Town of Litchfield  
Borough/HDC Consolidation Study Committee  
Special Meeting Agenda  
October 13, 2022, 6:00 PM  
Litchfield Firehouse; 258 West St., Litchfield, CT

Call to Order – Committee Chairman: Chairman Jonathan Torrant called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Other members present were Chuck Conn, Dan Parsons, Pat Iannuzzi, Michael Castelli, Cleve Fuessenich, Bruce Schnitzer, and Leslie Caron. Ty Williams joined the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Selectman Jodi Tenney was present in the audience. J. Torrant introduced Bruce Schnitzer to the Committee, as he was absent at the first meeting. Ron Leal and Leo Paul, Jr. were absent.

Approval of 9/8/2022 Special Organizational Meeting Minutes: Motion: C. Conn moved to approve the minutes of 9/8/22 and C. Fuessenich seconded. In discussion, J. Torrant noted there was no vote for Ron Leal, nominated for Vice Chairman, so they agreed to add that to the agenda to finalize. L. Caron also noted she was present for the last five minutes of the meeting, and J. Torrant confirmed. Amendment: J. Torrant moved to postpone the vote with the inclusion of L. Caron listed as present and after the vote for Ron Leal for Vice Chairman was complete. C. Fuessenich seconded, all voted aye and the amendment passed. Upon voting on the 9/8/22 meeting minutes as amended after the referenced vote took place, all voted aye except L. Caron and B. Schnitzer, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

Motion: C. Fuessenich moved to add to the agenda the vote for the Vice Chairman on the 9/8/22 minutes. C. Conn seconded, all voted aye and the motion passed.

Vote on Vice Chairman: To complete the vote on Ron Leal’s nomination as Vice Chairman at the 9/8/22 meeting, all voted aye except L. Caron and B. Schnitzer, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

Seating of Alternate Members as Regular Members if appropriate: Chairman Torrant seated Michael Castelli as a regular member in place of Ron Leal.

Town Green Title Search - Discussion: J. Torrant pointed out the title search by Elizabeth Munch sent as a memo to Michael D. Rybak, Esq. on 8/10/22, and asked members to read through it and become familiar with it before discussion at the next meeting.

Foundation Document Presentation/Discussion – Pat Iannuzzi: P. Iannuzzi presented a document entitled “Background Information” in order to define terms such as “village”, “town”, “borough”, and other historic designations that will be useful to the Committee. He thought it is important for the Committee to be well informed in its discussions. C. Fuessenich said he had been constructing a similar document for the purpose of using it as a welcome bag informational handout, and he will share it with Pat. Pat encouraged the group to read his document and suggest changes if necessary. Chairman Torrant thanked P. Iannuzzi for his work and thought it was very well done.

Distribute/Discuss Historically Appropriate Documents
a. **Resolution Establishing the Committee (again):** J. Torrant explained that the additional sheet from the CT General Statutes, Section 7-195, controls the consolidation of governments. It explains the two ways one municipality can be consolidated into another municipality.

b. **Borough of Litchfield Charter:** He asked that everyone become familiar with the Charter. L. Caron said it now appears on the Borough’s new website.

c. **Consolidation Ordinance of Litchfield – 6/29/1998:** This was drawn up in 1998 by the Town prior to voting on the question 11/3/98. J. Torrant advised that the group read it over.

d. **1998 Referendum Results:** J. Torrant referred to the results of the last effort to consolidate the Borough into the Town in 1998, with it being voted down 2-1.

e. **Letter to Borough from Paul Rosenberg – 11/18/2021:** This is an interesting attempt by Paul Rosenberg to obtain FOI material.

f. **Republican-American Article from 9/19/2012:** This is an article where Selectmen asked the Borough to reconsider its decision to remove yellow ribbons from the trees on the Green.

g. **Letter from Dirk Patterson, Warden, to Borough Taxpayers:** This undated letter explains the payment to the Chabad Lubavitch and the forbearance agreement that was signed.

h. **Proposed Budget- Borough of Litchfield 2021 – 2022:** self-explanatory

i. **State Statute – Sec. 7-329 - Termination of District:** State Statute addressing the termination of a district.

j. **“Boroughing Out” by Paul Rosenberg – 5/21/1998:** another interesting letter from Paul Rosenberg who discovered he moved into the Borough when he received his Borough tax bill

C. Fuessenich said the 1998 committee looked into steps that were not readily apparent that would be involved in a consolidation. He asked if it might be possible to get any background information from that 1998 study so we would not have to go through it again. Specifically, what steps have to be taken to affect a consolidation if so voted. J. Torrant will look into it. L. Caron said the Borough Charter speaks to this. [Ty Williams joined the meeting at this point at 6:25 p.m.] J. Torrant asked Mr. Williams to read the materials handed out to him so he is aware of the different laws, history, definitions and terminology needed for this Committee’s work.

J. Torrant then noted that the next meeting will be November 10th as a special meeting. They will vote on a schedule of regular meetings for 2023 at that time. The following meeting will be December 8th.

**Adjournment: Motion:** M. Castelli moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m., and C. Fuessenich seconded. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Jonathan Torrant, Chairman