

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023 ~ 6:00 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 special hybrid meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. All Selectmen were present: Jonathan Tarrant, Christine Harding, Jodiann Tenney and Jeffrey Zullo.

Old Business

a) FY 2023/24 Budget Review and Approval (tabled from 3/7/23): D. Raap noted changes since the last meeting. C. Bramley explained the needs of Planning and Zoning in legal allocations and consultants and asked to shift the designated amount in different ways. Putting \$3,500 in Prof Legal so Land Use would be able to secure legal advice without delay, and \$3,000 in Prof Other would be beneficial.

Next, there was a discussion about the mechanic position. Could they defer for one year the salary at \$65,000 or maybe for a half year? R. Alexe said they could defer one year, but will begin to get behind eventually. Keeping the mechanic position in for a half year and reducing \$50,000 from chip sealing would keep the budget flat.

C. Harding suggested a possible cut in the Oliver Wolcott Library's 5% increase request, and J. Tenney disagreed. D. Raap said they had cut them by 2.5% last year.

Motion: J. Zullo moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the 2023/24 BOS operating budget in the amount of \$8,826,283. This amount is arrived at by increasing the fire protection line item 2202 by \$1,500 to \$471,359, reducing Public Works operations 3103 in the amount of \$1,587,052 by \$50,000 to \$1,537,052, recognizing that we will fund the mechanic position for half the year, and we will reduce Highways 3102 by \$15,000 from \$903,397 to \$888,397. J. Tarrant seconded the motion. Upon voting all voted aye and the motion carried.

Adjournment: D. Raap announced the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.



Denise Raap
First Selectman