

MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026 ~ 5:30 P.M.
IN-PERSON AT LITCHFIELD FIREHOUSE, 258 WEST ST, LITCHFIELD, 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 5:33 p.m. Selectmen present were Dan Morosani, John Bongiorno, Jeff Zullo and First Selectman Denise Raap. Selectman Jodiann Tenney was present virtually.

Approval of Minutes:

- a) **Board of Selectmen, regular meeting, 01/06/2026 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to approve the Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes of 01/06/2026. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

Public Requests/Comments none

Selectmen's Requests D. Morosani requested an update on the study of Route 118 and Route 254 that was sent to the Connecticut Department of Transportation. D. Raap stated she has not heard back but will follow up.

First Selectman's Update Report D. Raap reported that she met earlier in the day with the State Troopers and received the monthly reports, noting that these reports will continue. She explained that the interim p.m. Resident Trooper is currently training a new hire, resulting in traffic stops being logged under the new recruit's badge during training. In response to J. Zullo's request for an update on the third Resident Trooper, she stated that a new class has begun at the academy and added that the full-time p.m. Resident Trooper position has been posted, with the current interim Trooper expected to apply.

D. Raap also reported that the Region 20 Board of Education tabled the request to establish a Regional Board of Finance, citing a desire to hear support from Warren and Morris despite their inclusion in the original email request, and that the proposal for a master plan was likewise tabled. J. Zullo emphasized the need for Region 20 to develop a request for proposal and clearly define the scope of work for an architectural firm, including coordination with facility staff to assess immediate school needs, and he noted that the Litchfield BOE had invested \$500,000 annually in capital improvements, leaving the schools in good condition. D. Raap stated that with a capital plan of \$10–15 million for renovations or updates, the Region could pursue State grants that may cover up to 40% of costs.

D. Raap expressed her appreciation to the Department of Public Works for their work clearing snow over the weekend. She added that March 24, 2026, has been proposed to the Borough of Litchfield for a joint meeting and she is waiting for confirmation.

D. Raap noted resident concerns regarding Hawkers & Peddlers permits and whether soliciting should continue to be allowed, which will be added to a future agenda, along with Silicon Ranch's request for another construction extension. She reported that the Land Use Administrator's last day was January 16, 2026, and the Town is updating the job description before sending it to the union and posting the position. A resident also raised a concern about the use of AI-generated graphics, which will be added to a future agenda.

Motion: D. Morosani motioned to move agenda item Oliver Wolcott Library to after First Selectman's update on the agenda. J. Zullo seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

Oliver Wolcott Library D. Morosani stated that, based on the letter the BOS received from the Oliver Wolcott Library, the Town currently provides only 38% of the library's budget, whereas other towns with

a liaison contribute approximately 85%. D. Raap noted that although a liaison would not have authority over how the library spends its funds, she agrees it would provide an added level of transparency. J. Zullo commented that for all budget requests, he would like to see a profit and loss statement from organizations receiving Town funding, such as the fire companies and ambulance, to better understand vulnerabilities and long-term sustainability. It was agreed that this discussion will continue during budget season.

Resignations

Declining Reappointment

- a) Nathaniel Worden from the Pension Commission, regular member, received and noted.

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

- a) **Interview Zack Miller-Murphy for the Pension Commission, regular member, term ending 02/2029 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to appoint Zack Miller-Murphy to the Pension Commission as a regular member with the term ending 02/2029. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- b) **Reappoint Erich Marriott to the Pension Commission, regular member, term ending 02/2029 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to reappoint Erich Marriott to the Pension Commission as a regular member with the term ending 02/2029. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- c) **Reappoint Haley Whipple to the Beautification Commission, regular member, term ending 02/2029 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to reappoint Haley Whipple to the Beautification Commission as a regular member with the term ending 02/2029. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- d) **Reappoint Raz Alexe as the Tree Warden, term ending 02/2027 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to reappoint Raz Alexe as the Tree Warden with the term ending 02/2027. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- e) **Reappoint Kathryn Zullo to the Waste Reduction Committee, regular member, term ending 02/2029 Motion:** J. Bongiorno motioned to reappoint Kathryn Zullo to the Waste Reduction Committee as a regular member with the term ending 02/2029. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed. J. Zullo abstained.
- f) **Reappoint Gerald Geci to the Waste Reduction Committee with a term ending 02/2029 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to reappoint Gerald Geci to the Waste Reduction Committee with the term ending 02/2029. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- g) **Reappoint Elisa Bauer to the Social Services Board, regular member, term ending 02/2029 Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to reappoint Elisa Bauer to the Social Service Board as a regular member with the term ending 02/2029. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

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

Facilities Review Committee Presentation B. Putnam, Chairman of the Facilities Review Committee, presented the Committee's final recommendations to the BOS. She reported that the FRC recommends keeping Town Hall functions in their current location and upgrading the building to gain additional space, including the potential use of the probate area. She further explained that at the Bantam Annex, the recommendation is to consolidate all departments into one section of the building and leave the remaining wing available for potential housing, with plans revised to comply with Bantam Planning & Zoning regulations by allowing four units and with the Housing Authority expressing interest in renovating the space. She noted that if housing is not feasible, the Committee recommends demolishing that wing to avoid the ongoing cost of maintaining unused space. D. Raap added that 8-30g could override Bantam

P&Z regulations. J. Zullo clarified that this facility report for the Bantam Annex is the first of its kind and not simply another study, as it provides detailed information on existing conditions, necessary updates, and options for full use of the building. The Committee believes it has fulfilled its mission and could be dissolved, though it is willing to hold a public hearing if the BOS wishes. It was agreed to have this item as a future agenda item.

Region 20 Update The ad hoc committee is meeting regarding the invoices.

Advanced Tech Update J. Bongiorno reported that he is working with the Assistant to the Finance Director to compile an inventory list of all technology items and has also provided a list of items that should be included in the upcoming budget. He further noted that the necessary gear for the WiFi has been ordered.

WPCA Liaison Update J. Bongiorno reported that the tank involved in the explosion over the summer has been repaired and does not need to be replaced, and that the associated costs were covered by insurance. He also noted that the Supervisor of the Sewer Department will be submitting a budget request for a new laptop and an upgrade to the internet service at the plant.

Sustainable Litchfield Update J. Zullo stated that they are deciding what actions, if any, should be taken over the summer and evaluating the level of completion of the current items.

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

Advanced Technology Commission: 2 alternate members 2/2026

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

Cable TV Advisory Council: 1 member 6/2025

Conservation Commission: 1 regular member 12/2028, 1 alternate member 12/2025

Economic Development Commission: 1 alternate member 6/2027

Inland Wetlands Commission: 2 alternate members 6/2027

Litchfield Arts Council: 2 regular members 8/2027

Litchfield Prevention Council: 3 alternate members 1-6/2026, 1-6/2027, 1-6/2028

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

Pension Commission: 2 alternate member 1-3/2028, 1-3/2030

Sandy Beach Commission: 1 regular member 12/2028

Sustainable Litchfield Committee: 1 regular member 3/2026, 1 alternate members 3/2026

Town Facilities Review Committee: 4 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 Motion: J. Zullo motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve two tax refunds totaling \$145.57. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

Transfers none

Old Business

- a) **Speed Camera Discussion** D. Raap stated that if the public supports speed cameras, she would like to see them placed in the two school zones and at the Routes 118 and 254 intersection. D. Morosani reported that, based on a discussion he had with an attorney, his understanding is that if a speed-camera ticket is paid, it does not leave the issuing system, but if it is disputed with the Town, it may become a public record that insurance companies could request. J. Tenney shared

that she met with Washington First Selectman Jim Brinton and that the meeting went very well; he reported that although they experienced some initial growing pains, the program has been successful and they are glad they implemented it. She added that he noted some Facebook posts regarding equipment calibration were not necessarily accurate. In response to J. Zullo's question about whether the cameras are slowing traffic, J. Tenney stated that J. Brinton reported they are, and D. Raap added that State Troopers at her meeting earlier in the day also confirmed that speeds are decreasing. J. Tenney further noted that the police are working with the cameras and are now able to cover more areas of the Town of Washington.

New Business

- a) **Update Litchfield Center School Preliminary Site Remediation Assessment Motion:** J. Zullo motioned to table this agenda item. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- b) **Review and Accept Grand List 2025** The BOS had questions on who did the evaluation of the real estate.

Correspondence

- a) Michael J. Peloquin, Developer, received and noted.

Executive Session

- a) Land Use Litigation
- b) Town of Litchfield and Litchfield Board of Education Litigation

All members of the BOS entered executive session at 6:53 p.m. All members came out of executive session at 6:58 p.m. no motion no action.

Adjournment Motion: J. Zullo motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.



Denise Raap, First Selectman