1. Call to Order: First Selectman Denise Raap called the special Board of Selectmen’s meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. to be held in conjunction with the Litchfield Board of Warden and Burgesses. Board of Selectmen present were Jonathan Torrant, Jeffrey Zullo, Christine Harding, Denise Raap and Jodiann Tenney.

D. Raap said they wanted to meet with the Borough Board to work more collaboratively on similar projects and to offer resources for assistance. The Town also wants to meet jointly more often.

2. Cooperation Between the Town of Litchfield and the Borough of Litchfield

Sidewalks: D. Raap said the Town is willing to help on sidewalks in any way we can. Acting Warden Gayle Carr said they are using $50,000 from their account and all of the first tranche of ARPA funds, $178,000, for sidewalks. Peter Vermilyea explained the project and said they have an overall plan that was done in 2017 before the Meadow Street sidewalk project began. J. Zullo offered resources on the 15-year road plan held by Public Works Director Raz Alexe. He also said that once the areas of responsibility are clearly defined between the Borough and the Town, then avenues of cooperation and collaboration can be more easily developed. Gayle Carr defined the Borough as a municipality within a municipality, but Mr. Zullo said there are many areas that are not clear.

Heritage Plan: Gayle Carr said they want to adopt the heritage plan, but some areas of it are not acceptable. There is a problem with the recommendation of the Beecher Monument. There is also a problem with the center green recommendation. J. Tenney said the Traffic Committee will be applying for a Federal grant and said they have to be in sync with the Borough on pathways, sidewalks and crosswalks.

J. Zullo asked who owns the green property, the Borough or the Town. He thought the Town did, and Ms Carr thought the Borough did, so he wanted to find the answer. D. Raap suggested a title search. Ms Carr said the Town can do the title search, but the use of the green is totally under the purview of the Borough. J. Tenney asked about Community Field and Public Works, as being part of the Historic District. She felt there might be some discussion as to reallocating areas, such as Public Works, that could not put solar panels on its street-facing roof. As a non-contributing structure in the HDC, they felt it could have been deemed exempt for the solar panels. G. Carr encouraged them to have this discussion with the HDC but cited the rules. Next was a short discussion on the municipal parking lot and a plan for development, including parking permit places for the hotel, reconstructing the retaining wall, siting of the dumpster, and use of the alleyways as access to the lot.

John Torrant spoke about the ownership of the green, and said he would ask the First Selectman to order a title search. He said he is in the process of setting up the first meeting of the Borough/HDC Consolidation Study Committee. He felt there are many misconceptions but is keeping an open mind. J. Tenney felt it was important that we get the support of the Borough in conducting the study. C. Harding said it is important to residents from all parts of town that they have a fair voice over things in the Borough that they use. J. Zullo suggested the Borough send a liaison to the meetings. Ms Carr then asked why this is only about the Borough of Litchfield instead of both boroughs. J. Zullo thought it would be complicated to include two boroughs at the same time, but felt Bantam should be considered later. J. Torrant said he would speak to this, and Roberta Witty told him to shut up. She was told by the Selectmen that we don’t want to be like that and that we respect each other. [J. Torrant abruptly left the meeting.] C. Harding said
we held this meeting to open a dialogue and find a way to work together. Ms Carr said that Mr. Torrant spoke over top of Ms Witty. Ms Witty echoed the same question Ms Carr asked - why not Bantam? Mr. Zullo replied that that was not the issue that was raised initially. J. Tenney said we listen to our constituents and find that there is a lot more discontent with the Litchfield Borough. J. Zullo said that he would be interested in any financial efficiencies to be had, but warned the result would represent a tax increase to those outside the Borough and a decrease to those in the Borough. J. Tenney said we have to work through a history of uncooperation. We have to keep pushing through past history that has divided these two entities.

3. **Beecher Memorial:** Mr. Vermilyea said that around 1904 the University Club commissioned this memorial. Over the years it has deteriorated. There is a committee in place to restore it and move it away from traffic and snowplowing. It is in the State Highway’s right-of-way, so they must apply to the CT DOT. They would like to move it 40 feet east and re-orient it to agree with the heritage plan. They also have to file a new application with the Historic Register. A new base must be constructed. The face plate and medallions must come off.

4. **Future Joint Meeting Schedule:** It was suggested to meet monthly or three times a year, dates to be chosen later.

**Lighting:** Lighting in the Borough is paid for by the Borough per Ms Carr.

5. **Adjournment:** Motion: J. Tenney moved to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. and C. Harding seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

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Denise Raap, First Selectman