

MEETING MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026 ~ 6:00 P.M.
IN-PERSON AT TOWN HALL 74 WEST STREET, 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 6:02 p.m. Selectmen present were Jodiann Tenney, John Bongiorno, Jeff Zullo and First Selectman Denise Raap. Selectman Dan Morosani arrived at 6:06 p.m. Also present were Assistant to the Finance Director Stacey Dionne and Finance Director Amaechi Obi was present via video stream.

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Discussion D. Raap noted that the Sandy Beach Commission has, since she has been in office, consistently requested \$17,133. This year they submitted a late request for an increase to \$31,368. She explained that several items in the request were capital in nature and encouraged the Commission to apply to Seherr-Thoss and to submit a formal capital request to the Capital Improvement Committee next year. It was agreed to increase the Sandy Beach Commission allocation to \$20,000 to cover wage increases and higher workers' compensation costs. The Board requested that the Commission provide a profit-and-loss statement and consider raising the non-resident rate moving forward.

J. Tenney asked that the Board develop criteria for nonprofits requesting Town funding. D. Morosani stated that the first step is for these organizations to provide a summary of how Town funds directly support Litchfield residents.

D. Raap noted staffing increases, including the Assessor's Office moving from one day per week to full-time. The Registrars requested an increase to meet new State requirements, and D. Raap noted that the Registrar's Office applies for and receives numerous grants. Planning & Zoning increased part-time hours for the planner.

J. Zullo requested from the Building Department the number of permits issued since adding the part-time inspector. He noted that the position was originally added due to the two hotel projects, and now that those projects are complete, the Board should determine whether the part-time hours should continue or be reduced.

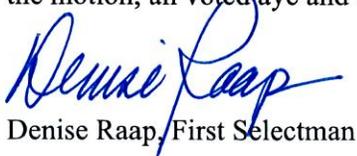
J. Zullo recommended reducing the USA Hauling line to reflect the new contract. Last year's budget was \$324,023; this year's budget is \$332,875; and \$330,000 had been proposed for the upcoming year. The Board agreed to reduce the line to \$310,000.

Motion: J. Zullo motioned that the Board of Selectmen approves a Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget of \$9,974,395, an increase of \$560,766. J. Tenney seconded the motion. **Discussion:** J. Bongiorno stated that providing the Oliver Wolcott Library with the same allocation as last year would reduce the budget by nearly \$20,000. He noted that significant cuts have already been made in other areas and that the OWL budget had not yet been discussed. There was no further discussion. **Vote:** All voted aye and the motion passed.

Motion: J. Zullo motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the Debt Service amount for the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget of \$2,453,208. **Amend:** J. Zullo amended his motion to be Debt Service and Bantam Annex funding in the amount of \$2,453,208 a decrease of \$263,851. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion. **Withdrawal:** J. Zullo withdrew his motion and J. Bongiorno his second.

Motion: J. Zullo motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the Debt Service, Canine funding, and other funds of \$2,453,208 a decrease of \$563,851 for a total amount of Board of Selectmen and Debt Service of \$12,427,603. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

Adjournment Motion: J. Tenney motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.


Denise Raap, First Selectman