

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2023 ~ 5:30 P.M.  
IN-PERSON AT TOWN HALL ANNEX, 80 DOYLE RD., BANTAM, AND  
REMOTE MEETING BY LIVE INTERNET VIDEO STREAM AND TELEPHONE**

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Denise Raap called the hybrid meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Selectmen Jonathan Tarrant, Jodiann Tenney, and Jeffrey Zullo attending in person, and Selectman Christine Harding attending via Zoom.

**Approval of Minutes:** **Motion:** J. Tenney moved to approve the July 18, 2023 regular meeting minutes, and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye except C. Harding, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

**Public Requests/Comments:** None

**Selectmen's Requests:** J. Tenney thanked D. Raap for information on the Town Beach and thought it was an area to watch regarding the jet skiers coming in on the beach. D. Raap said the DEEP has jurisdiction and would have to designate a swim area to prevent this from happening. J. Tarrant asked to be informed as to what the DEEP representatives have to say about this. D. Raap shared that the Bantam Lake Protective Assn. has sent a petition to DEEP to see if the State would help fund the water quality issues estimated at \$2 million.

J. Zullo then said there was an electrical control issue with the WPCA solar project that was worked out Monday. It went from 1,000 amp to 800 amp service per the national code. There was a delay because of this, but they are now back on track to obtain Eversource approval.

**Motion:** J. Zullo moved to add to the agenda under New Business b) "956 Bantam Road/Bantam Terrace Woodman Proposal." J. Tenney seconded. J. Tarrant asked that it be tabled, as it just came in with much background information to be studied. It was agreed to have a short conversation and then table. Upon voting, all voted aye and the motion passed.

**First Selectman's Update Report:** D. Raap shared that she wrote a letter of support for the connectivity grant (\$800,000) for Borough sidewalk work. The cost of sidewalk repair will be about \$3.9 million - \$4.8 million per Cardinal Engineering. She then said she and J. Tarrant had a meeting at the Jams regarding release of water from the lake and concerns that it's not releasing as fast as they had hoped. The Jams are designed to increase the lake depth, not to decrease it. She then said she attended a farm bill listening session with the Dept. of Agriculture's chairman. Local businessmen and farmers attended to hear information on how the next farm bill can help the small farmers. Finally, she said they have hired a project manager for Public Works who will start on September 5th.

**Resignations:** None

**Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments:** None

**Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes:** 7/11/23 Litchfield Arts Council

**Sustainable Litchfield Update:** J. Zullo said they met today and they have some more work to do, as it seems to be more of an effort to attain gold as he had previously reported.

**WPCA Liaison Update:** C. Harding said she did not attend last month's meeting and shared some of the items as reported in the WPCA minutes. C. Harding will facilitate submission of a proposal from

Chairman Dave Wilson to the Board of Selectmen for WPCA Tax Collections through the Town Tax Collector.

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

Beautification Commission: 1 regular member 2/2025; 2 alternate members 2/2025  
Broadband Commission: 1 alternate member 1/2025  
Cable TV Advisory Council: 2 members, 1 BOE rep, both 6/2023  
Capital Improvements Committee: 1 Citizen at Large 11/2023  
Conservation Commission: 1 alternate member 12/2024  
Economic Development Commission: 2 regulars 6/2025, 6/2026  
Inland Wetlands Commission: 2 alternate members 6/2024  
Litchfield Arts Council: 1 regular member 8/2024  
Litchfield Housing Authority: 2 members 8/2023, 8/2024  
Litchfield Prevention Council: 1 regular member 6/2024; 2 alternate members 6/2023  
Milton Historic District Commission: 1 regular 1/2023; 3 alternates; 2-1/2024, 1-1/2025  
Park & Recreation Commission: 1 alternate member 6/2025  
Pension Commission: 1 alternate member 3/2025  
Sandy Beach Commission: 1 regular member 12/2022  
Social Services Board: 2 regular members 2/2024, 2/2025  
Sustainable Litchfield Committee: 1 alternate 3/2024  
Town Facilities Review Committee: 1 BOF Member 3/2026; 1 BOE Member 3/2026; 2- 3/2026; 1 alternate 3/2026  
Traffic Safety Community Action Group: 1 regular member 1/2025  
Veterans' Advisory Committee: 2 regular members 8/2023, 8/2025  
Western CT Coalition, CAC #22 (formerly NW Regional Mental Health Board): 1 member 5/2023  
Zoning Board of Appeals: 3 alternate members 3/2025

### **Transfers**

**a) Transfer #5 FY 22/23: \$160,920.00 Year-End Adjustments from Wages and Contingency to Misc. Accounts: Motion:** J. Zullo moved that the Board of Selectmen approve Transfer #5 for fiscal year 22/23 for account cleanup in the total amount of \$160,920.00, and forward to the Board of Finance and Town Meeting for approval. J. Torrant seconded the motion. J. Zullo asked what the surplus would be, and D. Raap said unaudited it is about \$1.3 million, bringing the fund balance back up to about 22%. Upon voting, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**Tax Refunds:** None

### **Old Business**

**a) Town Hall HVAC Funding:** The cost of the project is \$77,400 with rebate of \$24,800 and net cost of \$52,600. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the Town Hall HVAC funding in the amount of \$77,400 from the State bid using SavMor Cooling and Heating, and realizing a rebate of \$24,800, for a total net cost of \$52,600. This project does not include the vault. Funding will also be from Contingency or Sidewalks until the rebate is received. This must also be approved by the Board of Finance and Town Meeting. J. Torrant seconded the motion. Upon voting, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**c) Police Activity Report - 7/2022 - 6/2023:** D. Raap explained that she just received the reports from Trooper Jim Holm, and she compared the productivity and cost of one trooper and two constables vs the current two Resident State Troopers. J. Zullo would like to do a spreadsheet but still needs Trooper Holm's data for FY 2021/22. J. Tenney asked that there be a Trooper presence on the roads in the morning

during rush hour in Litchfield and said we could use another trooper. J. Zullo summarized that we have better actionable ticketing now than we did with the constables and we have better coverage with weekends always covered. J. Torrant added that no matter how many police we have, they will never be in the right place during an incident. He felt we are in better shape now with the two troopers than we were with the constables and felt the public would not be in favor of adding \$200,000 to the budget for another trooper. J. Tenney asked that we ensure that the day trooper makes time in his day to be out and visible on the streets.

#### **New Business**

**a) Authorizing Resolution for 2023 STEAP Grant for Reconstruction of Parts of East Litchfield and Naser Roads:** **Motion:** J. Zullo moved that the Board of Selectmen adopt the resolution for a 2023 STEAP grant, and he read the resolution. J. Torrant seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried. The resolution reads as follows:

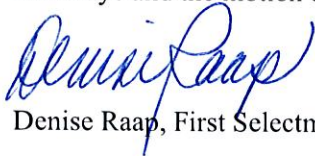
“RESOLVED, that **First Selectman DENISE RAAP** be, and hereby is, authorized to accept on behalf of the **Town of Litchfield**, a 2023 Connecticut STEAP Grant in the amount of **\$500,000.00** for the **Reconstruction of East Litchfield Road and part of Naser Road**; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that First Selectman DENISE RAAP is hereby authorized to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents be necessary to obtain said 2023 STEAP Grant with the State of Connecticut”

**b) 956 Bantam Road/Bantam Terrace Woodman Proposal:** D. Raap quickly recapped the land in question owned by Mr. Clark, who deeded the land to the Town. In order to move forward we need to have the property surveyed. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to table action on this item until the next meeting. J. Torrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**Correspondence:** None

**Adjournment:** **Motion:** J. Torrant moved and J. Zullo seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:26 p.m. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Denise Raap, First Selectman