

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2014
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. All Selectmen were present: Jonathan Tarrant, Diane Knox, Paul Parsons and Jeffrey Zullo.

Approval of Minutes: Motion: J. Tarrant moved to adopt the regular September 16, 2014 minutes and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye except Mr. Paul, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments: Diane Fredsall of 33 Woodruff Lane was concerned about parking restrictions at the Center School parking lots. Her family members have received tickets while others have not. While she has already spoken to the Police, she asked Mr. Paul to tell them to ticket everyone and not just her family.

Mindy Garbin and Dean Girardin, who live near the end of South Lake Street, said they are glad the no parking signs are up in that area. Dean said their road is a cut-through to avoid town traffic and no one stops for the stop signs anymore. They asked that should a parking area be designated that it not be near the residential area. Mr. Paul said there is no proposal to put any parking in that area.

Selectmen's Requests: J. Zullo asked about the status of the public hearing for Jonathan Costa's presentation on the school consolidation study. Mr. Paul said he has talked to Mr. Costa and he wants to wait until about the same time as Region 6's hearings.

D. Knox asked why the Board of Finance meeting was canceled. Mr. Paul said the audit is running late because the Board of Education was slow in providing the Board of Finance OPEB and pension information, and the final information on the fund balance is not ready yet from Finance. It is not a problem as there is no rush to do pay-as-you-go since we don't bond until February. J. Zullo then asked if Attorney Rybak could answer whether a Chairman can arbitrarily cancel a meeting. Mr. Rybak said normally the better route is to call the meeting and adjourn to a later date, although he could not say it was legally compelled.

Resignations: None

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) Interview Heather Karpa for Northwest Regional Mental Health Board, at-large member, term 5/2015: Heather Karpa said she grew up in Litchfield and is currently a member of Litchfield Volunteer Ambulance and Litchfield Fire. She has friends and family struggling and in recovery. She knows she can help and is excited about working with this group. Motion: J. Zullo moved to appoint Ms Karpa as above, and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

b) Interview Frederick A. Colson III for Economic Development Commission, term 6/2017: Mr. Colson said he has been here for three years and was CFO at the Forman School. He has been active in business communities and organizations to build economic strength. He attended the September meeting of the EDC. Motion: J. Zullo moved to appoint Mr. Colson as above and J. Tarrant seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 8/5/14 Zoning Board of Appeals minutes; 8/13/14 and 9/17/14 BOE minutes (drafts); 8/25/14 Special BOE minutes (draft); 9/10/14 Inland Wetlands

Commission minutes; 9/11/14 WPCA minutes; 8/27/14 and 9/24/14 (draft) Economic Development Commission minutes; 8/26/14 and 9/23 14 Conservation Commission minutes (drafts); 8/7/14 Design Review Advisory Committee

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

Beautification Commission: 2 regular members 2/2015, 2/2016; 2 alternates 2/2016
Conservation Commission: 1 regular member 12/2016; 2 alternate members 12/2015
Economic Development Commission: 3 alternate members 6/2015, 6/2016, 6/2017
Litchfield Prevention Council: 3 alternate members, two 6/2016, 6/2017
Milton Historic District Commission: 3 alternate members 1/2015, 1/2015, 1/2019
Park & Recreation: 2 regular members 6/2016, 6/2018; 2 alternate members: 6/2017, 6/2018
Recycling Committee: 4 members, 2/2015, two 2/2016, 2/2017
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: 2 regular members 3/2015, 3/2018

Tax Refunds: Motion: J. Tarrant moved to approve the tax refunds in the amount of \$6,590.60 as outlined by Tax Collector Nancy Southard. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business

a) Award Northfield Fire Engine 2 Tanker Bid: Mr. Paul gave kudos to the Northfield Firehouse for obtaining an enormous grant of \$358,625 that was put toward the cost of the firetruck, thereby reducing the Town's cost by \$210,000. Motion: J. Tarrant moved to award the Engine 2 tanker bid to Smeal in the amount of \$648,867, and P. Parsons seconded. The low truck bid was \$150,000 over budget, but the grant enabled the purchase. Mr. Paul commended Northfield Fire on its worksheet to understand the bids. Upon voting all voted aye and the motion carried.

b) Parking Issue at End of South Lake Street: Mr. Paul gave the history of the closure of the end of South Lake Street. In 1972 the section of South Lake Street from Gallows Lane to the bridge had been closed instead of from the bridge through the golf course. Therefore that section of the road belongs to the two abutting property owners and is now a no parking area. White Memorial and Aquarion still have access. Jack Healy will do some research and a survey of residents to see what they would find acceptable for parking. They are looking at a couple options. One is an area not directly across from Plumb Hill on White Woods Road and the other is a strip of parking on the island between White Woods Road and South Lake Street. A representative from UCONN is in the process of doing a study on parking availability, access and safety. J. Tarrant said he would like to see the results of the research to come up with an option. D. Knox agreed and would be in favor of the island for parking. P. Parsons said we need to look at the bigger picture that opens when the Town provides parking for specific uses. J. Zullo said the study is important and asked who has title to the cemetery. J. Healy said the Town owns it but it has been designated to the Cemetery Association. The other access on White Woods Road to the boardwalk had been improved by Public Works with a grant and permission of the DOT and is used all the time. L. Paul said any lot created on Town property becomes the responsibility of the Town for liability and maintenance. Mr. Zullo said the access traffic to the Greenway will only increase as the trail is improved and continued possibly past Bantam along the Shepaug rail line, and it behooves the Town to create parking, keeping in mind the residents' concerns. This study will take a few weeks to complete.

c) **Baldwin Hill Drainage/Safety Problem:** Mr. Paul said the resident has been told there is no money for this drainage project in the current year. They had hoped to move Capital money, but it was bonded money that cannot be used for a non-bonded project. The project will be in next year's budget (\$190,000 for drainage and paving of the road).

d) **Adopt 2014 Homeland Security Resolution:** L. Paul said that this grant helps provide the salary for the Emergency Operations Manager and for equipment. The Memorandum of Agreement will be signed both by him and Rick Lynn of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments. He read the resolution aloud. **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to adopt the 2014 Homeland Security Resolution and P. Parsons seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried. The resolution follows:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

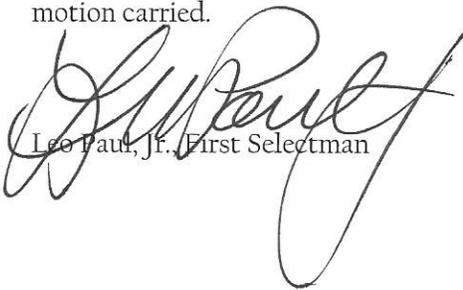
FURTHER RESOLVED, that Leo Paul, Jr., as First Selectman of the Town of Litchfield, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Litchfield and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

e) **Award Bid for Clark Road Culvert Repairs:** **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to award the Clark Road culvert repairs bid to low bidder NJR Construction in the amount of \$216,041.20. D. Knox seconded the motion. J. Healy said the road will be closed for 4 – 6 weeks. Mr. Paul asked him to notify every resident of the road about the closure. The overage of \$53,641.20 will come from the Capital Culvert Account. Upon voting, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Correspondence

a) Letter from Dean Birdsall Re Litchfield Community Greenway Support: Received and noted.

Adjournment: **Motion:** J. Tarrant moved to adjourn at 6:29 p.m. D. Knox seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.



Leo Paul, Jr. First Selectman