

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING - 5:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Leo Paul, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Selectmen Jeffrey Zullo, Paul Parsons and Diane Knox present. Jonathan Torrant was absent.

Approval of Minutes: Motion: P. Parsons moved to approve the regular January 5, 2016 meeting minutes and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Selectmen's Requests: Mr. Paul said the sale of the property at 66 Donahue Road Ext. was approved at Town Meeting. He is working with Town Attorney Mike Rybak to prepare for the next steps with a date and sale price. He plans to report back to the Selectmen at the next meeting. He will be testifying in Hartford for the NHCOC, COST and CCM on refinements to prevailing wage and for requesting exceptions to the rule for the 2.5% budget expenditure cap. They are also opposed to a set aside to contracts, as well as being required to hire an elections monitor, who does not have to be certified.

Public Requests/Comments: None

Resignations: None

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) Interview Mark Heilshorn for Milton Historic District Commission, alternate member, term 1/2019: Mr. Heilshorn was not present for the interview.

b) Interview Ruth Erickson for Beautification Commission, term 2/2019: Ms Erickson said she would like to help improve the Town and serve on a committee. Motion: J. Zullo moved to appoint Ruth Erickson to the Beautification Commission, with term ending in 2/2019. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

b) Appoint Christian Bratina to WPCA, regular member, term expiration 1/2021: Motion: J. Zullo moved to appoint Christina Bratina as a regular member of the WPCA, with term to expire 1/2021. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

c) Reappoint John Morosani to Pension Commission, term 2/2019:

d) Reappoint Joseph Manes to Pension Commission, term 2/2019

Motion: J. Zullo moved to reappoint John Morosani and Joseph Manes to the Pension Commission, with terms ending in 2/2019. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 1/11/16 Board of Finance minutes; 1/13/16 Capital Improvements Committee minutes; 12/16/15 Board of Education minutes

Green Team Update: J. Zullo reported no meetings since the last report. Information should be in on audits by the next meeting.

Town Facilities Committee Update: J. Zullo said he and Gary Waugh have finalized the draft of the bid document and should be ready for approval at the next meeting on January 27th. L. Paul asked if the Committee could determine a budget amount request, and Mr. Zullo asked to wait until the consultant bids come in for a better idea. He said there is a woman, Lynn Stone, who would like to fill the vacancy

on the committee. She should attend a meeting first. He also noted that Len and Raz should attend the meetings in an advisory capacity. Leo's office will facilitate the bid package.

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

Bantam Lake Authority: 1 member 12/2018
Beautification Commission: 2 regular members 2/2016; 2 alternates 2/2016
Cable TV Advisory Council: 1 member 6/2017
Capital Improvements Committee: 1 PW Dir, 2 citizens at large
Conservation Commission: 2 regular members 12/2016, 12/2018; 2 alternate members 12/2015
Economic Development Commission: 2 alternate members 6/2016
Interlocal Advisory Board (Jambs): PW Dir/Eng./Construction, and 2 BLA members
Litchfield Prevention Council: 3 alternate members: one 6/17, two 6/2016
Milton Historic District Commission: 1 regular member 1/2016; 3 alternate members 1/2018, 1/2018, 1/2019
Northwest CT Convention & Visitors Bureau: 1 member 9/2018
Park & Recreation: 1 regular member; 2 alternate members: 6/2017, 6/2018
Recycling Committee: 5 members: two 2/2016, one 2/2017, two 2/2018
Torrington Area Health District: 1 member 12/2018
Town Hall Building Committee: 1 member, 3/2018; one alternate 3/2018
Veteran's Advisory Committee: 2 regular members 8/2016, 8/2015; 2 alternate members 8/2015
Water Pollution Control Authority: 1 alternate member 1/2016
Zoning Board of Appeals: 2 alternate member 3/2015

Tax Refunds: None

Old Business: None

New Business

a) **Adopt Resolution for Rural Broadband & Mobile Enhancement: Technology and Business Model Study:** Mr. Paul read the resolution in its entirety. **Motion:** Jeffrey Zullo moved to approve the resolution for the program entitled "Rural Broadband and Mobile Enhancement: Technology and Business Model Study," and Diane Knox seconded. P. Parsons asked from where the \$200,000 comes. L. Paul explained it will come from the Regional Performance Incentive Program (RPI) for a feasibility study. If all the towns do not endorse this, we will not do the study. Upon voting, all voted aye and the motion carried. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Legislative Body* of the Town of Litchfield endorses the proposal for the project entitled "*Rural Broadband & Mobile Enhancement: Technology and Business Model Study*" under the Regional Performance Incentive Program referenced in Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-124s, (2014 supplement).

*NOTE: For the purposes of the Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program, "legislative body" means the board of selectmen, town council, city council, board of alderman, board of directors, board of representatives or board of the mayor and burgesses of a municipality.

b) **Adopt Resolution for Design and Engineering of the Litchfield Hills Animal Shelter Facility:** Mr. Paul explained the feasibility study that was granted a couple years ago for a regional animal control shelter, and it showed the project to be beneficial. Now we are applying for a grant for the design and engineering of the facility. **Motion:** Jeffrey Zullo moved to adopt and read the resolution for the project entitled "Design and Engineering of the Litchfield Hills Animal Shelter Facility." Diane Knox seconded

the motion. Mr. Zullo asked about the budget, and Mr. Paul said it would be in the grant and no more than \$200,000. Upon voting all voted aye and the motion carried. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Legislative Body* of the Town of Litchfield endorses the proposal for the project entitled "*Design and Engineering of the Litchfield Hills Animal Shelter Facility*" under the Regional Performance Incentive Program referenced in Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-124s, (2014 supplement).

*NOTE: For the purposes of the Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program, "legislative body" means the board of selectmen, town council, city council, board of alderman, board of directors, board of representatives or board of the mayor and burgesses of a municipality.

c) **Discuss and Approve Recommended Capital Improvements Budget for 2016/17:** David T. Wilson, Chairman of the Capital Improvements Committee, was present to explain the details. Mr. Paul summarized that the Committee has brought to total budget net town cost for 2016/17 down to \$2,569,884.00. This was possible with the delay of three public works projects that will not be ready for construction until 2017/18. They reviewed the projects in the plan. J. Zullo then asked for a fleet management and analysis plan. Raz Aleze said he has met on this and is preparing one now. J. Zullo suggested using an online management system for the vehicles that reports mileage, where they went, and other handy reporting tools. L. Paul said they may consider putting that software into the budget. J. Zullo questioned the \$150,000 for remediation of the oil tank at Center School. He asked for more detail on it at the next meeting. J. Zullo then asked about the fuel system software, saying it was not well thought out and encouraged Raz Alexe to include fuel use in the fleet management program. Mr. Paul agreed it would be a good investment for the operating budget. R. Alexe explained the bridges that will be pushed out. They have applied for a STEAP grant for the Wheeler Road reconstruction project.

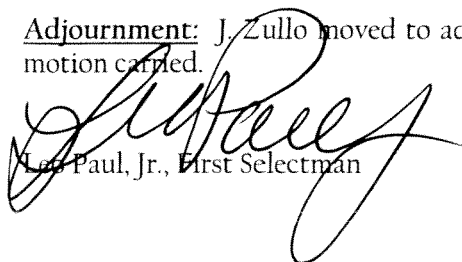
Motion: P. Parsons moved to defer a decision on the 2016/17 proposed capital budget until the next meeting, and J. Zullo seconded. The following discussion ensued.

D. Wilson mentioned the pushed out project totals, especially year 2017/18, which is hovering at \$4.8 million. He said years ago we were accused of "kicking the can down the road," and it's happening again. He said the Board of Selectman needs to talk about that, as at some point the taxpayers will be commenting. They talked about bonds and BANS and how they affect the projects. D. Wilson cited the fund balance and the pension plan and was not worried about unfunded liability. He said we pay our full obligation each year and have a frozen plan. We are in good shape and he would like to use some of the fund balance to pay some of the dire capital needs. P. Parsons questioned the Fire Commissioners' apparatus figures that are listed after the description, and D. Wilson said he would check on that. Mr. Wilson mentioned projects that kept getting deferred and then ended up costing a lot more. Then there were projects that were bonded and not done. The departments have the message now that if they don't do use the money, then the project is not needed.

Upon voting on the motion, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Adjournment: J. Zullo moved to adjourn at 6:52. p.m. and P. Parsons seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman