

SELECTMEN'S NEWSLETTER SPRING 2010

With the recent passage of the budget for the upcoming 2010-2011 fiscal year, the Board of Selectmen wishes to thank voters for their support and pass along the latest information we have concerning various town enterprises.

First, we're pleased to report that Lyme has a new web page which hopefully will be on line by the time this newsletter is distributed. It can be accessed at:

www.townlyme.org Thanks to Selectman Steve Mattson for his efforts to bring it to completion despite many obstacles and delays. In addition to basic town information, there are links to numerous organizations with which Lyme is associated. We will endeavor to keep it current and hope it will provide a vehicle to get more town news and events to you in a timely way.

Our summer road maintenance schedule includes extensive chip sealing work. Parkside Drive, Town Woods, Grassy Hill, Old Grassy Hill, Mitchell Hill and Salem Roads are all slated for treatment. We apologize for any inconvenience you may experience as our town crew continues its on going efforts to maintain and improve our local roads. In addition, maintenance work is planned for the Day Hill Road bridge if quotes fall into line with projected costs.

A new recycling law is now on the books following passage by the recently adjourned session of the General Assembly. Presently, it has no impact on Lyme, but could at a later date if our community does not continue to maintain its aggressive recycling posture. The statute mandates that any municipality providing curbside garbage pick up utilizing either town employees or via private haulers must now provide curbside recycling service as well. Lyme is exempt and will remain so as long as our three year average for recapturing recyclables is above the statewide average. As taxpayers, none of us should want to incur the expense of municipally provided curbside recycling or have to pay for an additional service provided by a private hauler. The town's recycling facility is located at the town garage. We take old newspaper, magazines, junk mail, office paper, cereal box and corrugated cardboard. In addition, cans, bottles, fiberboard juice containers and all numbered plastics 3-7 plus HDPE type 1 clear and HDPE type 2 colored plastic are acceptable. There are containers for waste oil, anti freeze and automotive batteries under the lean to on the east side of the garage. Scrap metal, tires and propane bottles may be taken to the landfill on Brush Hill Road. There is a charge for disposal of some of these items. It's up to all of us if we wish to avoid another costly state mandate.

The town has recently purchased some speed display and monitoring equipment with a federal law enforcement grant. It will be used to verify complaints about chronic speeding as well as traffic calming. Odds are that if you happen to see these devices in your travels around town, state police enforcement action is pending.

The Board of Selectmen wishes to express its support for the Lyme Land Conservation Trust and its on going stewardship of easements it holds for the town as a consequence of past actions by Lyme land use commissions relating to the regulatory process. In 1990, a local ordinance was enacted utilizing an enabling state statute which empowered the Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission to hold such instruments for the town. Prior to that, the Land Trust and Nature Conservancy were the only options available for such transactions. The selectmen want to go on the record with a public statement of appreciation and support for the Land Trust and its continuing commitment to the fiduciary responsibility required to uphold the integrity of such easements.

Finally, some rapid fire points of interest we have to abbreviate due to space constraints: the summer Park & Rec schedules are now available at the town hall, the household hazardous waste and electronics recycling programs are underway and information is available at the town hall, please help our emergency services providers by clearly posting your house number at the end of your driveway and if you haven't joined the Lyme Ambulance Association now is a good time to do so.

Our best wishes to all for a safe and enjoyable summer. As always, we welcome questions, comments and sometimes even criticisms.

Respectfully,
The Lyme Board of Selectmen