



THE SELECTMEN'S NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

OCTOBER 26, 2015

SOTT: STATE OF THE TOWN MEETING



Sat 11/14/15
9a —12:30p

and Special Town Meeting @ Brooks Auditorium

CAMPUS MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

- ⇒ What's the vision?
- ⇒ What are the options?
- ⇒ What are the costs?
- ⇒ What's the process?

MEDICAL MARIJUANA

- ⇒ Should we welcome a facility?
- ⇒ For dispensing and/or growing?
- ⇒ What are the pros and cons?

OTHER TOPICS

- ⇒ Zoning By-Law Revisions
- ⇒ Minuteman Building Project
- ⇒ Transfer Station Solar Panels

SPECIAL TOWN MTG

**VOTE TO CHANGE ANNUAL
MEETING DATE FROM
EASTER WEEKEND TO
THE PRIOR WEEKEND
(AND BEFORE THE
ELECTION)**

OPEN FORUM

Any town-related topic!

**OUR TOWN'S FUTURE:
WE WANT TO HEAR
FROM YOU!**

CAMPUS MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE (CMPC) UPDATE

After approval at March 2015 Town Meeting, the CMPC was appointed by the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee to study the basic infrastructure and physical layout of the Ballfield Road campus, in order to inform planning for the contemplated school building and community center projects. The Board of Selectmen and School Committee appointed LLB Architects as consultants. The CMPC and LLB have been working over the summer, studying traffic flow, pedestrian movement, wetlands, campus use and related data. On October 15, the CMPC held its first Forum to present preliminary findings and seek feedback from residents. The Forum was well attended, with over 100 residents actively participating. The presentation included a history of the campus – both land and buildings – and a detailed report on traffic, parking, wetlands, septic systems, and athletic fields. LLB concluded that there was nothing to preclude locating a community center on the campus. Those in attendance at the Forum had a chance to discuss and give feedback on a variety of potential building and exterior usage configurations. Since the Forum, the CMPC and LLB have been evaluating feedback in preparation for a more detailed presentation at the State of the Town Meeting.



ROUTE 2 UPDATE

- ◆ *The Project is on schedule for Oct. 2016 completion. The flyover is open, and roads around and under it are in their final configuration. Work on local service roads, ramps and walls continues.*
- ◆ *MassDOT has worked closely with us, the affected abutters, and our landscape advisor to enhance the landscape plans with approx. \$600,000 of additional plantings and hundreds of feet of fences, which should be completed in the Spring of 2016.*
- ◆ *We continue to meet regularly and engage in collegial and fruitful dialogue with MassDOT and its contractors, to review every issue, large or small. Most issues are resolved quickly. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Higgins (higginst@lincolntown.org).*



HANSCOM UPDATE

- ◆ *It's in Lincoln's interest for the Base to continue to thrive. Although the Base has never been threatened with closure and its mission remains central to the Air Force, national politics require attention.*
- ◆ *Sen. Warren, Sen. Markey, Reps. Clark, Tsongas and Moulton, Gov. Baker and other senior State officials are vigilant and proactive. They advocate for and implement mission-enhancements, additional infrastructure, improved cost-efficiency, and the Base's synergy with the regional business and academic ecosystem. They also arranged for a recent important visit to Hanscom by the head of the Air Force, Secretary James, pictured below.*
- ◆ *We interact regularly with Base and State leadership and federal representatives to identify and implement tangible ways for Lincoln to support the Base, in addition to operating the schools and providing hundreds of police hours.*
- ◆ *We also participate actively in our alliance with Lexington, Bedford, and Concord known as HATS. www.hanscomareatownscouncil.com*



LINCOLN GROWS FROM WITHIN—APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

2015 has continued to be a time of many exciting new personnel appointments for Lincoln:

- ⇒ Call Firefighters Appointed: Michael Sylvia, Joseph Walter, Stephen Ryan, Tom Routhier, and Stephen Boudrow.
- ⇒ Public Safety Dispatcher Appointed: Jonathan Marcel.
- ⇒ Steven McDonald promoted to DPW Foreman and James Durkin promoted to DPW Crew Chief.

The Selectmen continue to be pleased to see promotion from within. To us, this underscores the value of attracting, retaining and developing the best Town staff we can find. Providing career mobility and opportunity is a mutually beneficial construct. Please, say hello and congratulations to all of these folks when you see them in Town!

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - TO CHANGE DATE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The November 14th State of the Town Meeting will include a brief SPECIAL TOWN MEETING to vote on a Selectmen-sponsored BYLAW AMENDMENT to ensure that our Annual Town Meeting always precedes our Annual Election.

Article II of our General Bylaws specifies that the Annual Election and Annual Town Meeting will occur, respectively, on the last Monday in March and the Saturday before the last Monday in March. However, when the Annual Town Meeting would occur on Easter weekend, as will be the case in 2016, the current Bylaw delays the Annual Town Meeting for one week, which would be after the Annual Election.

The Selectmen believe that residents should have the opportunity to hear and discuss budgets, capital projects, related overrides, and similar matters before voting at the polls. The Selectmen also believe that boards participating in Town Meeting should not include members who had been elected only a few days before and had thus not participated in developing the board's positions.

The Selectmen therefore propose that the Bylaws to be amended to ADVANCE THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING BY ONE WEEK, rather than delay it, when the Easter weekend circumstance arises. Approval of the amendment will move the Annual Town meeting TO MARCH 19, while the Annual Election will occur on March 28. If left unchanged, the Annual Election would occur on March 28, but the Annual Town Meeting would occur on April 2. The Selectmen urge your support for the amendment.

Medical Marijuana in Lincoln?...

One of the key components in the newly enacted Massachusetts Medical Marijuana regulations involves the ability of a town, via its Board of Selectmen, to issue a "letter of non-opposition" to a potential dispensary or grower. Our Board thought long and hard about what we would do if formally approached by an applicant for such a letter. Should it really just be "our decision?" We concluded that we'd much prefer to have some broader guidance from the Town on this issue. The variables are wide ranging, from siting, to hours and physical security of the business, and other operational parameters around any such entity. On the other hand, there is also the opportunity for a town to negotiate its own fiscal arrangement with an operator. Lots to think about. Cost vs. benefit.

Thus the conversation at SOTT is intended to inform the Selectmen, and other land use boards, about Lincoln's view on these topics, so that we can act with the best interests of, as well as the best assessment of, the Town in this matter. We have the time to consider our Town's posture on this issue and align any future planning accordingly. This topic is more complex than it may seem, so we invite you to come with an open mind and thoughtful comments.

Lincoln Board of Selectmen
D. Noah Eckhouse, Chair
Renel Fredriksen
Peter Braun
16 Lincoln Road
Lincoln, MA 01773

Pre-Sorted Standard
US POSTAGE PAID
Lincoln, MA
Permit #11

ECR-WSS
Postal Patron
Lincoln, MA 01773

VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR TOWN BOARDS and COMMITTEES!!

*Want to become more INVOLVED in community life? USE your experience or skills?
INTERACT with interesting people? GRAPPLE with interesting issues?*

REGARDLESS of how long you have lived in Lincoln or whether you have experience in municipal affairs, try this:

- IDENTIFY Boards that might interest you and fit your skills and experience (review Town web site and Annual Town Report).
- ATTEND some meetings and see them in action.
- CONTACT the chair or staff, or the Town Administrator (higginst@lincolntown.org)
- SUBMIT a "Volunteer" form (Home page of Town web site).

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS NEWSLETTER

- Town web site, Selectmen's page; Newsletter link: tinyurl.com/01773BOS
- Email to: Elderp@lincolntown.org.
- Choose "Notify Me" on Town web site Home page

SELECTMEN'S MEETINGS

- TV: Comcast #8 or Verizon #33
- ON-LINE: <https://lincolntv.viebit.com/#selectmen>
- MINUTES: lincolntown.org, Boards & Commissions