

## **Mosquito Control District Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2013**

The Litchfield Mosquito Control District conducted a meeting on October 17, 2013 at 7 PM in the main conference room at Town Hall.

**Members Present:** Mr. Al Raccio (Chairman)  
Mr. John Latsha (Vice Chair)

**Members Absent:** Mr. Dave Tate

Mr. Raccio called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

### **All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Raccio wanted to take a quick moment to thank all of our Veterans in town and their family members for all the hard work and efforts this past Veterans day. A number of our Vets do live here in Town and can't thank them enough for their services.

**Public Input** - No Members of the Public present at the time. Mr. Raccio would like to table public input until later in the meeting should someone decide they would like to join them. Mr. Latsha had no objections.

**Public Input Closed.**

### **Announcements:**

Mr. Raccio stated that it is safe to say now that our mosquito season has come to a good ending with no reported human cases in our community. We did however sustain a couple of positive testings this year, but when we look at the adjacent communities, in our surrounding counties, we survived quite well. Mr. Raccio stated that one of the things he plans to work with the Board on is running the averages and the numbers to see from our history how we fared over the years with respect to our immediate adjacent communities. Mr. Raccio stated that they will continue to support public activities throughout the winter months and the early autumn. As they move forward and looking at the more proactive engagement with our community members for the 2014 mosquito season.

Mr. Raccio stated that it is that time of year again when the Board of Selectmen engaged with the budget discussions as well as our budget committee. Mr. Raccio stated that he can't urge the public enough to attend the Budget Committee meetings and voice your concerns about our ever growing budgets, voice your concerns about the lack of budgets, the common message here is to voice your concerns, get out and get proactive, it is only once a year that we have an opportunity to speak to our budgets and we have an opportunity as a community to direct our budgets. It is the voting poles that decides what gets allocated and how it is spent.

### **Town Annual Report**

Mr. Raccio stated that with Budget season comes the annual Town Report and for them what that translates to is they need to get a draft going of what they want to present and Al is expecting a communication from the Board of Selectmen's Office any time now that will be requesting the departments and committees inputs for that activity. Al stated that what he would like to do now is basically inform John and Dave to provide him with their thoughts and drafts that they can start to scope something out so that their December meeting, they can then finalize it and be prepared for submission.

### **Discussions regarding December and January Meetings**

Al wanted to discuss with the Board and the district members that he would like to propose the December meeting be designated a working session, so that they can focus on the annual report and not get sidetracked with other activities. Al stated that the published schedule has them meeting on Thursday, December 19th. Al wanted to make sure with John and Dave regarding vacations and work schedules, given that this has been published for almost a year, he did not want to arbitrarily change that. Al stated that he is personally good with the 19th and asked John if he was good with the 19th. John stated that he was good with the 19th. Mr. Raccio **motioned** to designate the 19th of December meeting as a working session with the primary objective of completing the Town Annual report. Mr. Latsha **seconded** the motion. **Motion** carried 2-0-0.

Mr. Raccio asked that as a working session that he will leave it to him and the cable committee to determine whether they want to cover that or not. It is a public working session, but it is not going to be an official "meeting". Russ stated that if they would like it to be recorded and covered, he would be happy to record and cover the session. AL stated that he would like to have it recorded, there will be a lot of discussion on the good things that the District and the Town has done for the citizens as well as a lot of the statistics. Al stated that he would also like to propose that they postpone the January meeting and once they close December, their first meeting will be in February. Mr. Raccio **motioned** to postpone the January 2014 meeting of the Mosquito Control District. Mr. Latsha **seconded** the motion. **Motion** carried 2-0-0.

There will be no meeting of the Mosquito Control District in January 2014, unless emergency session is called.

### **Member Updates:**

Al wanted to take this opportunity to update the District members as well as the community that approximately 6 weeks ago, a citizen was watching their retake and offered to provide him personally with a laptop , in direct support for the District. The citizen had been basically following the discussions and was not convinced that the current rulings were adequate for all members of the committees and departments and gave him a laptop. They basically stated that they gave it to him instead of the District so that the Town would not be able to take control of the unit as a donation to the Town. Al informed them that it would be his intention to utilize it solely for committee use and make it available to committee members as if they were back the way they originally started with a laptop asset. Al stated that he had two things as a members update. First he would like to thank them as the utility and the tool will be greatly utilized , especially now with the Town reports and things of that sort. Additionally, Mr. Raccio would like to make a motion to amend the October 17th minutes, paragraph 2, sentence 3 . In the current draft minutes; "A citizen of the town actually donated a laptop computer to the Mosquito Control District". This should be amended to state "A citizen of the Town donated a computer to Alfred Raccio to support the Mosquito Control District". Al stated that this is a correction to a statement.

Al stated that they have currently purchased a new hard drive for the unit, the old hard drive was somewhat corrupted and they are currently in the process of putting software on which Mr. Raccio has paid for, not the Town. Al stated that they will make sure they are compliant with all the rules and regulations regarding donations to the Town proper.

Al stated that they have received some of their statistical data from Municipal Pest. The numbers are going to be very surprising as they roll out the statistics for the year. Performance of their program as well as our Town Departments. Al thanked Kevin Lynch as well as the School District from the Superintendent all the way down to the individuals who helped them through the barrier spraying activities and especially the cleanup activities. Al mentioned that John's finding and the actions from his findings shows that our community and our Town infrastructure puts our children, schools and our citizens first and foremost. John stated that he would like to personally thank Kevin Lynch for his help, working with the School District and Matt, He did really good work and John stated that he really appreciates it.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes for October 2013:**

Al stated that he was not sure of the RSA as far as approved minutes. Al stated that they have a proper vote on the amendment to the minutes, and Al stated that he has no quorums about presenting draft minutes for public consumption as they are clearly labeled draft. Al asked Donna to get a clarification from the office tomorrow to see about the compliance and if need be they will call a special meeting to approve the minutes and become compliant with the regulations, but for now will leave it with the amendments have been approved. The draft minutes can be made available upon request and Al will table the approval of the meeting minutes of October 2013 until the February 2014 meeting. Al stated that the reason for this is that he was absent for the last meeting and Mr. Tate is absent tonight and Al would be abstaining from voting on the minutes which would not leave a proper quorum for the minutes.

### **Any Other Business:**

Al mentioned that our March elections are coming up, and he has not looked forward to the March meeting, but either just after the elections if our meeting follows after the election proper, there will be an item on their for their vote for chairman or it will be the April meeting depending on when it falls.

Al stated that this past year demonstrated between the Cable Committee and the Mosquito Control District and the Health Officer that we had a very powerful communications mechanism to inform the public and keep a level of awareness without inciting panic or undue stress or worry for our children and where these conditions focused on. Through the late fall and early winter months, Al would propose that whatever the elections bring out, that they continue to work on materials earlier rather than later and in direct support of the cable committee, work with the Cable Committee and their schedule so they can stack up presentation materials, table talk and then as the season develops, they are then in a proactive mode rather than reactive and they modify their presentations and modify their table talks to cover specific or unique current events. Al stated that their next meeting with both John and Dave present, they should talk through some of that and invite Russ and some of his members and Kevin Lynch as well and try and get a proactive series of events that works with everybody's schedules. Al stated that this starts out where John had originally brought up the idea in 2012 of engaging various films and activities. Al stated that this served the community well this year and it is something they should continue to follow up on.

John wanted to thank the Cable Committee for all they have done for them over the years, especially this year with all the content they gave them to put on the air with no problem at all. John wanted to thank Dick Pentheny as well.

Mr. Raccio stated that they have a special guest with them tonight, who has joined them in taking a few notes on technical operations of the meeting as well as listening to a couple of them sit there and articulate some of the ??????. Al thanked him and hoped they did not bore him too much.

Mr. Latsha **motioned** to adjourn. Mr. Raccio **seconded** the motion. The motion carried **2-0-0**. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Mr. Raccio wanted to wish everyone a safe Holiday Season. John, Himself and Dave Tate will be available to the public at anytime through a simple email, website or right here anytime any place. Have a pleasant evening.