

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015  
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING ~ 5:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Leo Paul called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all Selectmen in attendance: Paul Parsons, Jeffrey Zullo, Diane Knox and Jonathan Tarrant.

**Approval of Minutes**

**a) Regular 6/2/15:** L. Paul noted two corrections. The first was to change the term date on Appointments f) to 2016, and the other was to omit the second sentence in Transfer #7. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to approve the minutes of 6/2/15 with corrections noted. D. Knox seconded, and all voted aye except Jon Tarrant, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

**Public Requests/Comments:** None

**Selectmen's Requests:** **Motion:** Paul Parsons moved to add to Reappointments e) "Reappoint Heather Karpa to Northwest Regional Mental Health Board, term 5/2017." J. Tarrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Mr. Paul asked the Board to review and be ready to comment on the proposed changes to the Litchfield Subdivision Regulations. They asked for an executive summary of the proposed changes. L. Paul said he would ask the Land Use Department for this.

Mr. Paul said that in view of the proposed regionalization plan with Region 6 schools being put aside, he has begun putting together a committee to do a study of all our Litchfield buildings usage, school and municipal, and will come up with a recommendation. He will have a draft for the Board's review including the makeup and objective of the committee, hopefully for the next meeting or at the second one in July. The Board of Selectmen will be the appointing authority and have authority to make decisions on what is taken to a town meeting. The committee will be made up of representatives from the Boards of Selectmen, Finance, Education, the Superintendent as an advisor, and members of the town at large. He said we need to make sure we are using our resources most efficiently and to the best of our ability. J. Zullo said the "Green Team" authorized for energy study met today and still needs a Public Works/Facilities person to attend meetings, as they have a six-month timeline. L. Paul will ask Jack Healy to attend the next meeting at 2:00 pm. on June 30<sup>th</sup> in the Superintendent's office. J. Zullo also asked Mr. Paul to attend, as they will have a kick-off photo and press release.

**Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments**

**a) Interview Mitchell Samal for Milton HDC:** Mr. Samal said he's lived in Litchfield since 1998 and went through the Litchfield Schools. He has completed his junior year at Eastern CT State University in computer science and has declared a minor in prelaw. He has worked at the Litchfield Historical Society for the past five years as a tour guide and is very interested in history and local politics. He attended a recent meeting and spoke with Edward Weik. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to appoint Mitchell Samal to the Milton Historic District Commission as a regular member for term ending 1/2020. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**b) Reappoint Linnea Healy to Inland Wetlands Commission, term 6/2016: Motion:** J. Zullo moved to reappoint Linnea Healy to the Inland Wetlands Commission for term ending 6/2016, and J. Torrant seconded. Upon voting the motion carried unanimously.

**c) Reappoint John R. Hamill to Inland Wetlands Commission, term 6/2018: Motion:** J. Zullo moved to reappoint John R. Hamill to the Inland Wetlands Commission for term ending 6/2018, and J. Torrant seconded. Upon voting the motion carried unanimously.

**d) Reappoint David Pavlick to Board of Ethics, term 6/2018: Motion:** J. Torrant moved to reappoint David Pavlick to the Board of Ethics, with term ending 6/2018, and J. Zullo seconded. Upon voting the motion carried unanimously.

**e) Reappoint Heather Karpa to Northwest Regional Mental Health Board, term 5/2017: Motion:** J. Zullo moved to reappoint Heather Karpa to the Northwest Regional Mental Health Board, with term ending 5/2017. J. Torrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes:** 6/8/15 Board of Finance minutes; 5/5/15 Zoning Board of Appeals minutes; 5/14/15 WPCA minutes; 5/20/15 Board of Education minutes (draft); 5/4/15 Planning & Zoning minutes

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

Beautification Commission: 6 regular members: three 2/2016, one 2/2017, two 2/2018; 2 alternates 2/2016

Cable TV Advisory Council: 1 member 6/2017

Conservation Commission: 2 alternate members 12/2015

Economic Development Commission: 2 alternate members 6/2016

Litchfield Prevention Council: 3 alternate members: one 6/17, two 6/2016

Milton Historic District Commission: 3 alternate members 1/2015, 1/2015, 1/2019

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

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 1/2015

Zoning Board of Appeals: 2 alternate member 3/2015

#### **Tax Refunds**

**a) 3 Tax Refunds, Total of \$318.44: Motion:** P. Parsons moved to approve the tax refunds in the amount of \$318.44 as recommended by Nancy Southard. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**b) Year-End Small Over/Underpayments:** Nancy Southard said she would prefer to withdraw this item and return next meeting with further information. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to table this item until the next meeting, and J. Torrant seconded. Upon voting the motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business:** None

#### **New Business**

**a) Sign Call for Special Town Meeting 6/23/15:** Mr. Paul read the five items on the call. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to adopt the Special Town Meeting Call to be held June 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the

Litchfield Intermediate School auditorium. J. Tarrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried. The entire Board signed the call.

**b) Actuarial Review of Municipal Employees' Retirement Plan and Merit Service Plan:** Peg Perusse, Chairman of the Pension Commission, said this should be a two-hour review and make recommendations to incorporate amendments. The cost is \$750 for each plan, but it should be a little more for legal review. Hooker & Holcomb will do the work. Mr. Paul said he would like to encumber \$3,000 of this year's money even though work will not be done until next year. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to approve an expense for an actuarial review of the pension plans in the amount of \$3,000 to be encumbered from the current year pension budget line item expenditures. J. Tarrant seconded. P. Parsons asked for an opinion on how they are funded with the plans. P. Perusse said that comes with the actuarial review. L. Paul said the merit service plan is in the 80's percent area and the town plan is in the high 70's percent area. Upon voting on the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

**c) Review Region 6/Litchfield Potential Savings List:** Mr. Paul explained that it seems we are going in an opposite direction to regionalization based on the tone of the email dated 6/15/15 from Region 6 Board of Education Chairman Chris Sanders. The direction now seems to be to find cooperative cost savings with Region 6. He said the list provided by Mr. Sanders seems to be very general, but it's a starting point. He has asked the BOE chairman, Frank Simone to take questions or comments about the cooperative effort. Frank Simone, John Bongiorno and Wayne Shuhi were present from the Board of Education. J. Zullo said he expected the list to be of potential savings, but it shows areas where cooperation could take place and the value of the expenditures. He said further that he got a different read from the Litchfield and Region 6 BOE minutes. Mr. Simone said the Litchfield Superintendent has reached out for discussion. Mr. Bongiorno contended that Litchfield has kept its schedule the same, while Region 6 has changed its schedules three times in four years. Mr. Bongiorno confirmed that attitudes have changed along the way, making discussions difficult. Mr. Paul would like to revisit this with Region 6 in a couple months. P. Parsons said he would like to give the Superintendent a chance to approach Region 6 to advance in some way. Mr. Paul said he mentioned at the MORE Commission in Hartford that there should be some way for the State to require two districts that lie less than two miles apart to work together. He would also like the four towns to go to referendum to see what the people prefer. D. Knox preferred small steps toward efficiencies and then looking at more interactive things later. If regionalization comes our way, that is fine. But if it does not, we will be in a far better place. F. Simone said that is how they are proceeding now.

**Correspondence:** None

**Adjournment: Motion:** J. Zullo moved to adjourn at 6:14 p.m. and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

  
Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman