

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2018
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING - 5:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Leo Paul, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Also present were Selectmen Jeffrey Zullo, Paul Parsons and Jonathan Torrant. Anne Dranginis was out of the country.

Approval of Minutes: Motion: J. Torrant moved and J. Zullo seconded a motion to adopt the regular January 16, 2018 minutes as presented. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments: None

Selectmen's Requests: Motion: J. Zullo moved to table Item b) under Interviews until a future meeting, and J. Torrant seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried. Motion: J. Torrant moved to approve the addition of Item d) under Interviews, "Appoint Alex Larsson to Park & Recreation Commission, alternate, until 6/2021." J. Zullo seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried. Mr. Paul then relayed that the Legislature will be going into session tomorrow, and he will watch it carefully. He also pointed out that the Town's operating budget, that will be ready for consideration at the next meeting, is at a zero percent increase. The final impact of the State's budget on our budget, after we pulled \$500,000 of State funding from our budget, was \$25,000 to our credit. J. Zullo said this message should get out to the public that we have taken a proactive stance on our spending and have absorbed inconsistencies from the State and avoided issuing supplemental tax bills.

Resignations

- a) David E. Dean from Economic Development Commission, effective 1/18/18: received and noted
- b) Jay Halpern from Prevention Council, effective 11/22/17: received and noted
- c) Margaret Perusse from Pension Commission, effective 2/28/18: received and noted

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) Interview Raymond Schmid, for Capital Improvements Committee, Citizen at Large, term 11/2019: Mr. Schmidt joined the Park & Recreation Commission a couple years ago and was involved in its preparation for Capital requests. Before retirement he worked for the State of Connecticut in procurement services, primarily in equipment, and hoped he could lend some of his knowledge in our Capital deliberations. Motion: J. Zullo moved to appoint Raymond Schmid to the Capital Improvements Committee as a Citizen at Large, for term ending 11/2019. J. Torrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

b) Interview Jennifer Healy for Inland Wetlands Commission, regular member, term 6/2020: tabled

c) Reappoint Jordan M. Richards to Conservation Commission, term 12/2020: Motion: J. Torrant moved to reappoint Jordan M. Richards to the Conservation Commission, with term ending 12/2020. J. Zullo seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

d) Appoint Alex Larsson to Park & Recreation Commission, alternate, term 6/2021: Mr. Larsson said he coached and worked with the Park & Rec in New Milford and Naugatuck and worked in the State University system as well. He moved here in August and would like to help the Park & Recreation Commission. Motion: J. Zullo moved to appoint Alex Larsson to the Park & Recreation Commission as an alternate member for term ending 6/2021. J. Torrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 1/30/18 Board of Finance minutes

Green Team Update: Mr. Zullo reported they have not met since the last presentation to the Board of Selectmen.

Town Hall Review Committee Update: J. Zullo said they had the first organizational meeting and will be meeting the first Monday and the third Wednesday of the month in Leo's office at 6:00 p.m. Jeff is the Chairman, Jason Travelstead is the Vice Chairman, and Ann Combs is Secretary. Last night they met and had an overview of the three town hall options. Next meeting will feature Architect John Martin to review the programming of space needs that he developed. Next meeting will include a site visit and review of the Grater Litchfield Preservation Trust's activities at the Courthouse. They have invested about \$25,000 in architectural services and are currently updating their plan. The goal is to have something to present by early September at the latest so there can be presentations to the Board of Selectmen and the community. They have about \$20,000 left in the budget from the Town Facilities Committee, and they will probably need to do some structural surveys of the Courthouse, and possibly some architectural and/or construction manager consultant budget estimate updates.

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
- Conservation Commission: 1 regular members 12/2016; 2 alternate members 12/2018
- Economic Development Commission: 2 regular members; 1-6/2018, 1-6/2020
- Inland Wetlands: 1 regular member 2017; 2 alternate members 6/2017
- Litchfield 300th Anniversary Executive Committee: 1 regular member
- Litchfield Prevention Council: 1 regular member 6/2019; 2 alternate members- 1-6/2019, 1-6/2020
- 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 regular member 2/2020
- 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: L. Paul said the Tax Collector pointed out that we will see a lot more of these large refunds with the new Federal tax bill and people rushing to pay their taxes in December while the bank also pays.
Motion: J. Torrant moved to approve the 7 tax refunds, for a total of \$8,347.75. J. Zullo seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Transfers: None

Old Business: None

New Business

a) Capital Budget 2018/19: David T. Wilson, Chairman of the Capital Improvements Committee, gave a recap of the recent Capital Committee's special meeting and review of projects that were bonded and under way that may have excess funds. The total is \$240,845, and they looked at the capital budget recommended 12/19/17 to see where funds could be pulled to reduce the budget. They pulled \$237,655 for the West Morris Road project and reduced the Clark Road portion by \$3,190 for a total Major Roads of \$1,030,146 and a

grand total of \$2,989,746. L. Paul said some of this will be funded by pay-as-you-go from fund balance, so not all of it will be bonded. J. Zullo questioned whether \$3 million is our new normal for Capital budgets, saying this puts our debt levels dangerously high. We need to reduce spending. We do not need to replace three Toyota Corollas with pickup trucks. L. Paul said we are not buying the Cadillacs or the high cost items, but we need vehicles that are safe in poor weather. D. Wilson went through the Capital budget and entertained questions from the Selectmen. Raz Alexe recapped the Public Works detail. The Board agreed to table its vote until the next meeting for the benefit of Anne Dranginis so that she could also understand the budget with Raz Alexe present to explain.

Motion: J. Zullo moved to table this item until February 20th and J. Torrant seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

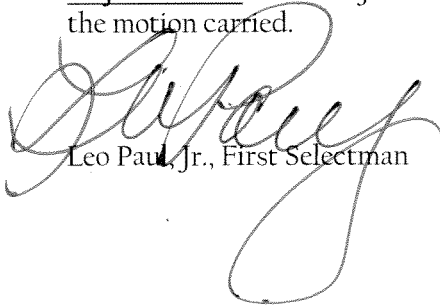
b) Consider Offer to Purchase 66 Donahue Road Ext. (discussion in executive session): **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to go into executive session at 6:25 p.m. with all Selectmen present to discuss the offer to purchase 66 Donahue Road Ext. J. Torrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 6:33 p.m. with the following action taken. **Motion:** J. Torrant moved to approve the bid from John B. Maxwell of CAM Properties LLC, from Thomaston, CT, in the amount of \$337,500 for the purchase of property at 66 Donahue Road Ext. J. Zullo seconded. Mr. Paul said he would ask Town Attorney Mike Rybak to communicate with their attorney so they can close the sale as soon as the contract is drawn up. Upon voting all voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion: J. Torrant moved to authorize the First Selectman to sign the contract for the sale of the property at 66 Donahue Road Ext. J. Zullo seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Adjournment: **Motion:** J. Torrant moved to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman