

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2012
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING - 5:30 P.M.

Call to Order: First Selectman Leo Paul, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. with all Selectmen present: Diane Knox, Jonathan Torrant, Jeffrey Zullo and Paul Parsons.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes: D. Knox moved to approve the regular 9/18/12 meeting minutes and P. Parsons seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments: Mitchell Fishman, 18 Osborn Lane, commented on the lack of digitized records, and suggested that if the Town Hall building project does not happen in the near future, there should still be a Plan B to digitize records.

Selectmen's Requests

Motion: D. Knox moved to remove Transfer #1 from the agenda this evening and J. Zullo seconded. In discussion, Mr. Paul explained that the Board of Education is questioning the method of transferring the funding for the school maintenance transfer of duties. The Board of Education has provided the Town with a check for over \$800,000 which would go into the Town's fund balance if cashed. We would have no money to spend and no authorization to spend over \$1 million on the maintenance side unless it is approved by a transfer through the Board of Finance and the Town Meeting. He must now have a discussion with the Board of Education and administration to rectify this before coming back to the Selectmen's agenda. Mr. Zullo then reminded Mr. Paul he had asked that the authorizations and transfers be worked out before the decision was made to do this. Mr. Paul replied that there was an agreement with the Board of Education that there would be a transfer, so the check will not be accepted. Mr. Zullo felt the transfer should move forward. D. Knox asked if it would be prudent to be proactive and move the transfer forward. Mr. Paul said moving it forward before the Board of Education remembers and understands what was agreed to may cause unnecessary trouble. The Selectmen cannot spend the money without a transfer. The Board of Education Chairman will talk to its attorney before a meeting is set to come to an understanding. D. Knox then felt the delay would be beneficial in order to establish a relationship with the Board of Education in having them understand what needs to be accomplished, which is to the benefit of both the Town and Schools. P. Parsons added that this two-week delay would not have a negative impact as long as the transfer occurs by the end of the year. **Vote:** Upon voting all voted aye except J. Zullo, who voted nay; motion carried.

Motion: P. Parsons moved to add to the agenda under New Business a) "Letter to OPM Correcting POCAD State Map." D. Knox seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Mr. Paul told the Board that with Karl Fisher leaving employment soon, he has contacted an interim Finance Director, Rick Mahoney, who has agreed to fill in at a reduced rate for about a month. Applications have been received for a new Finance Director, and Mr. Mahoney will sit on the interview committee at no charge. He and Karl Fisher will look through the applications to suggest potential candidates.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 8/28/12 Conservation Commission minutes (draft); 9/19/12 Board of Education minutes (draft); 9/26/12 Economic Development Commission minutes (draft); 9/12/12 Inland Wetlands Commission minutes; 8/28/12 Economic Development Commission minutes (draft); 8/6/12 Planning and Zoning Commission minutes; 9/27/12 Safety & Health Committee minutes; 8/30/12 Sandy Beach Commission minutes

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

Beautification Commission: 2 regular members 2/2015, 2/2014; 1 alternate 2/2013
Economic Development Commission: One regular member 6/2013; 1 alternate 6/2013
Inland Wetlands Commission: 1 regular member 6/2014; 1 alternate member 6/2013
Milton Historic District Commission: 2 alternate members 1/2015
Park & Recreation: 1 regular member 6/2014; 2 alternate members: 6/2013, 6/2014
Recycling Committee: 4 members, 2/2015, two 2/2013, 2/2014
Town Hall Building Committee: 1 member, 3/2015
Veteran's Advisory Committee: 2 regular member 8/2013, 8/2015; 2 alternate members 8/2015
Water Pollution Control Authority: 1 regular member 1/2013; 1 alternate member 1/2015

Transfers

a) **Transfer #1 - \$1,060,000 Board of Education School Maintenance Transfer of Duties:** removed from agenda under Selectmen's Requests above

Old Business

a) **Town Hall Building Committee Update – J. Zullo:** Mr. Zullo reported receiving a second cost estimate from Bill Deacon of \$4 million that did not include prevailing wage labor rates, contingency, or soft costs such as architect and financing. After comparison analysis it was agreed that both his and Mr. Martin's were close. There was further discussion about a third independent estimate, but it was deemed unnecessary. Tomorrow night the Committee will review its draft report and work toward finalizing it. D. Knox asked for the cost of renovating this Town Hall, and Mr. Zullo said no analysis outside the scope of its charge would be done by the Committee. Mr. Paul added that Jack Healy would be doing that analysis within the next couple weeks.

New Business

a) **Letter to OPM Correcting POCAD State Map:** Mr. Paul referred to a letter from Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman Susan Lowenthal being sent to the State as a result of a meeting in Goshen. A State of CT Conservation and Development map was being used that had major errors. Ms Lowenthal identified the errors and is asking for a 90-day extension to further review the map for other errors. Mr. Paul has reviewed the letter and would like to send a letter to the Office of Policy and Management on behalf of the Board of Selectmen endorsing P&Z's actions and reiterating the request for the 90-day extension and changes to the map. **Motion:** D. Knox moved to fully support the actions of Litchfield Planning and Zoning Commission and subsequent decisions for the OPM Intergovernmental Policy Division. P. Parsons seconded the motion. Upon voting all voted aye except J. Zullo, who abstained as a member of the Housing Trust referenced in the letter, and the motion carried.

Correspondence

a) **Letter to Selectmen from Litchfield Borough Re Yellow Ribbons:** Received and noted

Motion: J. Tarrant moved to adjourn at 6:03 p.m. and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman