is placed on the warrant as it has been in the past.

Police Captain, R. Cormier explains that one of their new hires is scheduled to go to the academy in August and the department has someone with 25 years of experience who could work with this individual before going to the academy in the fall. R. Cormier feels it's a great opportunity and asks if they could hire the individual to do the six weeks of FTO training before the academy. R. Therrien comments that they haven't had a lot of luck with the pre-FTO program in the past. D. Beijer says they only had issues with three in the past. G. Madden says the person before those three failed the physical so it would be four and there is a lot of costs involved. R. Cormier says there is and if someone was borderline of failing, he wouldn't suggest this but the person he is recommending is very sharp and believes he will do well at the academy. R. Cormier says he thinks it is time well spent and if they don't do it now, they will have to wait until winter. R. Cormier says he did this with one of his officers in Tilton and they became officer of the year. G. Madden asks if this is the full FTO program. R. Cormier says yes it is and that Sergeant Ryan put together a good program. K. Montgomery asks when the officers academy starts and R. Cormier says August 30 and graduates December 17. K. Montgomery states that the start date would be July 12. D. Beijer says a lot of the cost impact deals with uniforms and outfitting gear. D. Beijer says they had officers of various sizes that didn't make it to the academy and asks if they can use old uniforms. R. Cormier says because of his size, they were able to make use of previous clothing and gear. R. Therrien says they are paying two cadets right now who are in the academy and it's risky and even though he believes in R. Cormier's confidence a lot can happen in 8-10 weeks and if it fails, it costs them money. R. Cormier says he knows and they will try to minimize that. D. Beijer motions that they allow the new recruit to start the FTO program early. P. Penny seconds the motion. The Board voted as followed: D. Beijer, yes; R. Therrien, no; G. Madden, yes; P. Penny, yes; E. Tasker, no. The vote is 3-2 and the motion passes. R. Cormier thanks the Board.

DEPARTMENT HEADS: Road Agent G. Drew reports that the department has been quite busy cutting and cleaning up the trees from the recent wind event. G. Drew says they started grading, rolling, and putting the calcium out and should be finished by tomorrow or Thursday morning. G. Drew says they have two more loads of calcium left. G. Drew says the new grader tires are being put on this Friday. G. Drew reports that they got a chance to get rid of a lot of the old vehicles and equipment not in use at the town shed and the total trade in value comes to \$31,000 worth of stuff with a chance to trade that for a ten wheeler Mack dump truck with plow and equipment and it's well maintained. G. Drew says he would like to get two but can only afford one. G. Drew says everything about this is a

win-win and the truck is ready to go. G. Madden asks if this is one ten wheeler truck and G. Drew says yes. P. Penny inquires about the trade in equipment and G. Drew says truck 22 is a money pit and truck 4 is an issue as well, both of which will be traded. E. Tasker asks who determines the value of the equipment. G. Drew states that the company is Abbott Equipment in Maine. E. Tasker asks if they came and viewed the vehicles and G. Drew says yes. D. Beijer asks if they have any conditions on the surplus army vehicles in order to dispose of them. K. Montgomery explains that the Town had to keep it for one year before they could trade or sell and they met those conditions but she is checking with the Chief to confirm disposing them. R. Therrien says they are getting rid of four trucks to get one back. G. Drew says truck 14 and 16 haven't been run in years. G. Madden says if they are giving up the two trucks they do use, they will be short of trucking so they should look for a second truck. E. Tasker asks if they need a truck to have to swap for the diesel grant. G. Drew says they do and it's truck 17. R. Therrien says he doesn't have a problem with cleaning up the area but if they are only going to get one truck, they're going to leave themselves short in the winter. K. Montgomery says the second truck At Abbott's is \$33,000. E. Tasker says he would like to see a printout of the budget but swapping out the rest of the equipment for one truck, he is good with that. E. Tasker says a ten wheeler will work more efficiently.

D. Beijer suggests that G. Drew sat down with K. Montgomery and see if they can find any funds for the second vehicle then come back before the Board. G. Drew says he is agreeable to that. G. Madden asks if the straight up trade could work. G. Drew says yes. K. Montgomery says the second truck doesn't list a plow, spreader or wing. G. Drew says it comes with all that still. R. Therrien inquires about Narrows Road and G. Drew says he will run asphalt down there and shim it. G. Madden asks about Walker Road and G. Drew says they fixed that today. G. Drew says the dirt roads are holding up but Narrows Road needs to be redone. E. Tasker asks if G. Drew could do anything about the property that is raking the leaves in the road. G. Drew says he will get up there this week and see the owner. E. Tasker motions that they authorize the swap of whatever is necessary to secure one ten wheel dump truck with a plow, wing, spreader and make sure they have a vehicle to use as a swap for the diesel grant and keep truck 4. G. Madden seconds. D. Beijer says she thought G. Drew would talk to K. Montgomery and find the additional funds and have this all done at once. G. Drew says they should be okay. The motion passes with the following vote; D. Beijer, abstains; R. Therrien, yes; G. Madden, yes; P. Penney, yes and E. Tasker, yes.

E. Tasker says every year they put money aside for overtime and it's usually been used in winter time, however it doesn't make sense to not use that overtime in the summer. E. Tasker says they have projects that need to be attended to that get pushed back due to random issues and would like to offer the Road Agent to use some of the overtime money during the summer months. E. Tasker motions to authorize the Road Agent to use overtime during the summer months to complete projects. D. Beijer seconds and the Board votes unanimously in favor. K. Montgomery says she contacted the paving company and the AC price went from \$542.50 to \$555 and they will send a revision on the figures. K. Montgomery says she will talk to the company tomorrow to get a start date. G. Drew says he would like to know so he can have a two weeks notice and get some preliminary work done. E. Tasker says there are some flags that need to be taken care of on Parade Road and G. Drew says he will take care of them.

PUBLIC INPUT: R. Therrien opens Public Input at 7:07 p.m. L. Kelley asks if G. Drew knows what's going on with the new driveway/road on 126. G. Drew says that is the State DOT jurisdiction and he has nothing to do with it. G. Drew says he talked to a state patrol foreman but that's it. L. Kelley says

as far as the milfoil problem, she thinks that the two committees have to find a way to get along and thinks they should assign someone from the Select Board to sit in on the meetings. R. Therrien closed Public Input at 7:10 p.m.

OLD/OTHER BUSINESS: P. Penny asks if they have heard from the new law firm Woodsum/Drummond. K. Montgomery says they emailed her and asked to meet next Monday, July 12th at 3 p.m. K. Montgomery says the Board should have a discussion on which cases they want to remain with their current firm.

ADJOURNMENT: D. Beijer motions to adjourn the meeting. G. Madden seconds and the Board voted unanimously in favor. The Board adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Horohov, Recording Secretary

Chairman D. Beijer

Vice-Chair R. Therrien

G. Madden

P. Penny

E. Tasker