

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING - 5:30 P.M.

Call to Order: First Selectman Leo Paul, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. with all Selectmen present: Diane Knox, Paul Parsons, Jonathan Tarrant and Jeffrey Zullo.

Approval of Minutes: Motion: J. Tarrant moved and D. Knox seconded a motion to approve the regular November 17, 2015 meeting minutes. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Selectmen's Requests: Mr. Paul introduced Raz Alexe, the candidate recommended for the Public Works Director/Engineer position. They have made him an offer that he has accepted and he spoke about his work history. He is a civil and electrical engineer who started his career in 1986. He was born in Romania and has worked in four countries. He came here 23 years ago and married a woman from Litchfield. He then moved to Florida where he worked in local government as Engineering Director for Planning and Development Services and then in Public Works. They moved to Avon when they had children. He has worked in engineering and management in many capacities. He has been working in civil engineering for the last 18 years. In Public Works he primarily worked on Capital Improvements for the entire county. He managed ten engineers and several people while in Public Works. For the last five years he has been working for ET Environmental Corp. which specializes in design/build for alternative fuels. The Selectmen were supportive and pleased with his experience.

Motion: J. Zullo moved to approve and endorse the selection of Raz Alexe for the Position of Director of Public Works in Litchfield. J. Tarrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried. Mr. Paul congratulated him and welcomed him to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

Public Requests/Comments: Peter Litwin, Litchfield Land Trust, said he met with the Edelmans who own the abutting property to 66 Donahue Road Extension. They had a good discussion with a tentative plan for working with the Land Trust.

Resignations: None

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) Reappoint Ed Ryle to Sandy Beach Commission, term 12/2018: Motion: J. Tarrant moved and D. Knox seconded a motion to reappoint Ed Ryle to the Sandy Beach Commission for term ending 12/2018. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 11/9/15 Board of Finance minutes; 11/5/15 Sandy Beach Commission special minutes; 10/28/15 Economic Development; 10/27/15 Conservation Commission minutes (draft); 11/10/15 & 11/17/15 Capital Improvements Committee minutes; 11/10/15 Inland Wetlands Commission minutes; 11/12/15 WPCA minutes

Green Team Update: J. Zullo said the audit took place on the Intermediate School on November 24th and the data is being reduced with report to be generated from Eversource by the end of December. It will be put together with a municipal action plan and will be presented with recommendations to the Board of Selectmen. The lighting audit will be done by Everlight, with John Post working with them. They hope to present to the Board of Selectmen either late January or February. This information will be valuable to the Town Facilities Committee in its work.

Mr. Paul then explained the CT Green Bank and its efforts to get the municipality to endorse it to allow businesses to make green energy improvements to their property (C-Pace program). The business' loan payback would be tied to the building, and not just the business. The Town would invest and the loan would be tied to the tax bill. Mr. Paul will send Mr. Zullo some information and research it a little more.

Town Facilities Committee Update: J. Zullo said they met on November 24th and have worked out an arrangement with the Board of Ed for the Superintendent to put together an RFP for a consultant with the help of Gary Waugh. They will also look at the Annex operating costs for a scale down of expenses after the court leaves. L. Paul said the Committee will have to come to the Boards of Selectmen and Finance to transfer some more money out of Capital Non-recurring to be put into its account in order to extend the architect contract with John Martin and to pay for the consultant.

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

Bantam Lake Authority: 1 member 12/2018
Beautification Commission: 3 regular members: three 2/2016; 2 alternates 2/2016
Cable TV Advisory Council: 1 member 6/2017
Capital Improvements Committee: 1 PW Dir, 2 citizens at large
Conservation Commission: 2 regular members 12/2016, 12/2018; 2 alternate members 12/2015
Economic Development Commission: 2 alternate members 6/2016
Interlocal Advisory Board (Jambs): PW Dir/Eng./Construction, and 2 BLA members
Litchfield Prevention Council: 3 alternate members: one 6/17, two 6/2016
Milton Historic District Commission: 3 alternate members 1/2015, 1/2015, 1/2019
Northwest CT Convention & Visitors Bureau: 1 member 9/2018
Park & Recreation: 1 regular member; 2 alternate members: 6/2017, 6/2018
Recycling Committee: 5 members: two 2/2016, one 2/2017, two 2/2018
Torrington Area Health District: 1 member 12/2018
Town Hall Building Committee: 1 member, 3/2018; one alternate 3/2018
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: 2 alternate member 3/2015

Transfers: None

Old Business

a) **Donahue Road Ext. Property Discussion and Action:** Mr. Paul referred to the Town expense list to date on this property totaling \$250,519.13. Facilities Manager Len Fasano and Tax Collector Nancy Southard were present to answer questions. N. Southard said the figure covers interest through December and the January installment. J. Zullo noted that all taxes would be current through June without additional tax loss, and N. Southard said that there will be more interest added on to that at the rate of about \$1,800 per month. L. Fasano then explained work that was done on the property and showed photos of the dump cleanup. Mr. Paul said additional fees that will be incurred will be the legal notice for advertising and attorney fees when this property goes out to bid, and closing costs. He confirmed that this sale is exempt from the noticing requirements of CT General Statutes § 7-163e. Approval is needed from the Boards of Selectmen, Finance, and Town Meeting. Mr. Paul said the minimum bid should reflect only that which is needed to recoup the Town's expense. In view of Peter Litwin's comment that since the Town of Litchfield owned the property since June, there would not be further taxes or interest due, L. Paul will discuss this point with Attorney Rybak.

Motion: J. Zullo moved to approve the sale of the property at 66 Donahue Road Ext. and forward this recommendation to the Board of Finance for its approval so that the Board of Selectmen can set a Town

Meeting and subsequently set a minimum bid prior to the sale. J. Tarrant seconded the motion. Len Fasano asked that a weekly property check be done, and Mr. Paul agreed. Upon voting all voted aye and the motion carried.

New Business

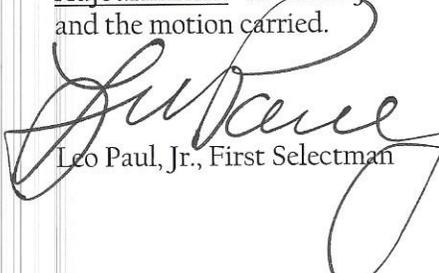
a) **FY 2016 STEAP Grants:** Mr. Paul said there is an opportunity to apply for another round of STEAP grants by 1/15/16 up to \$500,000. He asked the Selectmen to think about worthy projects so they can get the application(s) started. Upon J. Zullo's request Mr. Paul will check to see if the proposed private road qualifies for the Housing Trust project on Torrington Road, as the estimates are higher than anticipated. J. Tarrant mentioned a project on the Green.

b) **Adopt Selectmen's Regular 2016 Meeting Schedule:** **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to approve the 2016 Litchfield Board of Selectmen's meeting schedule and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

c) **Use of Roads for Milton Resolution Road Race - 1/1/16:** **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to approve the use of town roads for the Milton Resolution Road Race on 1/1/16 as requested in the letter dated 11/20/15. P. Parsons seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Adjournment: **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to adjourn at 6:25 p.m. and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman