

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2025 ~ 5:30 P.M.**  
**IN-PERSON AT BANTAM ANNEX, 80 DOYLE RD., BANTAM, CT AND**  
**REMOTE MEETING BY LIVE INTERNET VIDEO STREAM AND TELEPHONE**

**Call to Order** First Selectman Denise Raap called the hybrid meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.. Selectmen present were Jeff Zullo, Jodiann Tenney, John Bongiorno, Dan Morosani and First Selectman Denise Raap.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- a) **Board of Selectmen, regular meeting, 07/15/2025 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to approve the 07/15/2025 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

**Public Requests/Comments** Pat Dauten, Litchfield resident, inquired about a hot dog salesman. D. Raap stated it is a push cart and not a food truck. D. Raap will contact the Land User Administrator to see if Planning & Zoning would like to address push carts. Claudia Larson, Bantam Lake Road resident, expressed concerns about speeding on Bantam Lake Road, C. Larson requested a speed camera discussion to be brought up again. D. Raap stated that during the speed camera public hearing, approximately 75% of attendees opposed the installation of speed cameras. However, the BOS remains open to residents' concerns and is willing to hold another public hearing if requested. D. Raap stated that "Your Speed" signs have been installed along the roadway, and data from these signs will be collected. Interim Resident Troopers may be deployed during periods of heavy speeding. It was agreed that a future town meeting will include an advisory question regarding whether to pursue speed camera implementation.

**Selectmen's Requests** **Motion:** J. Tenney motioned that D. Raap draft a letter on behalf of the BOS to thank Dayton Construction for the early completion of the bridge in Bantam on Route 202. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

**First Selectman's Update Report** D. Raap announced that this week is National Farmers Market Week. She also noted that Litchfield Volunteer Ambulance held a groundbreaking ceremony marking the start of construction for its new facility. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) visibility week is approaching, and residents can sign up at the First Selectman's office or by contacting Paul Gibb. Following the recent bond rating meeting, Litchfield maintained its AA+ rating. Dayton Construction will be performing work on Brush Hill Road, and construction has started on the Community Field tennis and pickleball courts. Additionally, the Town of Litchfield received a \$23,306 equity return check from CIRMA, reflecting their surplus of approximately \$5 million. Bantam Planning & Zoning has expressed interest in discussing the possibility of the Town absorbing its board.

**Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments**

- a) **Interview Caroline Wilcox for the Prevention Council as a regular member, term ending 06/2027 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to appoint Caroline Wilcox to the Prevention Council as a regular member with a term ending 06/2027. J. Tenney seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- b) **Interview Amanda Glover for the Economic Development Committee as a regular member, term ending 06/2026 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to appoint Amand Glover to the Economic Development Committee as a regular member with a term ending 06/2026. J. Tenney seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

D. Raap stated that the Board of Ethics appointment will involve an interview process at this BOS meeting, with a final decision to be made at the August 19, 2025 meeting.

- c) **Interview Darlene Clouther for the Board of Ethics** D. Clouther stated that, given her background in ethics through social work, she believes she would be a strong candidate for the Board of Ethics
- d) **Interview Anne Dranginis for the Board of Ethics** A. Dranginis expressed her enthusiasm for continuing public service by serving on the Board of Ethics, noting her professional experience in ethics-related work.
- e) **Appoint John Pudlinski to the Interlocal Emergency Medical Services Committee as a regular member, term ending 08/2027**
- f) **Appoint Ryan Litwin to the Interlocal Emergency Medical Services Committee as a regular member, term ending 08/2027**
- g) **Appoint Jon Torrant to the Interlocal Emergency Medical Services Committee as a regular member, term ending 08/2027**
- h) **Appoint Dan Morosani to the Interlocal Emergency Medical Services Committee as a regular member, term ending 08/2027**
- i) **Appoint Dr. Margaret Noonan to the Interlocal Emergency Medical Services Committee as a regular member, term ending 08/2027**

**Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to appoint John Pudlinski, Ryan Litwin, Jon Torrant, Dan Morosani and Dr. Margaret Noonan to the Interlocal Emergency Medical Services Committee as regular members with terms ending 08/2027. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed. D. Morosani abstained.

- j) **Appoint William Newman to the Board of Ethics, interviewed at the 7/15/2025 Board of Selectmen meeting**
- k) **Appoint Donna Pace to the Board of Ethics, interviewed at the 7/15/2025 Board of Selectmen meeting**

**Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to table items j and k to the 8/19 BOS meeting to allow more candidates to apply to the Board of Ethics. J. Tenney seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

- l) **Appoint Penelope Mudgett as Town Assessor, term expiring 06/2029** **Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to appoint Penelope Mudgett as the Town Assessor with a term expiring 06/2029. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

#### **Analysis of Cost and Coverage Associated with Constables versus Resident State Troopers**

- a) Lieutenant St. John along with Sergeant John Conlon presented the analysis of the cost and coverage associated with Constables versus Resident State Troopers to the BOS. Lieutenant St. John reported that the start-up cost per officer, excluding salary for Constables, is approximately \$112,000. He recommended budgeting \$200,000 for the first year, with a competitive hourly rate ranging from \$39 to \$43. Resident Trooper costs vary, with a top-tier Trooper reaching up to \$175,000 annually, and a fourth-tier Trooper at approximately \$130,000, of which the Town pays 85% for the first two Resident Troopers.

#### **Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes:** On TownofLitchfield.org website

**Region 20 Update** D. Raap stated the Town of Litchfield is moving forward with the Memorandum of Understanding involving the four towns comprising Region 20, under which the deficit will be paid back over three years. This arrangement will not impact the minimum budget requirement. J. Bongiorno recommended reviewing invoices from 2022 to 2024 to confirm that payments made by Litchfield correspond to services performed within the Town of Litchfield. Both J. Tenney and J. Bongiorno requested copies of all invoices contributing to the deficit for review by the committee formed by BOS and Board of Finance members. Additionally, J. Bongiorno noted CIRMA, the Towns insurance, has an

errors and admission part in the policy that would warrant an investigation for items like the under-funding of the bus budget.

**Advanced Tech Update** J. Bongiorno is working with Frontier to get power to the poles for the WiFi project.

**WPCA Liaison Update** D. Raap stated Torrington approved the Inter Municipal Agreement.

**Sustainable Litchfield Update** D. Raap asked if Sustainable Litchfield has a policy on spraying herbicide on the side of roadways. J. Zullo stated there is no policy. J. Zullo stated the last several months for the electric vehicle chargers were breakeven.

**Town Facilities Review Committee Update**

- a) **Presentation Follow Up** D. Raap stated the Town faces three options regarding the Bantam Annex: first, commit to renovating the building using Town funds, second, collaborate with the State to develop affordable housing funded by State resources, or third, demolish the building and seek alternative space for Town offices. J. Zullo added that the Committee intends to hold a public hearing to gather input on these options.

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

Advanced Technology Commission: 2 alternate members 2/2026

Beautification Commission: 5 regular members 1-02/2026, 2-02/2027, 2-2/2028, 3 alternate members 2/2028

Cable TV Advisory Council: 1 member 6/2025

Conservation Commission: 2 alternate member 1-12/2025, 1-12/2027

Economic Development Commission: 1 regular member 06/2026, 2 alternate members 6/2027

Board of Ethics: 5 regular members 2-6/2028, 2-6/2026, 1-6/2027, 1 alternate member 6/2028

Inland Wetlands Commission: 1 regular member 6/2025, 2 alternate members 6/2027

Litchfield Arts Council: 3 regular members 8/2027

Litchfield Prevention Council: 4 alternate members 1-6/2026, 1-6/2027, 2-6/2028

Milton Historic District Commission: 1 regulars 1/2030, 3 alternate members 2-1/2027, 1-1/2028

Park & Recreation Commission: 1 alternate member 6/2029

Pension Commission: 1 alternate member 3/2030

Sustainable Litchfield Committee: 2 alternate members 3/2026

Town Facilities Review Committee: 3 regular members 3/2026; 2 alternates 3/2026

Veterans' Advisory Committee: 1 regular member 8/2026; 1 alternate member 8/2027

Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA): 1 alternate member 1/2026

Western CT Coalition, CAC #22: 1 member 5/2027

Zoning Board of Appeals: 3 alternate members 3/2027

**Tax Refunds**

- a) **1 Tax Refund, totaling \$53 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to approve the tax refund totaling \$53. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

**Old Business**

- a) **Airbnb Discussion Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to table this agenda item. J. Tenney seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- b) **Airbnb Correspondence - 279 Marsh Road** received and noted.
- c) **08/13/2025 Special Town Meeting Call Motion:** J. Zullo motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the Special Town Meeting Call on 8/13/2025 and sign the call. J. Tenney seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

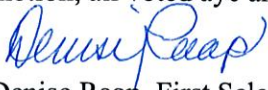
**New Business**

- a) **Repeal Litchfield Board of Education Ordinance Motion:** J. Zullo motioned that the Board of Selectmen repeal the Litchfield Board of Education Ordinance. J. Tenney seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- b) **Request for Waiving Building Permit Fees - American Legion Motion:** J. Zullo motioned that the Board of Selectmen waive the building permit fees for the American Legion. J. Tenney seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

**Executive Session**

- a) **Real Estate** the BOS did not go into executive session.

**Adjournment Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.



Denise Raap, First Selectman