

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2012
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING ~ 5:30 P.M.**

Call to Order: First Selectman Leo Paul, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. Also present were Selectmen Jeffrey Zullo, Paul Parsons and R. Christopher Blake. Diane Knox arrived at 6:09 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

a) Special 2/15/12: C. Motion: Blake moved to approve the special budget meeting minutes of 2/15/12 and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

b) Regular 2/21/12: Motion: C. Blake moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of 2/21/12 and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

c) Special 3/12/12: Motion: C. Blake moved to approve the special meeting minutes of 3/12/12 and P. Parsons seconded. All voted aye except J. Zullo, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

d) Special 3/14/12: Motion: C. Blake moved to approve the special meeting minutes of 2/21/12 and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments: None

Selectmen's Requests: L. Paul informed the selectmen that the budget hearing will be April 25th at LIS and the Town Budget Meeting will be May 9th. The Town Hall Building Committee will begin its work April 4th. He then said by next meeting he will have a contract proposal from CRRRA and USA (recyclables) for the Board's review with representatives present to explain the contracts in detail.

Resignations

a) William Hartman from WPCA, effective 2/17/12: received and noted

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) Reappoint Samuel Kinkade to Fire & EMS Commission, LFD Representative, until 4/2013

b) Reappoint Francine Spencer to Fire & EMS Commission, LVA Representative, until 4/2013

c) Reappoint Teresa Berry to Fire & EMS Commission, Northfield Fire Representative, until 4/2013

d) Reappoint Douglas Hatstat to Fire & EMS Commission, East Litchfield Representative, until 4/2013

e) Reappoint John Campbell to Fire & EMS Commission, Bantam Fire Representative, until 4/2013

Motion: C. Blake moved to reappoint a) through e) above and J. Zullo seconded. P. Parsons spoke highly of all these representatives and of their attendance records and recommended their reappointments. Upon voting all voted aye and the motion carried.

f) Appoint (Reappoint) BOS Representative to Fire & EMS Commission, until 4/2013: **Motion:** C. Blake moved to reappoint Paul Parsons to the Fire & EMS Commission, BOS Representative, until 4/2013. J. Zullo seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried. Mr. Paul thanked Mr. Parsons for continuing to serve.

g) Reappoint Roxanne Carroll to Local Emergency Preparedness Committee until 4/2014

h) Reappoint Thomas O'Hare to Local Emergency Preparedness Committee until 4/2014

Motion: C. Blake moved to reappoint Roxanne Carroll and Thomas O'Hare as in g) and h) above and J. Zullo seconded. C. Blake asked for clarification on the LEPC membership and its work. Upon voting all voted aye and the motion carried.

i) Appoint BOS Representative to Plumb Hill Playing Fields Board: **Motion:** C. Blake moved to appoint Jeffrey Zullo to Plumb Hill Playing Fields Board, BOS Representative, and P. Parsons seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried. Mr. Zullo was thanked for his willingness to serve.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 2/13/12 & 2/21/12 Board of Finance minutes; 3/12/12 regular and 3/19/12 special Board of Finance minutes; 1/17/12 & 2/6/12 P&Z minutes; 1/3/12 ZBA minutes; 12/1/11 & 1/5/12 Design Review Advisory Committee minutes; 2/16/12 Sandy Beach Commission minutes; 1/24/12 & 2/28/12 Conservation Commission minutes (draft); 1/25/12 Economic Development Commission minutes (draft); 3/7/12 & 3/21/12 BOE minutes (draft); 3/14/12 BOE Special minutes (draft); 3/26/12 BOE Public Hearing minutes; 2/21/12 and 3/5/12 P&Z minutes; 3/14/12 Inland Wetlands minutes

Vacancies: The list of current appointed vacancies with term expirations is as follows:

Beautification Commission: 2 regular members 2/2012, 2/2014; 1 alternate 2/2013
Bridge Committee: 1 member, P&Z Liaison
Cable Television Advisory Council: One member 6/2013
Economic Development Commission: One regular member 6/2013; 1 alternate 6/2013
Inland Wetlands Commission: 1 regular member 6/2014
Milton Historic District Commission: 2 alternate members 1/2012
Park & Recreation: 1 regular member 6/2014; 2 alternate members: 6/2013, 6/2014
Recycling Committee: 3 members, 2/2012, 2/2013, 2/2014
Veteran's Advisory Committee: 1 regular member 8/2012; 2 alternate members 8/2012
Water Pollution Control Authority: 1 regular member 1/2013; 1 alternate member 1/2015

Tax Refunds: **Motion:** C. Blake moved to approve 26 tax refunds, for a total of \$2,727.85 in accordance with the Tax Collector's memo of 3/29/12. P. Parsons seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

New Business

a) Award Center School Flooring Bid: **Motion:** C. Blake moved to award the bid to Commercial Flooring Concepts of Windsor, CT for \$68,210.00 in accordance with the bid opening results in the memo from Mr. Crowe. J. Zullo seconded the motion. Tony Crowe was present to answer questions. P. Parsons asked him about his confidence in the selected vendor. He said the references were very good and the vendor has had experience with this specific rubber flooring. He said two of the five rooms have asbestos tiles that were not removed during the renovation, and they plan to do the abatement when school adjourns in June. If that does not work they will choose two other rooms. J. Healy noted that there must be a written plan for asbestos abatement. Then bids can be sought. He said the overage from the \$81,709 budgeted for this project could be used for the abatement. **Vote:** Upon voting, all voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

b) Approve Road Closures for Litchfield Hills Road Race 6/10/12: L. Paul said the closures are the same as they have been previously. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to approve closure of the roads named for the road race. C. Blake seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

- c) **Readopt Fair Housing Resolution**
- d) **Readopt Fair Housing Policy Statement**

Motion: J. Zullo moved to readopt the Fair Housing Resolution and the Fair Housing Policy Statement and P. Parsons seconded the motion. C. Blake said he finds these policies offensive because they require the Board to admit past practices that he doesn't know have even occurred in this Town. It requires the Board to acknowledge that people are to be divided by certain arbitrary criteria and finds them un-American. Most offensive is that we are required to participate in racist, divisive statements to get money from the State of Connecticut, a fraction of what the taxpayers send the State. He believes Hartford should keep its political correctness and we can keep our sanity. P. Parsons said until he sees a negative impact from adoption, he recommends going forward. L. Paul recounted years ago going to Hartford to argue Mr. Blake's point and found it fell on deaf ears. He said he still has difficulty signing these but does so for the sake of the funding and the opportunities it affords us. Mr. Blake said that in the twisted world of political correctness, we are guilty until proven innocent of some past offense. J. Zullo said he would abstain from voting on these two items, as he is a member of the Litchfield Housing Trust, the beneficiary of the Town's efforts to fund affordable housing. **Vote:** P. Parsons and L. Paul voted aye, C. Blake voted nay and J. Zullo abstained from voting. Therefore the motion carried. The Fair Housing Resolution reads as follows:

**FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION
TOWN OF LITCHFIELD**

- Whereas, All persons are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and
- Whereas, Federal fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and
- Whereas, Connecticut fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and home ownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and
- Whereas, The Town of Litchfield is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED,

That the Town of Litchfield hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase, obtain financing and enjoy all other housing-related services of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis as provided by state and federal law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the chief executive officer of the Town of Litchfield or his/her designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the Town of Litchfield and for advising such person of the right to file a complaint with the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or to seek assistance from the CT Fair Housing Center, legal services, or other fair housing organizations to protect his or her right to equal housing opportunities.

e) Readopt Title VI Equal Opportunity Statement

f) Readopt Affirmative Action Policy Statement

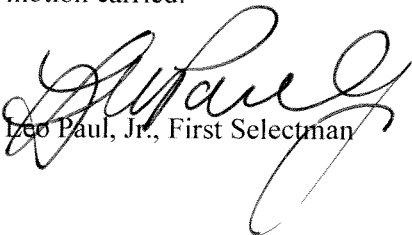
Motion: P. Parsons moved re-adoption of both the Title VI Equal Opportunity Statement and the Affirmative Action Policy Statement. L. Paul seconded the motion. Upon voting P. Parsons and L. Paul voted aye, C. Blake voted nay and J. Zullo abstained from voting. Therefore, the motion carried.

g) Pension Plan Review Committee: L. Paul asked for a motion to table this item, as he is trying to get a meeting together to renegotiate pension. C. Blake explained the Pension Subcommittee has asked for funds for professional consultants to help them reach their goal.

Motion: C. Blake moved to table this item until further notice, and J. Zullo seconded. L. Paul said it should be tabled because there are potential language changes that may result from the pension negotiations. C. Blake said the subcommittee meetings have been postponed. All voted aye and the motion carried unanimously.

h) Award Hydraulic Truck Conveyor Bid: J. Healy explained the base bid would be coupled with an option for the 4-ft. self-contained extension, for a total of \$14,778.00. **Motion:** C. Blake moved to award the bid to Tri-County for a total bid price of \$14,778.00 in accordance with the Director of Public Works memo of 3/26/12. [*Diane Knox arrived here.*] P. Parsons seconded the motion. J. Healy said \$15,000 was budgeted. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion: C. Blake moved to adjourn at 6:12 p.m. and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.


Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman