

TOWN OF LAKEVILLE
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2020 – 6:30 PM
REMOTE LOCATION

On June 3, 2020, the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at 6:30 PM remotely from various locations. The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM by Chairman Fabian. Selectmen present were: Chairman Fabian and Selectman LaCamera. Also present were Maureen Candito, Town Administrator, and Tracie Craig-McGee, Executive Assistant. LakeCAM was recording the meeting for broadcast.

In accordance with the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, §20, relating to the 2020 novel Coronavirus outbreak emergency, the June 3, 2020 public meeting of the **Board of Selectmen and Open Space Committee** shall be physically closed to the public to avoid group congregation. **However, to view this meeting in progress, please go to facebook.com/lakecam (you do not need a Facebook account to view the meeting). This meeting will be recorded and available to be viewed at a later date at <http://www.lakecam.tv/>**

Chairman Fabian then read an introduction regarding the need for a remote meeting and how a remote meeting will be conducted.

Selectmen Announcements

There were no announcements.

Meet with Finance Committee and Capital Expenditures Committee to discuss FY20 and FY21 Budget and FY21 Capital Plan

Darren Beals, Jennifer Siptora, Brian Day and George Vlahopoulos, members of the Finance Committee were present for the discussion. Also present were Kevin Kelleher and Darlene Donnelly, members of the Capital Plan Expenditures Committee and Todd Hassett, Town Accountant. Chairman Vlahopoulos called the Finance Committee Meeting to order at 6:39 PM.

Selectman LaCamera said the Capital Expenditures Committee (CEC) has not been able to meet and follow the typical process this year. The Selectmen reviewed the FY21 Capital Plan and reduced it significantly. There was over \$1,000,000 in Free Cash, but the requests were cut in half to preserve available funds in case we needed it. Depending on revenue, we will have a Special Town Meeting in September to hopefully address the other items that we will not be able to fund at the Town Meeting in June. We are proposing to fund the two (2) Police cruisers. The Fire Department asked for a pickup truck, but we have chosen to delay that until the Fall. Mr. Kelleher asked who decides what is needed for each Department, like cruisers. Selectman LaCamera said it depends on the mileage and age of the cruisers. Last year, \$17,000 was approved for the generator, but that was to repair the generator, which is old and keeps breaking down. We need to purchase a new one. We are proposing \$55,000 for a new generator. The Highway Department

requested additional money for road work that is not Chapter 90 funded, but we are recommending to hold off on that. We don't need \$100,000 for Stormwater Management Consulting Services this year as we have money available. We are proposing a sander/plow to replace a 1993 and 1995 sander and plows and holding off on the used cab and chassis. We only have one street sweeper, and this one has to be continually repaired and that is a priority. We are not going forward with the skid steer. The archeological survey will be held off until the fall. The sealcoating of the Landfill/Transfer Station parking lot will be held until the Fall. We have monies available in other accounts, so we don't need the \$10,000 for IT. Selectman LaCamera said security systems are badly needed in Town buildings. The irrigation system for the Park Department is on hold until the Fall because we need to talk about their budget. The new flooring in the Senior Center is not an emergency or priority, so that will be held for evaluation. The Peach Barn Roof at Betty's Neck has a large hole. It was partly funded for repair a year ago. A new roof is needed, and this needs to be done. There is \$50,000 for the new Highway Garage facility. In 2017, \$179,000 was appropriated for a modular trailer to use as office space. We cannot delay this. The total for Capital Items is \$505,000 for Capital Items and we will defer the remaining items until Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Kelleher and Ms. Donnelly left the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Selectman LaCamera said the Senate has passed a bill allowing for a 10% quorum for Town Meeting that can only vote on financial items for the Town. Non-financial items need a 100% quorum. That is why the Annual Town Meeting has all the financial issues and Special Town Meeting has the non-financial issues for the Town. We have to post our warrant and need to move forward. We can go forward with a 1/12th budget. Ms. Candito noted that a 1/12th budget is not 1/12th of the budget; it covers salaries and expenses, but you have to pay forward contractual obligations and pensions, etc. Selectman LaCamera said budgets can be readjusted in the Fall.

Selectman LaCamera said the Town has exceeded revenue projections for FY20. The State is saying we will receive all the State Aid we expected. Mr. Hassett said we need to worry about the Park Enterprise Account. They are not receiving any revenue. He is estimating a shortage of \$25,000 as of June 30th. Their retained earnings are \$124,000, so we will have to transfer money from that to supplement the Park Revenue account. Also, we are estimating a shortage of \$35,000 for the Landfill account, but they have retained earnings that can be used.

Chairman Vlahopoulos spoke about the accounting for the Park Department; has this been figured out. Selectman LaCamera said we have met with the Management Firm that runs the Loon Pond Lodge. Some issues have not yet been resolved. Chairman Fabian said we had a question on the project revenues on the Park Department during the budget meeting. Ms. Candito said the revenue issue was the Haunted House that was not held in 2019 and then there were revenue shortages in liquor sales in FY19. They are working on getting point of sale equipment for cash control and we are working on a form to be able to buy season passes online. Chairman Vlahopoulos said they need to make sure that food for the concession stand is not coming from daily sales.

Selectman LaCamera said under FY20 budget expenses, listed the accounts where there will be shortages. Some of the shortages can be transferred, and we have \$79,000 in the Reserve Fund available. We will be working on the budget shortages and see if the transfers can be done jointly between Finance Committee and Selectmen or at Town Meeting. Mr. Hassett said he doesn't

anticipate asking Town Meeting to approve any transfers; he thinks it can be done with balances from other Departments. We need to look at whether these source of funds from Park and Landfill are enough to mitigate their deficits. We may need a moderate transfer in July for these.

Mr. Day asked if the Town can file for CARES Act funding for some of this. Mr. Hassett summarized the Town's first submission for June 12th. Ms. Sipiora asked if the Town is looking at FEMA and MEMA for reimbursements? Ms. Candito said the Chiefs will be submitting some things into FEMA, which will be a 75% reimbursement and use CARES money for the other 25%.

Selectman LaCamera said the Board was conservative on revenue projections for FY21, especially with Local Receipts (excise tax, building permits, ambulance receipts, etc.). These numbers have been reviewed again and based on FY20 numbers, we feel confident that the numbers should be met. Building permits are very busy. Ambulance receipts are up, even though April was a slow month. Senator Rodrigues has given three (3) scenarios for State Aid: level funded; 10% reduction and 20% reduction. We are projecting a 10% reduction in State Aid, which is roughly \$200,000 for the Town. He spoke of the budget reductions the Board will make. The Board is proposing reducing the Regional School District requested increase of \$688,000 by \$150,000. The Region is benefiting from \$250,000 in Title 1 money that can be used for anything. They are not paying for transportation right now, which could amount to \$500-\$600,000 for busses. The School Committee is okay with us reducing this. However, if Chapter 70 is reduced by 10%, that means a loss of \$1.1 million for the Region, which would be a serious problem.

Selectman LaCamera reviewed the proposed budget documents. The Assessors have released \$130,000 in overlay reserve, and there is a balanced budget. Mr. Hassett said the Region is asking for an article for technology; Lakeville's share is \$108,000. Selectman LaCamera said we will get 60% reimbursement from the Federal government. Selectman LaCamera said there is \$225,000 for raises proposed and Step Increases, so that is a moving target. Discussion occurred regarding the budget document to present to Town Meeting voters. Ms. Candito said residents asked at Town Meeting last year to make seeing the changes easier in a compact format. More discussion occurred regarding for format of the budget regarding changes.

Selectman LaCamera said the Park Commission has put together a new budget. Their revenue projections from July through September are very little. There are no events being held at Loon Pond Lodge and they will be making the decision about opening Clear Pond Thursday night. Sports programs will open in the fall to generate revenue. They put together a budget of \$50,000 in revenue. They are relying on existing retained earnings of \$83,500. We have asked them to hold off until the fall on Capital Items. Using the \$83,500 means they will not have any retained earnings left between FY20 and 21. Chairman Fabian said the Park Commission met last week and the intention was to close Clear Pond, but the Health Agent gave them options to open. They wanted to try to open, but it won't make sense financially because they cannot open up short staffed. Mr. Day asked about the funding for the Town Coordinator position? Selectman LaCamera said the Board has not decided what they are going to do with that.

Selectman LaCamera said the Selectmen will be approving the warrant on June 8th and warrant review is on June 15th and then Finance Committee will approve the articles. Mr. Day asked when is the right time for the State to start reporting figures. Selectman LaCamera said Senator

Rodrigues said by June 15th, but he doesn't believe it. They are waiting for the Federal government to come up with revenue monies. Chairman Fabian said she would like to have the percentage changes in the budget. It is important that we get the budget information to residents ahead of time. Selectman LaCamera said as soon as we have warrant review, we will make it available on the website and copies at the Town Hall.

New Business

There was no New Business.

Old Business

There was no Old Business discussed.

Any other business that may properly come before the meeting

There was no other business.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Chairman Vlahlopoulos and seconded by Ms. Sipiora, it was:

VOTED: To adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 7:48 PM.

Roll call vote: Ms. Sipiora – aye; Mr. Beals – aye; Mr. Day – aye and Chairman Vlahlopoulos – aye.

Upon a motion made by Chairman Fabian and seconded by Selectman LaCamera, it was:

VOTED: To adjourn the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 7:49 PM.

Roll call vote: Selectman LaCamera – aye and Chairman Fabian – aye.

List of documents provided at the Board of Selectmen Meeting of June 3, 2020

1. Agenda cover page
2. Agenda cover page
3. FY21 budget