

Town of Lee
Select Board Minutes

August 18, 2022 – Lee High School Auditorium

In Attendance: Sean Regnier, Bob Jones, Gordon Bailey, Atty Pollard, Atty Myrum,
Administrator Chris Brittain

Chairperson Sean Regnier called the meeting to order at 6:00pm in the Lee High School Auditorium.

Chair Regnier introduced members of a Select Board panel to discuss the Rest of River Agreement. Members included Selectmen Bob Jones and Gordon Bailey, Town Counsel Jeremia Pollard, Environmental Lawyer Chris Myhrum and Town Administrator Chris Brittain.

There were approximately 45 members of the public in attendance.

Member Jones asked the public to use this forum to ask legal questions about the agreement moving forward and not to debate about what decisions were made in the past.

Regnier discussed meeting guidelines and informed those in attendance that that meeting was being recorded.

Regnier began the forum with a question submitted in advance by Josh Bloom regarding funding of a grassroots coordinator.

Following this question there was a lengthy discussion regarding the use of a Board of Health Adjudicatory Hearing. Attorney Myrum discussed similarities and differences between this case and others such as the Arthur B Little Case and the Deerfield Case including how a federal pre-emption may apply. Discussion continued on this topic with public members Anne Langlios, Gail Ceresia, Josh Bloom, Judith Knight, Monica Ryan, Tim Gray, Janice Braim, Leslie Gabriel and Clair Leahey. Dr. Wespiser, Chair of the Board of Health, discussed what strategies the Board could take and what resources and information they may need for such a hearing.

At 8:00pm Chair Regnier called for a 10-minute Recess.

At 8:10 the meeting was called back to order and a discussion was open on the possible rescinding of the Rest of River Agreement. There was much discussion on how the agreement differs from the EPA permit and what potential effects could result from rescinding. Public members Josh Bloom, Steve Endell, John Coty and Janice Braim added to this discussion.

Selectmen Bailey suggested that the discussion be continued to later date and the Board tentatively scheduled September 1, 2022 at 6pm as potential date. He also suggested that we begin the next meeting by addressing questions from Bill Matthews and then discussing any potential advantages to withdrawing from the Rest of River agreement.

The chair declared the meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Submitted

Chris Brittain

