

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2014
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING - 5:30 P.M.

Call to Order: First Selectman Leo Paul, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. with Selectmen Diane Knox, Paul Parsons and Jeffrey Zullo in attendance. Jonathan Tarrant was unable to attend.

Approval of Minutes: **Motion:** P. Parsons moved to approve the meeting minutes of 12/17/13 and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments: None

Selectmen's Requests: **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to add under Appointments c), "Appoint Aaron Lanthier to Board of Fire and EMS Commission, Litchfield Fire Co. representative, term 4/2014." D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion: J. Zullo moved to add as New Business b), "Postponement of Annual Town Meeting." D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

L. Paul explained that the Town ordinances dictate that the Town will hold the Annual Town Meeting on the second Tuesday of each January. Bonding was always approved then in advance of approving the budget. We now approve that bonding in the Budget Town Meeting, so going forward, that approval will be held in May. Over the next couple of months he suggested looking at changing the Ordinance to reflect this change. Therefore, this Annual Town Meeting should be postponed until there is business to transact.

Mr. Paul said the budget process has begun and the Capital Committee will meet tonight to finalize its recommended budget.

J. Zullo asked if the residents will be able to drop off their solid waste at the Recycling Center. Mr. Healy said that when the 3-year contract is up they plan to make adjustments, adding compactors, to accommodate up to 120 tons of municipal solid waste a day under the existing permit. There is still about a year and a half left on the contract.

J. Zullo asked if the Fire Marshal's position should be re-evaluated, looking at the possibility of sharing a Fire Marshal with other towns. Mr. Paul said the position has evolved to include emergency management, grant work and far more than just fire inspections. Mr. Paul said he would ask the question at his next meeting of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments. He noted they are now sharing Animal Control Officers and highway equipment.

Resignations: None

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) Reappoint James C. Koser to Water Pollution Control Authority, term 1/2019

b) Reappoint Chad Mitchell to Milton Historic District Commission, term 1/2019

Motion: P. Parsons moved to reappoint James Koser and Chad Mitchel as above in a) and b), and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

c) **Appoint Aaron Lanthier to Board of Fire and EMS Commission, as Litchfield Fire Co. representative, term 4/2014:** **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to appoint Aaron Lanthier to the Board of Fire and EMS Commission as above and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 12/11/13 Inland Wetlands Commission minutes; 12/12/13 WPCA minutes; 12/16/13 Litchfield Prevention Council minutes; 12/18/13 Safety and Health Committee minutes; 12/18/13 Board of Education minutes (draft)

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

Beautification Commission: 3 regular members 2/2015, 2/2014, 2/16; 2 alternates 2/2016
Conservation Commission: 1 member 12/2013; 2 alternate members 12/2015
Economic Development Commission: One regular member 6/2016; 2 alternates 6/2014, 6/2016
Inland Wetlands Commission: 1 alternate member 6/2014
Milton Historic District Commission: 3 alternate members 1/2015, 1/2015, 1/2014
Northwest Regional Mental Health Board, Catchment Area Council #22, at-large member 5/2015
Park & Recreation: 2 alternate members: 6/2017, 6/2014
Recycling Committee: 4 members, 2/2015, two 2/2016, 2/2014
Sandy Beach Commission: 1 regular member 12/2015
Social Services Board: 1 member, 2/2015
Town Hall Building Committee: 1 member, 3/2015
Veteran's Advisory Committee: 2 regular members 8/2016, 8/2015; 2 alternate members 8/2015
Water Pollution Control Authority: 1 alternate member 1/2015
Zoning Board of Appeals: 1 regular member 3/2015

Tax Refunds: **Motion:** P. Parsons moved to approve the eight refunds totaling \$573.83 as submitted by the Tax Collector. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Transfers: None

Old Business: None

New Business

a) **Adopt Resolution for the Blue Swamp Road Bridge over the West Branch of the Shepaug River (No. 05373):** Mr. Paul read the resolution between the DOT and the Town for contract plans, specifications and estimates for the replacement of the Blue Swamp Road Bridge. **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to adopt the resolution as read, and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman, be, and hereby is, authorized to sign the agreement entitled:

“SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AND THE TOWN OF LITCHFIELD FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTRACT PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REPLACEMENT OF THE BLUE SWAMP ROAD BRIDGE (BRIDGE NO. 05373) OVER THE WEST BRANCH OF THE SHEPAUG RIVER UTILIZING FEDERAL FUNDS FROM THE HIGHWAY BRIDGE PROGRAM.”

b) Postponement of Annual Town Meeting: Mr. Paul said he had explained it under Selectmen's Requests. Mr. Zullo asked if the Selectmen have the authority to postpone a meeting that the statute calls for. Mr. Paul said the statute only states the Town will hold an annual town meeting, but our Town Ordinance says the Annual Town Meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of each January and allows for the Selectmen to set the time and place. Our Town Counsel, Mike Rybak, said it could be postponed by the Selectmen until there is business to conduct. Mr. Paul said that given the bonding is now being approved at the Budget Meeting in May, perhaps the Annual Meeting can be held the same night and that the ordinance can be changed. Mr. Paul will talk again with Mr. Rybak.

Motion: J. Zullo moved to postpone the Annual Town Meeting until such time as the Board of Selectmen determine there is business proper to come before the Town Meeting. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Correspondence: 12/2/13 Letter from Thomas McGowan: received and noted

Motion: D. Knox moved to adjourn at 6:09 p.m. and P. Parsons seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman