

**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 May 8, 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:

Mr. Hutchinson 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Ms. Glass reminded everyone that the Community Survey sponsored by the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, & Anti-Racism (IDEA) Committee is up and running and will be available through June 2nd. She noted that for anyone who would prefer to submit a written survey, they can be found at Bemis Hall, the Library, and at the Town Administrator's office.

APPOINTMENTS:

- None

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- Special Town Meeting (STM) Date – Mr. Higgins noted that the Board might want to settle on a date for the Fall Special Town Meeting as he has been getting some inquiries from

the Community Center Building Committee (CCBC) and others about it. The first Saturday in November (November 4th) has become customary date for the SOTT. Now that the State of the Town (SOTT) has been moved to the end of September, the STM is not locked into that customary date. STM business will include the vote on Community Center preferred concept plan and budget, and perhaps a vote on The Commons expansion plan. After some discussion, the Board thought December 2nd would be a good target date for the STM. Mr. Higgins will follow up with CCBC and report back to the Board.

- L-S Excess & Deficiency Funds- Mr. Higgins reported that the L-S School Committee has voted on its annual plan for use of its Excess & Deficiency (E&D) funds. The member Towns have a say in the process. The Select Boards can either endorse or take no action. If the respective boards take no action, the proposal is deemed approved after 45 days. In the alternative, the Board can require a Town Meeting vote. The Town's practice is to ask the Finance Committee for a recommendation before voting. It is rare that the Board or Finance Committee have concerns with the School Committee's proposal. The Board suggested taking up the matter at their retreat meeting on June 5th. The Finance Committee planned to take the matter up on June 6th, but Mr. Higgins offered to request they consider the matter earlier.
- Green Energy Choice Contract Renewal – Mr. Higgins stated that at the last meeting the Board authorized him to sign the contract on the Board's behalf based on the recommendation of the consultants and the Green Energy Committee (GEC). Bids were opened on May 2nd. GEC and our consultant recommended that Lincoln take advantage of current market conditions and execute a 2-year contract that will take effect when our current contract expires in December. Mr. Higgins, CJ Volpone, and Paul Shorb reviewed the bid results and the recommendation from the consultants (Peregrine) and agreed to proceed as recommended:
 - Award the contract to the incumbent provider, First Point
 - Price is 15.98c per kwh (including 36% Class 1 RECs) down significantly from the current contract price of 22.316c (which includes 32% Class 1 RECs) due to falling market prices.

The two key decisions were 1) length of contract, and 2) REC%. After discussion, they agreed to increase the RECs by 6% each year of the contract rather than 4% to take advantage of falling market prices. A two-year contract seemed like the best balance between price stability and flexibility to go back to the market. Mr. Higgins noted that they were required to act shortly after the bids were opened. Acting on the authority vested in him by the Board's prior vote, and based on the advice of Peregrine and GEC, he executed the new contract as outlined.

- Annual Town Meeting Follow-up – Mr. Higgins reported that the Town’s Housing Commission petition has been submitted to the Legislature. Housing Commission has been advised. Holding off on submitting Fossil Fuel petition until DOER issues final regulations. All other bylaws approved at this year’s Town Meeting have been submitted to the Attorney General.
- 250th Planning – Mr. Higgins stated he will defer to Ms. Bodnar who will report in her liaison report.
- Landfill Solar- Mr. Higgins reported that they are continuing their work on the Power Purchase Agreement, Lease, and Payment-in- Lieu of Tax drafts. The solar developer (HESP) has been given permission to access the site so that they can develop their proposed site layout plan. They will continue to keep National Parks Service and other abutters updated. He added that at some point soon he, consultant Beth Greenblatt and Mr. Hutchinson will return to the Board for decisions about how to structure the financials.
- Route 2A Crosswalks – Mr. Higgins reported that the Town is in a holding pattern awaiting final determinations from Federal Highway Administration and Mass Highway Administration. He noted that they seem favorably disposed to the project. No further response or action is required of us at this stage. He will continue to receive regular updated from Lincoln’s Mass Highway contact person.

DISCUSSION:

- Community Charrette/Fall SOTT Concept – Based on recent discussion, the date has been confirmed for Saturday, September 30th. The SOTT will be focusing on four topics:
 - Community Center
 - Housing Choice
 - IDEA
 - Climate Action

Format will be a hybrid SOTT/Charrette format and held at the meeting in the new school building. A rough meeting outline has been drafted by Ms. Glass. A “Save the Date” email has been sent.

- Community Center Building Committee (CCBC) Update – Mr. Higgins reported that they are making excellent progress on confirmation of the Council on Aging & Human Services (COA&HS) and the Parks & Recreation Department (PRD) program needs and wants. This work should be largely completed in the next few weeks. In addition, they are doing the next level analysis of Hartwell site constraints to identify alternative building locations and tradeoffs. A Public Forum is scheduled for May 23rd that will focus on site planning. In June they will begin to assemble the pieces (program, site, budge estimates) for an important June forum on June 13th which will be the first presentation and discussion of the three project concepts.

Outreach/Communication activities are increasing week-by- week, including the publication of our Weekly Update.

- 250th Celebration – Ms. Bodnar reported that she has been to meetings with the Concord, Arlington, and Lexington group regarding the 2025 events. She noted that their committees were already established, and plans were in the works. An email was sent seeking volunteers to serve on Lincoln’s 250th Celebration Committee. They have Historical Commission, Bemis Trust, Public Safety, Lincoln Minutemen, Lincoln School Committee, and Parks & Recreation have agreed to participate. There will be a kickoff meeting for the committee in two weeks. Ms. Bodnar stated that she met with the Concord, Arlington, and Lexington group and a topic of discussion was funding. There is currently no confirmed funding for this event although there has been talk of 2 million dollars available. Mr. Higgins added that each of the 4 towns have \$50,000 available due to an economic development bill that Senator Barrett introduced. The RFP for Public Relations firm would be a good fit for those funds. This of course would be brought to the Select Board for a vote prior to any action being taken. Ms. Glass reported that at the last Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Communication (MAGIC) regional planning meeting they were talking about the work plan for next year. Ms. Glass, along with the representative from Lexington advocated for thinking about the 250th as an event that has broader economic impact for the thirteen towns in the region. MAGIC or MAPC might want to be involved. Ms. Bodnar stated that one of the most important things for Lincoln is the transportation, including the shuttle proposal. Funding is an issue, but it really is crucial as none of the towns can handle the large influx of cars. The estimated cost for the shuttle for just Lincoln, Concord, and Lexington is \$850,000. She added that she will be speaking with Sen. Barrett’s aid on Friday. Ms. Bodnar then thanked the Lincoln Library archival staff as she has spent a lot of time researching the 1975 celebration and that the material in the archives shows that most of the preparations being done now were being done in 1975 as well.

- Annual Board/Committee Reappointments - After a brief discussion, Ms. Glass made a motion to approve the slate of appointments as amended with thanks to all who serve. 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 Board agreed with the assignments as outlined in the latest Liaison Assignment list.

- Liaison Reports –

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) – Ms. Bodnar reported that she attended the BPAC meeting. She added that this week they held their Walk, Bike, Roll to School. There was a great turnout despite of the weather. The Boston students were able to participate as the buses stopped at Old Town Hall to drop those students off. They also had an e-bike demonstration last week. Their Farrar Road advisory shoulder pilot has reached the end of their one-year pilot. They are now putting together a survey to send out to the town as part of their final report.

Housing Choice Working Group – Ms. Glass reported that they met, and they are planning for their June 6th multi-board meeting with the Planning Board as well as community forums held in the morning of June 16th and in the evening of June 20th.

Climate Action Plan - Ms. Glass reported that Climate Action Lincoln would be meeting tomorrow.

Massport Expansion- Mr. Hutchinson reported that he was working on a draft letter to Governor Healey regarding letting more jets land at Hanscom, which would undo all of Lincoln's climate change progress. He added that he had a chance to speak with Senator Barrett who convinced him that there would be little effect from sending such a communication to the Governor. Senator Barrett encouraged him to get all four towns together and send a letter from all of them. Mr. Hutchinson has begun reaching out to the Select Board representatives to HATS from the other three towns.

Capital Committee – Mr. Hutchinson reported that they are reconvening to review five-year plans. He noted that this year with the Community Center it is even more important to review the other needs of the town.

OPEN FORUM:

- None

ACTION ITEMS:

Kid's Triathlon - Ms. Bodnar made a motion to approve closing the road for the Kid's Triathlon on June 24, 2023, from Ballfield Road to 5-way Corner from 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM. Ms. Glass 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:

- Housing Choice - Town of Westwood failure to comply article.
- Lexington Solar Farm - Opposition campaign: dangers associated with fire.

WARRANTS:

- Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the Warrants dated April 24, 2023, and May 8, 2023. Ms. Glass 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.

MINUTES:

- November 7, 2022 - Ms. Glass made a motion to approve the Minutes dated November 7, 2022, as presented. Mr. Hutchinson seconded the motion the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Abstain; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.
- November 28, 2022 - Ms. Glass made a motion to approve the Minutes dated November 28, 2022, as presented. Mr. Hutchinson seconded the motion the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Abstain; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.

- December 12, 2022 - Ms. Glass made a motion to approve the Minutes dated December 12, 2022, as presented. Mr. Hutchinson seconded the motion the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Abstain; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.
- January 5, 2023 - Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the Minutes dated January 5, 2023, as presented. Ms. Glass seconded the motion the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Abstain; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.
- January 30, 2023 - Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the Minutes dated January 30, 2023, as presented. Ms. Glass seconded the motion the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Abstain; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.
- February 6, 2023 - Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the Minutes dated February 6, 2023, as presented. Ms. Glass seconded the motion the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Abstain; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.
- February 27, 2023 - Mr. Hutchinson made a motion to approve the Minutes dated February 27, 2023, as presented. Ms. Glass seconded the motion the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved with a roll call vote: Bodnar: Abstain; Glass: Aye; Hutchinson: Aye.

Mr. Hutchinson 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 7:53 P.M.

Submitted by Peggy Elder

Approved 06/26/23