TOWN OF LEBANON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2008
MINUTES

A special town meeting of the electors and those qualified to vote at the town meetings of the Town of Lebanon was held on Monday, December 15, 2008 in the Lyman Memorial High School Auditorium, 917 Exeter Road (Route 207) Lebanon, Connecticut. Audience: 32

First Selectman Joyce Okonuk called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

First Selectman Okonuk then called for nominations for moderator.

Moved by Brandon Handfield, seconded by Ken Gardner, to appoint Robert Slate as Moderator. Vote called – motion passed

Moved by John Bendoraitis, seconded by Charles Haralson to wave the reading of the warning of the meeting. Vote called - motion passed

Moved by Brandon Handfield, seconded by John Bendoraitis to bring item 1 to the floor “Consider and act upon authorizing the release and expenditure of up to $40,000.00 (forty thousand dollars and no cents) in previously allocated funds from Account #220-020-6469, Open Space Funds, in the Capital Non-recurring Budget, for the purpose of conducting property appraisals, surveys and associated legal expenses for proposed land preservation projects.”

Discussion: Town Planner Philip Chester stated that these funds will eliminate the cost of appraisals, surveys and legal fees related to those property owners who are donating properties for proposed land preservation projects.

Moderator Slate called the question. Vote called, item 1 passed

First Selectman Joyce Okonuk stated that no action on item 2, “Consider and act upon authorizing the release and expenditure of up to $70,203.55 (seventy thousand two hundred three dollars and fifty-five cents) in previously allocated funds from Account #220-020-5344 in the Capital, Non-recurring Budget, for the reconstruction and paving of Leonard’s Bridge Road, Phase IV”, was necessary, as these funds were released at the September 22, 2008 Special Town Meeting.

Moved by John Bendoraitis, seconded by Brandon Handfield, to bring item 3 to the floor “Consider and act upon authorizing the release and expenditure of up to $12,000.00 (twelve thousand dollars and no cents) in previously allocated funds from Account #220-020-5402, Board of Education, Student Management Software, in the Capital, Non-recurring Budget, for the purchase of Student Management Software.”

Discussion: Superintendent Robert McGray, and Director of Business and Technology Mal Leichter spoke to the question as follows. The current software program used for attendance, report cards and other school report functions will become obsolete by the end of the school year. The $12,000 will be used to replace the software now in use.

Moderator Slate called the question. Vote called, item 2 passed

Moved by John Bendoraitis, seconded by John Huling to bring item 4 to the floor “Consider and act upon authorizing payment of up to $7,787.50 (seven thousand seven hundred and eighty seven dollars and fifty cents) to the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation for expenses not reimbursable by the State for the design and construction of the Goshen Hill Bridge over Bartlett Brook, funds to come from Fund Balance.”

Discussion: First Selectman Joyce Okonuk spoke to the question as follows. The Town of Lebanon has completed the reconstruction of Camp Mooween Bridge over the Yantic River, Jones Road Bridge over the Ten Mile River, Goshen Hill Bridge over the Bartlett Brook, and Goshen Hill Bridge over Pease Brook with funds from the State of Connecticut’s Federal/Local Bridge Program. There has been no cost to the town for these projects. The State of Connecticut audit of the Goshen Hill Bridge over Bartlett Brook, has shown a debt of $7,787.50 that is not reimbursable by the State for design and construction costs. ( a list of the bridges and their related costs follows these minutes)

Moderator Slate called the question. Vote called, item 4 passed

Minutes TM 12/15/08
Moved John Bendoraitis, seconded by Brandon Handfield, to bring item 5 to the floor “Consider and act upon an Ordinance establishing a Water Pollution Control Authority.”

Discussion: First Selectman Joyce Okonuk spoke to the question as follows. Amston Lake is considered State water despite its private ownership, and it is the responsibility of the Town of Lebanon to see that it is clean. The Hebron side of the lake is fully sewered. A previous Town Meeting approved funds ($25,000) to conduct a State mandated study of the lake’s water quality. The study showed a decline in the water quality. The Town must now comply with a State Department of Environmental Protection order to conduct a sewer study, and install a sewer system around the Lebanon side of the lake. The establishment of a Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) is the first step the town must take to comply with this order. (A copy of the proposed Ordinance follows these minutes)

Moderator Slate called the question. Vote called, item 5 passed

First Selectman Joyce Okonuk stated that no action on item 6, “Consider and act upon authorizing the release and expenditure of up to $150,000.00 (one hundred fifty thousand dollars and no cents) in previously allocated funds from Account #220-020-5342, Highway Road Plan – LoCIP, Highway Road Plan – LoCIP, in the Capital, Non-recurring Budget, for the replacement of the Oliver Road Bridge” was necessary, as these funds were released at the September 22, 2008 Special Town Meeting.

Moved by John Bendoraitis, seconded by Brandon Handfield, to adjourn at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan C. Coutu
Town Clerk