

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013  
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING - 5:30 P.M.

Call to Order: First Selectman Leo Paul, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Selectmen in attendance were Diane Knox, Jon Tarrant and Jeffrey Zullo. Paul Parsons was unable to attend.

Approval of Minutes: Motion: J. Tarrant moved to approve the regular February 19, 2013 meeting minutes, and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments: Tom Battiste, 173 Richards Road, following up on his comments about the public rest rooms in the municipal lot, stated that 20 million visitors come to Litchfield annually. He hoped that this would help the Selectmen reconsider its closing of the rest rooms over the three winter months.

Selectmen's Requests: Motion: J. Tarrant moved to add after Tax Refunds, "Transfers: Transfer #4, \$19,000, from 1903-51703 Contingency to 1108-50106 Registrars." D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Motion: Per request of L. Paul, D. Knox moved to add under New Business "c) Budget Discussion – Meeting and Future Presentation to Finance." J. Tarrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Mr. Paul said he had spoken with Paul McLaughlin, President of LABA, who said he would check with his executive group to see if they would be interested in funding the \$2,000, or portion thereof, to keep the Municipal rest rooms open.

Mr. Paul then noted the revised P&Z regulation amendment listed under correspondence and asked the Board to read it and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting.

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) Interview Thomas I. McClintock for Litchfield Housing Authority: Mr. McClintock said he had previously served on the Housing Authority for 7 years. He is interested in housing and building. Motion: J. Tarrant moved to appoint Mr. McClintock to the Litchfield Housing Authority until 8/2013 and J. Zullo seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

b) Appoint William J. Buckley, Jr. to Capital Improvements Committee (Citizen at Large), term 11/2013: L. Paul mentioned the vacancy on Capital and said Mr. Buckley was willing to again serve on the committee. He served previously from 1998 to 2009. Motion: J. Zullo moved to appoint William J. Buckley to the Capital Improvements Committee until 11/2013, and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

c) Reappoint Brian Donohue, Zoning Board of Appeals, term 3/2018

d) Reappoint Mary Beth Coelho, Torrington Area Health District, Litchfield Rep., term 12/2015

Motion: J. Tarrant moved to reappoint c) and d) above, and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 1/30/13 Economic Development Commission minutes and draft 2/27/13 minutes; 11/27/12 Conservation Commission minutes (draft); 2/20/13 Board of Education minutes

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

Beautification Commission: 4 regular members 2/2015, 2/2014, 2/16, 2/16; 2 alternates 2/2016

Capital Improvements Committee: 1 member 11/2013

Conservation Commission: 1 regular member 12/2014; 2 alternate members 12/2015

Economic Development Commission: One regular member 6/2013; 1 alternate 6/2013

Inland Wetlands Commission: 2 alternate members 6/2013

Milton Historic District Commission: 3 alternate members 1/2015, 1/2015, 1/2014

Park & Recreation: 2 alternate members: 6/2013, 6/2014

Recycling Committee: 4 members, 2/2015, two 2/2013, 2/2014

Social Services Board: 1 member, 2/2015

Town Hall Building Committee: 1 member, 3/2015

Veteran's Advisory Committee: 2 regular member 8/2013, 8/2015; 2 alternate members 8/2015

Water Pollution Control Authority: 1 regular member 1/2018; 1 alternate member 1/2015

Tax Refunds: **Motion:** J. Zullo moved to approve 5 tax refunds in the amount of \$101.10. J. Tarrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

### Transfers

a) **Transfer #4 - \$19,000 from 1903-51703 Contingency to 1108-50106 Registrars:** Mr. Paul explained the Registrars have requested a transfer of \$12,000 to cover shortfalls and he wanted to include enough to cover a possible referendum, thus the \$19,000. The balance in Contingency will be \$58,000. **Motion:** D. Knox moved to approve Budget Transfer #4 for \$19,000 and J. Tarrant seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

### Old Business

a) **Town Hall Building Committee Update – J. Zullo:** Mr. Zullo reported that Mr. Martin presented his work to date on the cost analysis of the renovation of the Town Hall and Annex over a 20-year period. His estimates now are \$1,410,000 for Town Hall upgrades and \$1,055,000 for the Annex upgrades to bring them up to code. Mr. Martin will continue to refine the numbers. The Committee is working toward a final presentation for public hearings in May, with dry run for the Board of Selectmen.

### New Business

a) **Approve Road Closure for “Girls Just Wanna Run” Road Race 5/5/13:** Mr. Paul said he has checked with the Police, and it will be handled the same as in previous years. **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to approve this race as above on 5/5/13, and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

b) **Approve Use of Roads for Rev3 Triathlon 6/2/13:** Mr. Paul has spoken with the Police, as there were problems the past two years with cyclists not staying on the side of the road and with trash along the roadsides. They have spoken to the organizers and said they will allow the race one more time, and if the problems do not improve, they will not entertain allowing permission for another year. The Rev3 people have guaranteed it will be different this year. **Motion:** D. Knox moved to approve the use of the roads for the Rev3 Triathlon on June 2, 2013. J. Tarrant seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

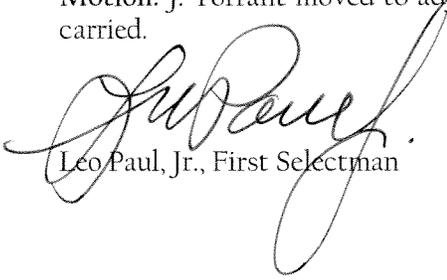
c) **Budget Discussion – Meeting and Future Presentation to Finance:** Mr. Paul said the Finance Department has done a great job working on the budget. He reviewed it with the Board, pointing out reductions in requested increases. The total proposed budget is \$8,398,480.00, an increase of \$153,843.000, for a gain of 1.87%. He asked the Board to prepare for a special meeting on the budget next week, inviting Public Works to attend. J. Zullo will get some notes to Mr. Paul before the meeting, as he will be away next week.

Mr. Paul voiced his concern over the Governor's proposed budget that takes car taxes away from the towns. COST has represented his comments in Hartford and he will express his concerns again at LHCEO. He's trying to get some of the local CEO's to have a press conference to voice concern as well. If this goes into effect, Litchfield would lose \$1.5 million in taxes, and our mil rate would have to increase by about 1.5 mils.

Correspondence

a) **Proposed P&Z Revised Regulation Amendment:** Mr. Paul summarized that P&Z is proposing to restrict the size of non-residential buildings in Litchfield to limit the size to 10,000 square feet. Anything larger would have to apply for a special exception. P&Z will have a public hearing, and has the authority to change the regulation, different from Town approval needed for an ordinance change. L. Paul said he would have the Economic Development Chairman attend the next Selectmen's meeting, upon Mr. Zullo's suggestion. Mr. Paul said he has already talked to the LHCEO about having this come to a vote, as it effects the entire region.

**Motion:** J. Torrant moved to adjourn at 6:42 p.m. and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman