

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2011
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. Also present were Selectmen William Dranginis, R. Christopher Blake, Paul Parsons and Diane Knox.

Approval of Minutes: **Motion:** W. Dranginis moved to approve the regular April 19, 2011 meeting minutes and C. Blake seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Requests/Comments: None

Selectmen's Requests: L. Paul announced there was a press conference Thursday publicizing the launch of the Town's new website, www.townoflitchfield.org. The Freedom of Information rules have been changed so that the Town is not responsible for meeting the FOI deadlines on the website. Mr. Paul said he has received from CCM the Governor's budget, and he passed out copies to the Board. He also noted the Board of Finance met on Monday and approved the amended budget, which has been moved to a Town Meeting on May 11, 2011, 7:00 p.m. at the Intermediate School.

Resignations: None

Interviews, Appointments & Reappointments

a) Interview Judith M. Hogan for Social Services Board, term 2/2014: Mrs. Hogan said she has worked as a school nurse in Warren, Morris, Goshen and also Litchfield for the past 30 years. She understands family struggles and their needs within the community. She would like to serve her community and thought she could contribute on the Social Services Board. **Motion:** W. Dranginis moved and C. Blake seconded a motion to appoint Judith Hogan to the Social Services Board, with term expiration of 2/2014. Upon voting all voted aye and the motion carried.

b) Reappoint William A. Conti to Economic Development Commission until 6/2014: L. Paul explained that Mr. Conti was just appointed to serve in a partial term that is already expiring.

c) Reappoint Linda Fiore to Northwest Regional Mental Health Board until 5/2013

Motion: W. Dranginis moved to reappoint Items b) and c) above, and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Declining Reappointment: John Endicott and Howard Kerpelman from Board of Ethics, effective 6/1/11

Liaison Reports/Commission-Committee Minutes: 4/13/11 Inland Wetlands minutes; 3/3/11 Design Review Advisory Committee minutes; 4/6/11 BOE special and regular minutes; 3/22/11 Conservation Commission minutes; 3/30/11 Economic Development Commission minutes

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

Beautification Commission: One regular member 2/2014; one alternate 2/2013
Board of Ethics: Two regular members 6/2012, & 6/2013; two alternate members 6/2011, 6/2013
Inland Wetlands Commission: One alternate member 6/2011
Milton Historic District Commission: Two alternate members 1/2012
Park & Recreation: 2 alternate members: 6/2013, 6/2014
Pension Commission: 1 alternate member 3/2013
Recycling Committee: Two members, 2/2012, 2/2013
Veteran's Advisory Committee: One regular member 8/2012; two alternate members 8/2012
Zoning Board of Appeals: Two alternate members 3/2015

Tax Refunds: Motion: W. Dranginis moved and C. Blake seconded a motion to approve the 17 tax refunds for a total of \$25,664.86. The two large overpayments were paid by the owners as well as by the mortgage company through escrow. Upon voting on the motion, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Transfers: None

Old Business: None

New Business

a) CCM Discussion (Jim Finley): Jim Finley, Kevin Mallony and Rebecca were present from CCM. Mr. Paul said there was some discussion about a CCM advertisement that seemed to be in direct support of Gov. Malloy's new budget. C. Blake explained that he felt the Town should not be a member of CCM and felt it was more of a larger town or city lobbying group and that it was too much a part of the problem in the CT State government. He felt the ads were touting and selling the Governor's budget. He had people ask if the Town pays dues to CCM when they heard the ads.

In response Mr. Finley said Litchfield was a member when Craig Miner was First Selectman but then dropped its membership until recently. He said they have worked hard to save municipalities money regarding unfunded mandates, binding arbitration reform, prevailing wage thresholds, etc. They are the biggest advocates for education finance responsibilities to towns and cities. They also were the biggest advocates for convincing the Governor to find \$540 million in new State funding in the face of the \$3.2 billion deficit to keep the ECS (education cost share) level funded for the next two years. The second version of the budget has made municipal aid and property tax relief a priority, the goals CCM was working for.

Mr. Blake said that \$50 million goes from Litchfield to Hartford, and \$5,070,000 million will come back under the proposed budget, rather than \$5 million. Mr. Blake felt that in order to get the small increase in relief to the municipalities (\$70,000, which comes from a share of the State sales tax), CCM spent a huge amount of money to push the budget with the largest tax increase in CT history through the House and Senate. He says they are only deferring the shared sacrifice the towns will have to eventually endure. He asked that they separate their advocacy functions from the helpful statistical data they gather for the towns. Mr. Paul said he agreed but did say there is great value in the information they provide the towns. The Board thanked them for attending.

D. Knox asked for a document showing CT's municipalities and the money they send to the State, along with the amounts that the State sends back to the towns. L. Paul said he would find it and have it for the next meeting.

b) Adopt Resolution for Renovation of Community Field Project, STEAP 2004-03: L. Paul said the purpose of this is to extend the availability of the funds for a year. Mr. Paul read the resolution. **Motion:** W. Dranginis moved to adopt the resolution, and C. Blake seconded. No discussion. Upon voting all voted aye and the motion carried. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION OF MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY

RESOLVED, that Leo Paul, Jr. of the Town of Litchfield be and hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of this municipal corporation a Personal Services Agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance to the Renovation of Community Field Project, STEAP 2004-03.

IN ADDITION, that Leo Paul, Jr. is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut.

c) Adopt Resolution for Municipal Plan of Conservation and Development Grant Program: L. Paul explained that Gov. Rell wanted to help towns get their plans of conservation and development done but did not want to penalize the towns such as Litchfield that had completed the POCAD on time. This allows us to collect \$12,000 from the State on the grant to be used for the next POCAD round of work. **Motion:**

W. Dranginis moved to waive the reading of the resolution, and D. Knox seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried. **Motion:** W. Dranginis moved to adopt the resolution, and D. Knox seconded. No discussion. Upon voting all five voted aye and the motion carried. The resolution reads as follows:

Certified Resolution of the Executive Authority

The Executive Authority (Board of Selectmen) of the Town of Litchfield met on May 3, 2011 and adopted a resolution by the vote of _____ to _____ which:

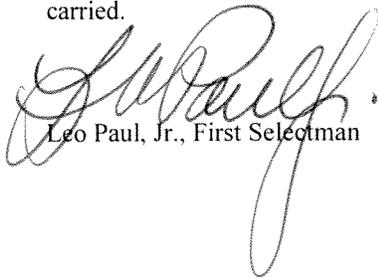
- (1) authorizes the application for the Municipal Plan of Conservation and Development Grant referenced in Section 13(a)(1) and Section 32(a)(1) of Public Act 07-7 (An Act Authorizing and Adjusting Bonds of the State for Capital Improvements and for Transportation Infrastructure Improvements and Concerning The Connecticut State University Infrastructure Act);
- (2) identifies Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman, as an individual authorized to sign the Notice of Grant Award and administer the grant. Such application is attached to and made part of this record.

d) Waive Blasting Permit for Intersection of Old Smith Road and Smith Road: The Town is doing the road work and Public Works Director Jack Healy has requested waiving the fee for the blasting permit. **Motion:** W. Dranginis moved to waive the fee for the blasting permit, and C. Blake seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

e) Approve Road Closures for Revolution3 Triathlon Race 6/5/11: L. Paul asked for approval to close Bissell Road, White Woods Road and Webster Road, although they will not be closed down completely for this bicycle race. The triangle area at the intersection of Bissell Road and White Woods Road is the only area being closed from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. **Motion:** W. Dranginis moved to approve the road closures and C. Blake seconded. Mr. Paul explained further the exact location of the closures. There will be police directing traffic at the closures. This is the third year for this triathlon. W. Dranginis asked that the roads be left open. **Motion:** P. Parsons moved to move the question, and W. Dranginis seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried. **Vote:** Upon voting on the motion, all voted aye except for Mr. Dranginis who voted nay; motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Motion: W. Dranginis moved to adjourn at 6:33 p.m. and C. Blake seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.


Leo Paul, Jr., First Selectman