

Minutes of Meeting

October 21, 2015

Board of Selectmen

Town of Long Island

Present: Chair Marie Harmon and Selectmen John Condon and Joseph Donovan; Brian Dudley, Town Administrator; Matt Tarasevich, Esq., Town Counsel; Members of the Public.

The meeting was convened at 5:15 PM with a quorum.

- It was Moved (Harmon), Seconded (Condon) and Voted to go into Executive Session at 5:17 PM for consultation with legal counsel pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. S405(6)(E). (Motion passed 3-0).
- It was Moved (Harmon), Seconded (Condon) and Voted to come out of Executive Session at 6:18 PM. (Motion passed 3-0).

Selectman Donovan addressed the members of the public in attendance. He told those present that the meeting was being recorded. He noted that the Board met with legal counsel in executive session to review the recent appointment process for a Road Commissioner. He indicated that the procedures followed may not have been appropriate and that the board would be re-opening the entire process and be more transparent. The board does so to avoid any indications that the appointment process is hidden.

- It was Moved (Donovan), Seconded (Condon) and Voted to reconsider the August 27, 2015 appointment of a Road Commissioner. (Motion passed 3-0).

The board then opened up the meeting for public comment and requested those in attendance to not focus on a specific individual, except for the board itself in its role during the appointment process.

A question was asked if the recent appointment of a Fire Chief would also be re-considered. It was stated by Selectman Donovan that tonight's meeting was only about the Road Commissioner appointment process.

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Another comment asked if the public would be involved in the next phase of the appointment process. The board responded in the affirmative.

Another member of the public asked how the Town Clerk got re-instated after submitting a resignation. The speaker was reminded that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Road Commissioner appointment process.

Someone noted that former board members should be invited to a future workshop. Another person inquired as to whether the Chair of the Board has a conflict of interest with the Road Commissioner appointment. Selectman Condon said that there was discussion on that issue, but the purpose of the reconsideration motion that passed earlier was to focus on the entire process.

Another member asked if the Town Counsel could speak to the recusal issue in general terms. Again, it was pointed out by the board that the reason for re-consideration was for several reasons, not just recusal.

Another member of the public stated that the board needs to listen to the community and that this will be a better process. The board indicated that it is seeking feedback and more transparency with the process.

Selectman Condon mentioned the desire of the board to amend its current board meetings and schedule and to incorporate once a month, a meeting in the school multi-purpose room so more members of the public can attend and feel more comfortable coming to a board meeting.

Selectman Donovan asked the members of the public in attendance how they find out about board meetings. Most indicated through the list serve, the website or other postings.

Hearing no further public comment, the board meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for October 22, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian L. Dudley