

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021 ~ 5:30 P.M.
REMOTE MEETING BY LIVE INTERNET VIDEO STREAM AND TELEPHONE**

Call to Order: First Selectman Denise Raap called the remote only, regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Selectmen present were Jonathan Tarrant, Thomas Waterhouse, and Jeffrey Zullo. Selectman Jodiann Tenney was absent.

Approval of Minutes: **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to approve the regular minutes of 6/15/21 and J. Zullo seconded. D. Raap noted a correction needed with insertion of the resolution under New Business h) Affordable Housing Plan. J. Tarrant rescinded his motion, and J. Zullo his second. **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to approve the regular minutes of 6/15/21 with correction as stated. J. Zullo seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments: None

Selectmen's Requests: T. Waterhouse thanked Raz Alexe for replacing a tree and removing two stumps on the Northfield Green.

First Selectman's Update Report: D. Raap announced two grants that were submitted by Jahana Hayes, and they were approved and moved on to the last stages of approval. One is \$225,000 to complete the second floor of the Northfield Firehouse, and the other is \$1.1 million for the regional animal control facility in Harwinton. Regarding the signs for parking on Doyle Road, we would need to apply for an encroachment permit from the DOT to post signs on Route 202 that direct parking at the Annex in the first lot on the right. D. Raap wants to patch up the lot near Park & Rec before signs go up. She will speak with Raz Alexe about the encroachment permit.

Motion: J. Zullo moved to add to New Business b) Authorize First Selectman to Sign Resident Trooper Contract 7/1/21 - 6/30/23. J. Tarrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Resignations

a) **Julith Sink, from Beautification Commission, alternate, effective 6/18/21:** noted and accepted

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) **Appoint Julith Sink to Beautification Commission, regular member, term 2/2022:** **Motion:** T. Waterhouse moved and J. Tarrant seconded a motion to appoint Julith Sink as above. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 3/23/20 Conservation Commission; 5/26/21 & 6/16/21 Economic Development Commission; 6/9/21 Inland Wetlands Commission; 6/28/21 Traffic Safety Action Group

Sustainable Litchfield Update: J. Zullo said there will be a special meeting of the group tomorrow. They are working hard on actions for silver. The new logo is now on the website, designed by Evan DaRoss. Litchfield has been invited to participate in a multi-state community energy initiative. It's called Sustainable States Community Energy Challenge. We would be one of only 40 communities participating in this challenge. The three projects involved are climate planning, energy efficiency in buildings, and creating electric vehicle-ready communities. Sustainable Litchfield would like to work on the electric

vehicle charging initiatives and would like the Board's endorsement. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved that the Board of Selectmen endorse the Sustainable States Network Community Energy Challenge and put Litchfield into the program, managing it through the Sustainable Litchfield Committee. J. Torrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried. They would like to install a pilot demo EV charging station in the municipal lot. J. Zullo showed a powerpoint presentation on this proposed 25kW charging station. The Town would pay for the electric line run underground in a conduit to the charger area. The charger would be set up at no cost to us. We would receive 100% of the profits after the system is paid for. This would give us a demo unit quickly for vehicles other than Tesla and will give us at least a year of data on its use before we apply. We would need to get zoning approval and sign a licensing agreement. He will talk more about this at the next meeting.

D. Raap announced that Sustainable CT has matched the \$3,500 raised for the pollinator garden at the high school.

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

Beautification Commission: 3 alternate members 2/2022
Broadband Commission: 1 alternate member 1/2023
Cable TV Advisory Council: 1 BOE members 6/2023
Conservation Commission: 2 alternate members 12/2021
Economic Development Commission: 1 alternate member 6/2023
Litchfield Prevention Council: 2 reg. members 6/23, 6/24; 4 alt. members: 2-6/22, 2-6/23
Milton Historic District Commission: 3 alternates; 2-1/2024, 1-1/2022
Northwestern CT Transit District: 2 members, both 5/2022
Pension Commission: 1 regular member 2/23; 1 alternate member 3/2022
Social Services Board: one regular member 2/2022
Traffic Safety Community Action Group: 2 alt. members 1/2023
Veteran's Advisory Committee: 1 regular member 8/2023; 1 alternate member 8/2021
Western CT Coalition, CAC #22 (formerly NW Regional Mental Health Board): 1 member 5/2023
Zoning Board of Appeals: 2 regular members 3/2023, 3/2025; 1 alternate member 3/2025

Old Business

a) Readopt Resolution for Affordable Housing Plan: Motion: J. Zullo moved that the Board of Selectmen readopt the resolution for the Affordable Housing Plan. He read the resolution that follows, with blanks filled in. J. Torrant seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen may accept planning grant funds to prepare and adopt an Affordable Housing Plan under the provisions of § 8-30j of the Connecticut General Statutes ("CGS").

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Denise Raap, as First Selectman of the Town of Litchfield, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town and to do and perform all acts which she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents.

New Business

a) American Rescue Plan Act Money: D. Raap said we have received \$900,000 of the \$1.8 million county money. We will also be getting \$400,000 of the \$800,000 for the Town of Litchfield. The American Rescue Plan has a document 150 pages long on how we can use that money. She would like two people from the Board of Selectmen and two from the Board of Finance to read through it and suggest the best uses for the money that must be spent by 2024. J. Zullo volunteered to help but noted that

CCM may be able to help interpret the rules for the towns. D. Raap said there is a condensed version as well. The Borough of Bantam will get \$107,000 and the Borough of Litchfield will get \$178,000. J. Tarrant agreed to serve, as long as Dick Sheldon and Dirk Patterson are involved in the group.

b) Authorize First Selectman to Sign Resident Trooper Contract 7/1/21 - 6/30/23: J. Tarrant moved to authorize the First Selectman to ratify the contract for the resident state trooper through June of 2023. J. Zullo seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried. D. Raap said the costs of the first year of the contract, including body cameras and tasers, fits into our budget.

Correspondence: None

Adjournment: **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to adjourn at 6:18 p.m and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried



Denise Raap, First Selectman