

MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026 ~ 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 5:33 p.m. Selectmen present were Dan Morosani, John Bongiorno, and First Selectman Denise Raap. Selectman Jodiann Tenney was present virtually. Selectmen J. Zullo was absent.

Approval of Minutes:

- a) **Board of Selectmen, regular meeting, 04/07/2026 Motion:** J. Bongiorno motioned to approve the 04/07/2026 Board of Selectmen regular meeting minutes. J. Tenney seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

Public Requests/Comments none

Selectmen's Requests D. Morosani stated that the Thomaston-owned portion of Moosehorn Road is in an atrocious state. He requested that the Town work with Thomaston to resolve the issue, as the road is primarily used by Litchfield residents commuting. D. Raap noted that there is a history of the Town working collaboratively with Thomaston on road maintenance and stated she will discuss the matter with the Public Works Supervisor.

First Selectman's Update Report D. Raap updated the Board regarding House Bill 5323, which concerns the forensic audit of Litchfield Public Schools and Region 6. She stated that auditors for the State of Connecticut, along with the State Representative and Senator, reported that due to the size of the audit, it would need to be outsourced at an estimated cost of \$750,000. They suggested that limiting the scope could increase the possibility of the bill's passage. D. Raap noted that she and the other three First Selectmen of the Region 20 towns met and agreed to narrow the scope to determining the actual costs of creating Region 20 and identifying the sources of those funds. J. Bongiorno expressed concern that Region 20's Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer do not have access to Litchfield Public Schools' financial records, making it difficult to determine what occurred, as neither previously worked for Litchfield Public Schools. He also stated that he would like to see funds returned from the previous audit. D. Raap responded that such a request would come from the Board of Finance. D. Morosani echoed J. Bongiorno's concerns regarding significant financial malfeasance and questioned how these issues are not ipso facto violations of state law, noting failures to report and unauthorized transfers. J. Bongiorno further stated that it could be argued crimes were committed on the Litchfield Public Schools side, explaining that regional schools operate more like a business, where mistakes can be carried forward, whereas Litchfield Public Schools required votes for changes. He noted that numerous changes occurred between March and June 30th without Board of Education approval, with the Board receiving incorrect information and being misled. J. Bongiorno stated he would like to see an audit conducted for the last quarter.

D. Raap announced that the Earth Day cleanup will take place this Saturday at 9 a.m. starting at the Recycling Center. She also noted that the public hearing on the FY 2026–2027 budget will be held this Thursday at 7 p.m. at Litchfield Intermediate School. The Town Meeting to adopt the budget and other items is scheduled for May 14th at Lakeview High School. D. Raap further stated that a petition is being circulated in Morris to move the Region 20 district meeting to a referendum vote on May 5th, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. She noted that if one town holds a referendum, all towns must do so, and it would cost the Town of Litchfield approximately \$10,000 for one polling location.

Resignations

- a) Keith Shortsleeve from the WPCA from the alternate board, effective 04/10/2026, received and noted.

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

- a) **Interview David O’Hara for the Technology Committee as a regular member, term ending 04/2028 Motion:** J. Bongiorno motioned to appoint David O’Hara to the Technology Committee as a regular member with a term ending 04/2028. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- b) **Appoint Keith Shortsleeve to the WPCA as a regular member, term ending 01/2029 Motion:** J. Bongiorno motioned to appoint Keith Shortsleeve to the WPCA as a regular member with a term ending 01/2029. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- c) **Reappoint Michael Lyn Cappello to the Northwestern CT Transit District, term ending 05/2030**
- d) **Reappoint Denise Raap to the Northwestern CT Transit District, term ending 05/2030**

Motion: J. Bongiorno motioned to reappoint Michael Lyn Cappello and Denise Raap to the Northwestern CT Transit District with terms ending 05/2030. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: On TownofLitchfieldct.gov website

Land Use Update - Carol Bramley D. Raap introduced Planning & Zoning Chairman Carol Bramley and thanked her for serving as Interim Zoning Enforcement Officer and Land Use Administrator. C. Bramley expressed concern that the department is losing revenue due to a lack of zoning permit applications and noted issues with coordination among the Land Use Office, Building Department, and Assessor’s Office. D. Raap stated that an individual has expressed interest in serving as Zoning Enforcement Officer for 30 hours per week, which would require a memorandum of understanding from the union to pursue. C. Bramley emphasized the importance of having a Town Planner, suggesting that the position could be per diem or part-time to review larger proposed projects. She also proposed the option of combining the roles of Planner and Land Use Administrator, with a part-time Zoning Enforcement Officer. C. Bramley further expressed concern about not having access to PermitLink and stated that Land Use Office revenue may not be fully reflected as a result.

Region 20 Update See First Selectman’s Update.

Advanced Tech Update J. Bongiorno stated that having the Acceptable Use Policy signed as received, rather than as an agreement, is acceptable. He noted that some wording in the policy will be adjusted. He added that work continues on developing an Artificial Intelligence policy. J. Bongiorno reported that the WiFi-on-the-Green system is set up; however, some locations are configured too low. He has reached out to Frontier to have these settings adjusted and to request a coverage map.

WPCA Liaison Update J. Bongiorno stated that there are several regulations they would like to add to the Town Meeting agenda.

Sustainable Litchfield Update none

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

Advanced Technology Commission: 1 regular member 02/2028; 2 alternate members 2/2028

Beautification Commission: 2 regular members 1-02/2029, 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 12/2028

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 alternate members 3/2028
Veterans' Advisory Committee: 1 regular member 8/2026; 1 alternate member 8/2027
Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA): 1 alternate member 1/2031
Western CT Coalition, CAC #22: 1 member 5/2027
Zoning Board of Appeals: 3 alternate members 3/2027

Tax Refunds

- a) **One Refund, Totaling \$121.62 Motion:** D. Morosani motioned to approve the one refund totaling \$121.62. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

Transfers none

Old Business

- a) **Discussion of the Litchfield Volunteer Ambulance Grant Agreement** Tabled.
- b) **Discussion and Approval to Adopt a Resolution to Change Location of May 14, 2026 Town Budget Meeting to the Lakeview High School, 98 Wamogo Rd, Litchfield, CT 06759**

Motion: J. Bongiorno motioned to approve to adopt a resolution to change location of May 14, 2026 Town Budget Meeting to the Lakeview High School, 98 Wamogo Road, Litchfield, CT 06759. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

J. Bongiorno read the resolution into the minutes:

Whereas on March 24, 2026, the Board of Selectmen approved the warning of the town meeting to be held on May 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Litchfield Intermediate School Auditorium; now therefore, the Board of Selectmen hereby resolves to change the location to the Lakeview High School, 98 Wamogo Rd, Litchfield, CT; and further ratifies the remainder of the former approved motion.

Motion: J. Bongiorno moved that the resolution just read be approved. D. Morosani seconded the motion. Those who voted aye were: D. Morosani, J. Bongiorno, J. Tenney, and D. Raap. Motion passed.

- c) **Board of Education Election Discussion Motion:** J. Bongiorno motioned to table this item to the May 5th, 2026 meeting. D. Morosani seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.

New Business

- a) **Board of Fire Commissioners and EMS - Members Term Length Motion:** D. Morosani motioned the Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS term length from one year to two years and extend current term lengths from April 2026 to April 2028. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.
- b) **June 16th, 2026 Borough of Litchfield Joint Meeting Discussion** D. Raap noted that June 16 is a regular Board of Selectmen meeting and polled the Board on whether they were agreeable to canceling that meeting in order to hold a joint meeting with the Borough of Litchfield. All members agreed.

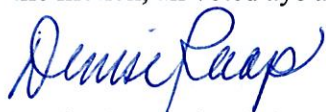
Correspondence

- a) Mail from Michael Peloquin, received and noted.

Executive Session

- a) **Personnel - Sewer Department Motion:** J. Tenney motioned to enter executive session at 6:20 p.m. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed. All members exited the executive session at 6:26 p.m. no motion no action.

Adjournment Motion: J. Tenney motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. J. Bongiorno seconded the motion, all voted aye and the motion passed.



Denise Raap, First Selectman