REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021 ~ 5:30 P.M.
IN-PERSON AT LITCHFIELD FIREHOUSE, 258 WEST ST. AND
REMOTE MEETING BY LIVE INTERNET VIDEO STREAM AND TELEPHONE

Call to Order: First Selectman Denise Raap called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all Selectmen present: Thomas Waterhouse, Jeffrey Zullo, Jodiann Tenney, and Jonathan Torrant. There were also a few members of the public present remotely, and D. Raap hosted the Zoom component of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes
a) Regular 4/6/21: Motion: J. Zullo moved to approve the minutes of 4/6/21 with the following changes: 1) under Sustainable Litchfield Update, change 208 to 280; 2) J. Torrant's request to begin the next sentence with "Sara Reynolds" after the "cost of colored paint." under the Painting Custom Crosswalks item; and 3) T. Waterhouse's request to strike the clause following "Safety was the primary concern of the board." J. Torrant seconded the motion, all voted aye except J. Tenney, who abstained because of absence, and the motion passed.

b) Special 4/9/21: Motion: J. Torrant moved to adopt the special Selectmen's minutes of 4/9/21, and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.
c) Special 4/16/21: Motion: J. Torrant moved to approve the special Selectmen's minutes of 4/16/21, and J. Tenney seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments
Kate Honan, Litchfield, asked who or what document authorized the WPCA to consider a project outside of its service area, noting that they are limited to expansion of its system only in its sewer service area. She felt the WPCA has allowed Woodridge Lake Sewer District and its engineer to control the narrative from the beginning. Then Kate Honan showed her map, and Perley Grimes distributed copies to the Selectmen.

Selectmen's Requests: J. Torrant updated the route change for the Lions Club car parade on May 16th. This change will shorten the distance a little in order to avoid the bridge work in Milton. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to add to Old Business a) "Lions Club Car Parade Route Addition." T. Waterhouse seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

J. Tenney reported the Traffic Study Group is doing very well, and she commended Lauren DellaMonica and John Post for organizing the audit that is being conducted this week. They are still waiting for word on the Road Safety Application that Raz helped them submit to the State for funding. The Collaboration Committee has a draft proposal for submission to both Litchfield and Region 6 Boards of Education, containing ideas for collaboration between the two districts. When the report is finalized, Superintendent Chris Leone said he would be happy to present it to the Selectmen.

J. Zullo mentioned a Zoom meeting with other municipalities regarding solar and virtual net metering and the impact of complex solar programs involving Eversource.

T. Waterhouse referred to the upcoming budget and questioned the budget decrease for the Northfield Green. D. Raap explained that Dan Gallagher no longer will maintain it, so the budget is not needed. The Town of Litchfield will now maintain it until someone comes forward to take over the job. D. Raap will assist T. Waterhouse to set up a meeting to discuss the funds that have accumulated.

First Selectman's Update: D. Raap said she has spoken in favor of House Bill 6442 which is in favor of the broadband initiative. She also sent in testimony opposing Senate Bill 950 which would eliminate the Tree Warden's oversight of the trees in our Town and of the rights of the abutting property owners. She then announced two grants that were awarded to the Town by the Seherr-Thoss Charitable Trust. One was for the marble facade repair on Center School and the other was for our Economic Development Commission to start a marketing campaign to boost the economy and put Litchfield on the map. We also received from the Northwest Community Foundation, a social service grant for a new freezer and new refrigerator for the Town's new food pantry at the Annex. She then reminded everyone of the Earth Day cleanup taking place from the Litchfield Community Field on April 24th. She then noted we are getting close to 1,000 responses from the Facilities Committee's survey. Concerts on the Green will resume this year on June 30th, but attendees need to sign up ahead on MyRec to secure a spot. Our application has been received by DEEP for the Bantam Lake jambs. Lastly, the proclamation was presented to Margaret Fuessenich upon her 100th birthday and a small reception held.

Sustainable Litchfield Update: J. Zullo reported no meeting has been held since the last update.

WPCA Liaison Update - Tom Waterhouse: T Waterhouse reported interviews will be held on April 22nd with the five engineering firms selected. Only one firm will be selected from them, and the process should be complete by July. DEEP has extended the time limit for the facility project review by one year, so we will have no fear of fines. The next WPCA meeting is May 13th.

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

Beautification Commission: 1 regular member; 2 alternate members 2/2022
Cable TV Advisory Council: 1 BOE members 6/2021
Conservation Commission: 2 alternate members 12/2021
Inland Wetlands: 1 alternate member 6/2021
Litchfield Prevention Council: 2 reg. members 6/21, 6/23; 4 alt. members: 2-6/22, 2-6/23
Milton Historic District Commission: 1 regular 1/2023; 3 alternates; 2-1/2024, 1-1/2022
Northwestern CT Transit District: 1 member 5/2022
Pension Commission: 1 regular member 2/23; 1 alternate member 3/2022
Social Services Board: one regular member 2/2022
SMART Task Force: One alternate 2/2024
Traffic Safety Community Action Group: 2 alt. members 1/2023
Veteran's Advisory Committee: 1 alternate member 8/2021
Western CT Coalition, CAC #22 (formerly NW Regional Mental Health Board): 1 member 5/2021
Zoning Board of Appeals: 1 alternate member 3/2025

Tax Refunds: **Motion:** J. Torrant moved to approve the 4 tax refunds as proposed by the Tax Collector in the total amount of $358.81. T. Waterhouse seconded, all voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

a) Car Parade Route Revision: J. Torrant reviewed that the Lions Club car parade route was revised once because it went outside of the Town of Litchfield where our Police have no jurisdiction. The approved revision brought it mostly through the back roads of Milton, but they did not realize that the Saw Mill Road bridge would be under construction. So this last route revision will go from Milton Road to Maple Street to Brush Hill Road. It will eliminate roads in Milton and shorten the route. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to approve the revised car parade route for May 16th. J. Tenney seconded, all voted aye and the motion passed.

New Business

a) Award Bid for Bantam Fire Co. Ambulance: James Brady of the Bantam Fire Co. was present to explain the two bids received. One was from Allegiance Fire & Rescue and the other from Greenwood Emergency Vehicles. Allegiance's bid did not include all the required documents, so it was disqualified. Greenwood's bid was $234,828, of which $100,000 was approved in the Town's Capital Improvements budget. The balance will be funded by the Bantam Fire Co. The Board of Fire & EMS Commission approved the bid at its meeting April 8th. J. Zullo said he is stunned by the price and how the prices have risen in recent years. Other clarification questions were asked by the Selectmen. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to approve the bid for the Bantam Fire Co. Ambulance from Greenwood Emergency Vehicles in the amount of $234,828, with $100,000 coming from the Capital Improvements budget and the balance to be paid by the Bantam Fire Co. T. Waterhouse seconded, all voted aye and the motion passed.

b) Hawkers & Peddlers Ordinance Update: D. Raap explained the background of the need for this ordinance update. In considering a regulation change to provide for food trucks, Planning and Zoning found that many towns regulate food trucks under their Hawkers and Peddlers ordinances. However, Litchfield's ordinance needs to be updated, as it does not address food trucks. While the Borough's Code does speak to vehicles, the Town's does not. She asked the Board to think about whether they want to allow food trucks, in what areas should they be allowed and what fees. She suggested they review the March 1st Planning and Zoning Zoom meeting to hear what comments were made. There were many questions posed and considerations noted. Town Counsel Mike Rybak questioned the vendor stands set up on the State roadside and felt they should be regulated by Planning and Zoning. He asked the Board to review the other towns' ordinances and give him some guidance to draft language including a provision for emergency suspension of the ordinance. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to table this discussion to the second meeting in May, and T. Waterhouse seconded. All voted aye and the motion passed.

c) Recycling Center Ordinance: A new ordinance is being proposed for the Recycling Center, and Naomi Boccio referred to the document entitled *Recycling Center Rules and Regulations*. She explained that the document is just rules and regulations and asked Mr. Rybak to pull from it to update the existing ordinance. Public Works Director Raz Alexe added two requests: 1) to establish a mechanism to change the guidelines and fees without going to Town Meeting; and 2) to define a small commercial user. Raz Alexe said he will work with the Town Attorney to make changes to the language; and if it is ready by May 4th, they will present at that meeting. **Motion:** J. Torrant moved to table this item until the May 4th meeting, and J. Zullo seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Adjournment: **Motion:** J. Torrant moved to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. and T. Waterhouse seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Denise Raap, First Selectman