

Lebanon, Maine Select Board
Town Office Conference Room
Minutes –Meeting
Thursday, September 9, 2021

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Members Present

Charles Russell, Jr. – Chairman
Paul Philbrick – Vice Chair
Ernest Lizotte, Jr. – Selectman EXCUSED
Jeffrey Adams – Selectman
James DuPrie – Selectman

Others Present

Michael Walsworth
Corinna Cole
Dede Bruce
Mr. Patel
Lorrie Morgan
Jeri Brasko
Kurt Flynn
Chris Gilpatrick
Martha Soto-Galicia
Deborah Wilson
Jeri Brasko
Teri Poirier
Dawn Peppers

For complete meeting minutes please view the meeting in full at <https://www.youtube.com/c/TownofLebanon>

5:30 Pledge

5:31 Public Participation – Corinna Cole addressed the BOS about a certified letter from David Salvatore, Code Enforcement. Ms. Cole stated the first contact from the Code Officer was a certified letter with the threat of fines. Ms. Cole feels that there should be some contact to a resident before this step and wanted to know the procedure. Chair Russell stated she would need to speak with the Code Officer directly. Teri Poirier entered the meeting.

Chair Russell motioned to recess. Selectman DuPrie seconded. Vote taken – 3 in favor (Russell, DuPrie, Adams and 1 abstained (Philbrick) Vote carried.

6:27 The meeting reconvened. Ms. Cole spoke with Code Enforcement during the recess. Ms. Cole read a statement with a complaint and request for censure against Selectman DuPrie for calling Ms. Cole stupid and other things on social media. Ms. Cole states this is a violation of the Ethics Policy. Ms. Poirier asked each selectman individually if they knew that the no trespass order was being placed on her before it happened. Selectman Adams replied no comment, Vice Chair Philbrick replied no he didn't and Selectmen DuPrie stated no comment. Chair Russell states it is irrelevant because he spoke with legal counsel Amy Tsao prior to the public hearing, stating he was being pro-active. Mr. Walsworth asked Selectmen DuPrie what title is the proposed solar under? Selectman DuPrie stated he didn't know but will look into. Chair Russell states this was verbal but will get a letter by next week. There was a question as to how many Ethics Complaints there are – Vice Chair Philbrick stated that there is a total of 5 including the new from tonight. Mr. Walsworth asked Selectman Adams to verify that he was the person that formed the Cannabis Committee. Selectman Adams stated that yes, the Cannabis Committee was 100% his idea and he dis-banned it as well. Mr. Walsworth wanted to be sure not to put words in Selectman Adams mouth but feels that Selectman Adams is lying. Mr. Walsworth advised Selectman Adams to watch the video of the meeting of August 19, 2019 which shows Selectman Adams laughing at the idea and abstaining from the vote to start a cannabis committee. Ms. Peppers introduced herself and asked that people identify themselves at the meetings. Chris Gilpatrick requested to be placed on the agenda for next week's meeting. Chair Russell asked what the topic of discussion is. Mr. Gilpatrick stated he wanted to address Town Matters. Mr. Gilpatrick addressed Chief Flynn about an ambulance traveling with the back door open on Saturday 9-4-2021 which he witnessed. Chief Flynn said that he is aware and it has been addressed. Mr. Gilpatrick asked about the Solar question for the November election and what it is all about. Mr. Gilpatrick doesn't understand why this is being considered. After much discussion, Vice Chair Philbrick stated that it will be on the ballot for vote. Vice Chair Philbrick stated the people will decide whether they support it or not.

7:16 Chair Russell motioned to open the Public Hearing for Trains Tavern – Special Amusement and Renewal of Liquor License. Selectman Adams seconded. Vote taken; vote carried. Chief Flynn address Mr. Patel and asked if they would schedule the State Fire Marshall to do a walk thru and he would like to present as well. Chief Flynn wants to be sure everything is ok due to the number of people that are in that space. Mr. Patel agreed to this. The BOS signed the documents. Chair Russell motioned to close the public hearing. Selectman DuPrie seconded. Vote taken; vote carried. Chair Russell read an email from the Town Attorney regarding the Lawsuit about Marijuana – a copy was given to Michael Walsworth.

7:25 Jeri Brasko (public participation) asked Selectman Adams when he was Chair. Selectman Adams wasn't sure. Vice Chair Philbrick stated it was in August 2019 for 6 weeks. Ms. Brasko asked when the Cannabis Committee was organized. She was informed that it was August 2019. Ms. Brasko stated that we had moratoriums in place at that time.

7:26 Selectman DuPrie motioned to accept the Minutes of 9/2/2021 as submitted. Selectman Adams seconded. Vote taken; vote carried. (Philbrick abstained). Selectman DuPrie motioned to accept the Minutes of 9/4/2021 as submitted. Selectman Adams seconded. Vote taken; vote carried. (Philbrick abstained).

7:30 Paperwork – time off signed. Chair Russell read a letter from the daughters of the Revolution and the Proclamation of Constitution Week. Chair Russell signed the document.

7:35 Discussion of Job Descriptions – this will be addressed next week. Selectman DuPrie discussed the lottery process for marijuana licenses. After discussion this will be addressed next week as well.

7:40 Old Business – all items reviewed.

7:42 Chief Flynn asked everyone to remember 9/11 this weekend. Chief presented the BOS with 3 quotes for a new fire truck. Ms. Cole stated that this would need to go on the ballot as the BOS can not enter into a 10-year contract without the peoples vote.

7:50 Individual Selectmen Issues – Selectman Adams thanked the Marijuana Committee for their work and praises Corinna Cole for her part. Vice Chair Philbrick presented a final draft of the Assistant A/C Officer – after discussion there are corrections/changes to be made. Vice Chair Philbrick addressed the fire truck, Chair Russell would like to address this next week as well. Vice Chair Philbrick motioned to create a 5-person fact-finding and resolution/recommendation committee to address the citizens of Lebanon concerns about the current Board of Selectmen public meeting room. Said committee to investigate any and all options, from “sat as is”, relocation of the meeting, expansion of current building, redesigning current building to accommodate the need, or any other reasonable recommendation the committee may determine through their research and fact finding. All viable recommendations to be presented to the Board of Selectman no later than January 31, 2022. Extension of this date by the Board of Selectmen may be considered if requested by the Chair of the committee with a reasonable new extension date. DISCUSSION Chair Russell discussed the COVID money and that he would like to consider fixing station 2. Chair Russell would like to create a Community Center that could also be used for BOS Meetings. Chair Russell discussed the possibility of moving Code Enforcement there. There should be approximately \$600,000.00 coming into Lebanon but there are very strict guidelines on how this can be spent. Selectman DuPrie seconded. Vote taken; vote carried. Vice Chair Philbrick stated that he and Selectmen DuPrie investigated the allegation of the stolen animals. Vice Chair Philbrick advised that he was in contact with ME Dept. of Agriculture and the Town Attorney and they advised that Animal Control acted accordingly. Vice Chair Philbrick and Selectman DuPrie interviewed Animal Control. Animal Control acted accordingly and based on the welfare and safety of the animals at that

time. The resident had 10 days to file something to get the animals back but that wasn't done. Vice Chair Philbrick stated that even with the discrepancy in the paperwork this was done according to procedure. Vice Chair Philbrick was asked about the marijuana plants and personal property that was taken. Vice Chair Philbrick advised that they did not investigate that portion of the complaint. Mr. Gilpatrick asked why the person that has custody of the animals would ask Mr. Kelley for \$15, 000.00 to get the animals back? Selectmen DuPrie stated that this became their property after the 10-day period and they have the right to sell the animals. Chair Russell stated that they are entitled to monies for feeding and caring for the animals.

8:10 Good of the Town – Boy Scouts are selling mums at Fairfield Greenhouses. Mr. Walsworth asked to post the Proclamation on the Town Website. Mr. Walsworth clarified that he would like the letter from the Attorney regarding Adult Use Ordinances. Chris Gilpatrick asked why none of the Selectman were at the school meeting regarding funding of the school projects. Mr. Gilpatrick stated that there is another meeting on Monday 9-20-21 and they should consider attending. Selectman DuPrie addressed the Jewish population with regards to Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah.

8:20 Chair Russell motioned to adjourn. Selectman DuPrie seconded. Vote taken; vote carried.