

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2017
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING - 5:30 P.M.

Call to Order: First Selectman Leo Paul, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Selectmen present were Jonathan Tarrant, Diane Knox and Paul Parsons. Jeffrey Zullo was away.

Approval of Minutes: Motion: J. Tarrant moved to adopt the regular October 3, 2017 meeting minutes as presented, and P. Parsons seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments: None

Selectmen's Requests: Mr. Paul said we are still waiting for a State budget. Rep. David T. Wilson was present and said they are cautiously optimistic. Jon Tarrant reported the Foothills Trader is still delivering to homes that do not want it, and Mr. Paul said there is nothing they can do to stop them.

Resignations

a) Mark Heilshorn from Milton Historic District Commission, effective 10/12/17: received and noted

b) Carol Bramley from Milton Historic District Commission, alternate, effective 10/12/17: received and noted

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) Appoint Carol Bramley to Milton HDC as regular member, term 1/2021: Motion: J. Tarrant moved to appoint Carol Bramley to the Milton Historic District Commission as a regular member with term expiration of 1/2021. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

b) Appoint Erno Nandori to Assistant Animal Control Officer for Town of Litchfield, indefinite term: Motion: J. Tarrant moved to appoint Erno Nandori to Assistant Animal Control Officer for Litchfield for an indefinite term. P. Parsons seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

c) Reappoint Ruth Torizzo to Litchfield Housing Authority as Tenant Commissioner (per recommendation of LHA) for term ending 8/2022: Motion: J. Tarrant moved to reappoint Ruth Torizzo to the Litchfield Housing Authority as Tenant Commissioner, as recommended by the LHA, for term ending 8/2022. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

d) Reappoint Edwin Evers to Capital Improvements Committee, term 11/2019, as recommended by the Board of Fire & EMS Commission, term 11/2019

e) Reappoint Francis Carpentier to Capital Improvements Committee, term 11/2019

f) Reappoint James Koser to Capital Improvements Committee, term 11/2019

g) Reappoint Leo Paul, Jr. to Capital Improvements Committee, term 11/2019

h) Reappoint David T. Wilson to Capital Improvements Committee, term 11/2019

i) Reappoint David W. Wilson to Capital Improvements Committee, term 11/2019

Motion: J. Tarrant moved to reappoint d) through i) above to the Capital Improvements Committee, all with terms ending 11/2019. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 3/7/17, 8/1/17, 9/5/17 & 9/21/17 ZBA minutes; 9/7/17 Design Review Committee minutes; 9/26/17 Conservation Commission minutes; 9/21/17 Sandy Beach Commission minutes; 8/21/17 & 9/18/17 P&Z minutes

Green Team Update: No report

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

Bantam Lake Authority: 1 member 12/2019
Beautification Commission: 1 regular member 2/2020; 2 alternates 2/2019
Board of Ethics: 2 alternate members 6/2019, 6/2020
Cable TV Advisory Council: 1 member 6/2017
Capital Improvements Committee: 1 citizen at large
Conservation Commission: 1 regular members 12/2016; 2 alternate members 12/2018
Economic Development Commission: 1 alternate member 6/2018
Inland Wetlands: 1 regular member 2017; 2 alternate members 6/2017
Litchfield 300th Anniversary Executive Committee: 1 regular member
Litchfield Prevention Council: 3 alternate members- 1-6/2019, 2-6/2020
Milton Historic District Commission: 3 alternate members 1/2018, 1/2018, 1/2019
Northwest CT Convention & Visitors Bureau: 1 member 9/2018
Northwest CT Transit District: 1 member 5/2018
Park & Recreation: 2 alternate members: 6/2017, 6/2018
Pension Commission: 1 alternate member 3/2019
Recycling Committee: 1 regular member 2/2018; two alternates 2/2017, 2/2018
Social Services Board: 1 member 2/2017
Veteran's Advisory Committee: 2 regular members 8/2016, 8/2018; 2 alternate members 8/2018
Water Pollution Control Authority: 1 regular member 1/2023; 1 alternate member 1/2021
Zoning Board of Appeals: 1 regular member 3/2021; 2 alternate members 3/2020

Tax Refunds: Motion: P. Parsons moved to adopt the 16 tax refunds as submitted by the Tax Collector, for a total of \$2,661.82. J. Torrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business

a) **Award Bid for 10-Wheel Dump Truck:** Raz Alexe said this purchase is in the 2017/18 capital program. The industry is very tight, as the two bid margins were very small. Considering they have the software and hardware invested and have two technicians with training on Internationals, he recommended awarding the bid to the lowest bidder, Nutmeg International Trucks at \$103,175.67. Motion: J. Torrant moved to award the bid to lowest bidder Nutmeg International Trucks in the amount of \$103,175.67. D. Knox seconded. This truck will replace truck No. 10 that will be sold at auction. Upon voting, all voted aye and the motion carried.

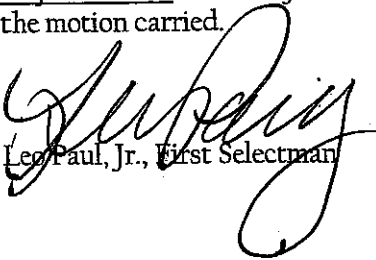
b) **Courthouse Use Presentation – Paul Hinkel, Greater Litchfield Preservation Trust:** Paul Hinkel, President of the Greater Litchfield Preservation Trust, was present to offer its proposal for converting the former Superior Court to a Town Hall. Carol Bramley and Dan Kraut were also present from the GLPT. Mr. Hinkel said the Trust is a 501-3c non-profit that works to preserve and protect properties of historic significance to perpetuate the heritage of the Litchfield area. He said there is currently no clear title to the property, so the attorneys have devised a special act to negate the rights of the lessors of the property. It has, however, been caught in the budget impasse in Hartford. They are now doing environmental studies on asbestos, lead paint and underground tanks, but he does not envision any impediment to purchasing.

They then presented a feasibility study done by their preservation architect, Gary Johnson, based on the new Town Hall plan of 15,000 sq. ft. They integrated the floor plan and square footage into a new plan with an addition, preserving as much of the interior of the building as possible and came out with gross square footage of 14,925 sq. ft., more if basement space is used. The plan has the Registrars and Probate office in

the basement. Carol Bramley said there is beautiful woodwork and fireplaces that could be incorporated into office settings. Dan Kraut felt that keeping the Town offices in the center of town is a main goal. Mr. Hinkel hopes this is a lesser cost option for the Town at an estimate of \$5,208,675.00.

Mr. Paul said this is a long-term project. They have not even discussed the Town Hall or renovations in over a year. The last presentation was by the Facilities Committee that was studying if we could merge all three schools into two so the municipal offices could move into school space. For now the Town Hall is not going anywhere. When the project comes back to the table, they would have to reactivate the Building Committee, and he said there would be serious consideration to this option. Carol Bramley said federal monies for this project would fall under HUD, and HUD has eliminated funding for town halls or government offices, so they are no longer eligible. D. Knox felt this is a win-win for all as the residents all feel a sense of ownership in this unique building. She feels this option should be explored and that there may be funds available. Mr. Hinkel said they do not want to own this building, but could consider a short-term arrangement. J. Tarrant said it is a good option to keep business viable in the center. State Rep. David T. Wilson asked how the GLPT would carry the building until something could be done, and several scenarios were presented. The Selectmen thanked the group for its work and presentation.

Adjournment: Motion: J. Tarrant moved to adjourn at 6:25 p.m and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman