

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Final  
Hybrid Meeting  
Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order  
Suspending Certain Provisions of  
Open Meeting Law.  
Zoom Meeting ID# 938 4860 9485  
Monday April 24, 2023  
6:30 P.M.**

**IN PERSON PARTICIPANTS:** Jim Hutchinson, Select Board Chair  
Jennifer Glass, Select Board Member  
Kim Bodnar, Select Board Member  
  
Tim Higgins, Town Administrator

**VIRTUAL PARTICIPANTS:** Peggy Elder, Administrative Assistant

**WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:**

Ms. Glass opened the meeting at 6:30 pm and noted Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, as further extended most recently by Governor Healey's March 29, 2023 signing of a bill extending said authorization to March 31, 2025, this meeting of the Lincoln Select Board will be conducted as a hybrid meeting, providing the public the opportunity to participate in-person or remotely.

Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Town of Lincoln website, at [www.lincolntown.org](http://www.lincolntown.org).

- Ms. Glass noted that each year after Town Meeting, the tradition is to rotate the Chair. She made a motion to nominate Mr. Hutchinson as Chair of the Select Board for the coming year. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- None

**APPOINTMENTS:**

- DeCordova - Pilar Garro, deCordova's Portfolio Business Director, joined the meeting to give the Board a general update. After going over the list of the members of the current leadership team of the museum she went on to share some news. As of February 2023, the museum has suspended interior visits to the museum due to the condition of the climate control system. This

has impacted planned exhibits, and th Museum wanted to let the Town and the public know. She added that in spite of the suspension, the campus remains very active with access to the sculpture park, educational opportunities, the museum store, the Café being run by Twisted Tree, the Lincoln Nursery School, and private events. Ms. Garro gave a brief overview of the community investment that they have been doing recently which includes: creation of the Ponside Terrace for public events; The Grove improvements for accessibility; Installing temporary HVAC; Lincoln School field trips, Adding an audio engineer for event compliance; and partnerships with Lincoln Nursery School, Twisted Tree, and the Lincoln METCO program.

- National Grid Hearing – Mary Mulroney of National Grid joined the meeting.

Mr. Hutchinson read the public hearing notice. Ms. Glass made a motion to open the public hearing. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.

National Grid is proposing to install 260' of replacement gas main in the vicinity of 118 Bedford Road, just North of Route 2. DPW Superintendent Chris Bibbo views this as a routine main replacement project subject only to routine requirements (i.e., trench permit and dig safe). After a brief discussion regarding this project, Ms. Glass made a motion to close the hearing. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.

Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the project request subject to Superintendent Bibbo's comments. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.

- Green Energy Choice Contract Renewal – Mr. Hutchinson explained that it is time to renew the energy supply contract. C.J. Volpone, who has been overseeing the Green Energy Choice program, will ask the Board to vote to vote on a new contract that will go into effect in January 2024. The current 1-year contract will remain in effect through the end of 2023. The Town's advisor is Peregrine, and they have approached C.J. Volpone about going out to bid for the renewable energy supply contract to take advantage of the current drop in energy prices. It will go out for the first time on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and if an agreement cannot be reached, they will try again on May 10<sup>th</sup>. They would like to take advantage of the lower prices to lock inalonger contract: probably 2 -3 years. Peregrine will coordinate the bid process and advise the Town on how best to structure the contract. The Town needs to act as soon as the bids are received. As before, Mr. Higgins will serve as Contracting Agent on behalf of the Town.

Ms. Glass made a motion to authorize Town Administrator Timothy Higgins to act as the Contracting Agent on behalf of the Town. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.

## TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Annual Town Meeting Follow-up – Mr. Higgins reported that staff have been in the process of chipping away at the post ATM To Do List. The more time-sensitive items are 1) organizing our application for the Fossil Fuel Free demonstration project, and 2) the Housing Commission's Home Rule Petition. Mr. Higgins noted that in regard to the Fossil Fuel Free demonstration project, he and Planning Director Paula Vaughn have drafted Lincoln's application and have organized the necessary accompanying documents. They have communicated their intentions with the Department of Energy Resources who advised Lincoln to hold off on submitting until their regulations take effect (date TBD). He noted that they are ready to go when they get the word. Regarding the Housing Commission's Home Rule Petition, Mr. Higgins noted that the submission is ready for submittal upon approval by the Board. Ms. Glass made a motion to call upon Representatives Gentile and Peisch to submit to the General Court on the Town's behalf the petition adopted under Article 31 of the 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant and Motion relative to certain amendments to the Lincoln Housing Commission's enabling legislation. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.
- New Transportation Coalition – Mr. Higgins reported that the Roadway & Traffic Committee (RTC), Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC), and the Complete Streets Working Group recently held a joint meeting. Since many of Lincoln's roadway and roadside projects and initiatives involve all three organizations (supported by Planning Director Paula Vaughn and DPW Superintendent Chris Bibbo, and himself), we concluded that we should form a Transportation Coalition (modeled after the Housing Coalition that has proved so successful in coordinating the activities of Housing Commission, Housing Trust, and Lincoln Foundation. to the group will meet quarterly to share thoughts, update priorities, and ensure project coordination. Margaret Olson has agreed to be Chair. He added that he and Ms. Vaughn will help get it up and running.
- 250<sup>th</sup> Planning – Mr. Higgins noted that Ms. Glass had previously given a report from the meeting she had attended with Lincoln's counterparts (Lexington, Concord, and Arlington). He added that he and Ms. Bodnar attended the most recent meeting with counterparts in Lexington, Concord, and Arlington to share thoughts about their respective plans for events and activities, and to think about ways they might collaborate. The most immediate action item is the submission of a funding request to the Commonwealth aimed at providing support in three specific areas (i.e., hiring an event coordinator, organizing a transportation plan, and doing joint marketing/PR). Ms. Glass made a motion to authorize the formation of a committee made up of representatives from the Select Board, Public Safety, The DPW, Historical Society, School Committee, Bemis Trust, Lincoln Minutemen, Parks & Recreation and Civic Community. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.
- Route 2A Crosswalks – Mr. Higgins reported that the Federal Highway Administration convened another hearing to take additional comments on its February finding of "no adverse effect" in response to Mass Highway Department proposed installation of three crosswalks along Route 2A in Lincoln. The current plan has strong support from Lincoln's boards and departments. They have shown up in force at numerous meetings and hearings to advocate for the plan. This occurred most recently on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Lincoln was represented by himself, Planning Director Paula Vaughn, and BPAC representative Ginger Reiner. The State Historic Preservation Officer expressed concerns about historic impacts.

- Landfill Solar – Mr. Higgins reported that they are working with consultant Beth Greenblatt to finalize the contract and access agreement. He noted that the power purchase agreement, and payment in lieu of taxes agreements are next. Ms. Greenblatt has been reaching out to HESP and they have included Town Counsel in the contract discussion as well. Mr. Higgins added that the neighborhood is very interested in the project and have turned out at public meetings regarding the project. He noted that they seem supportive of the proposed mitigation plans for the project.

## DISCUSSION:

- State of the Town/Community Charrette Concept - Ms. Glass reported that she and Mr. Higgins had met and came up with an idea of having 2 blocks of time in the morning and 2 blocks of time in the afternoon to discuss the four initiatives (Community Center, Housing Choice, IDEA, and Climate Action Plan). Each of these groups would do their presentations 4 times over the course of the day so people could attend the ones they would like to. There will also be informational tables. Mr. Hutchinson commented that to maximize the number of families with kids who can attend, it would be great to have fun activities outside. Ms. Glass will be sending her draft format to the Board members for their feedback to finalize it in May.
- Community Center Building Committee Update – Mr. Higgins reported that April has been extremely busy with activities including the April 4<sup>th</sup> Open Mic night, a CCBC regular meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup>, and ongoing planning for their Forum tomorrow night. That will be a significant point in the process. The Architect is coming back and sharing with the community a program that he feels reflects the needs of COA&HS and PRD. This starts the conversation of needs versus wants before they move on to building design. There will be a meeting Wednesday night to reflect on what happens at the Forum tomorrow night. There was discussion to add a liaison to the committee to report back to the Board and take that off of Jonathan Dwyer’s plate. After a brief discussion regarding the possibility of having two named liaisons to the CCBC representing the Planning Board, Ms. Glass made a motion that the Planning Board have two named liaisons to the Community Center Building Committee. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.
- Select Board Liaison Assignments – The discussion began by asking Ms. Bodnar what her interest was in the assignments previously held by former Board member Jonathan Dwyer. Ms. Bodnar felt most were a good fit for her and she did volunteer to be a liaison to the Community Center Building Committee. Mr. Hutchinson offered to be liaison to HATS and attempt to focus it on issues directly within its charter, such as the North Airfield Expansion proposal. Ms. Bodnar will take on Pierce House and the School Committee. Ms. Bodnar made a motion to approve the liaison list as discussed. Ms. Glass seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.
- Liaison Reports –  

HATS – Mr. Hutchinson would like the Board to draft a letter to Governor Healey complaining about if the Hanscom Expansion Project goes through as currently envisioned, it could wipe out the climate change gains the Town has made in the past ten years. Mr. Hutchinson noted that the Governor is the only one who can put the brakes on this project, and she needs to hear the climate change issues of the Town. Ms. Bodnar wondered if there is someone in the Governor’s

administration advising her on climate issues who should also be copied on this letter. Ms. Glass also recommended copying the Town's reps. Mr. Hutchinson will draft a letter to be ready for the next meeting.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, & Anti-racism – Ms. Glass reported that the committee is getting ready to launch its town wide survey. They are working on creative ways to engage people to participate. She added that the staff and boards survey results are being tabulated and those will be shared when the town wide survey results are finalized. Focus groups are being planned and there are also training sessions scheduled.

Housing Coalition – Ms. Glass reported that they are meeting next week.

Housing Choice Act Working Group – Ms. Glass reported that they are meeting next week. They will be setting up some public forums quickly and sending out a post card to save the dates for those public forums in June.

#### **OPEN FORUM:**

- None

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- Special Police Officer Appointment - Ms. Glass made a motion to appoint Rich McCarty to the position of Special Police Officer. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- New Superintendent at the Schools, COA&HS Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

#### **WARRANTS:**

- None.

#### **MINUTES:**

- None

Ms. Glass made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Bodnar seconded the motion the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Aye; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 P.M.

Submitted by Peggy Elder

*Approved 06/26/23*