

151 Exeter Road
Lebanon, CT 06249
April 15, 2007

Mrs. Joyce Okonunk

First Selectman – Town of Lebanon

579 Exeter Road

Lebanon, CT 06249

RE: Public Hearing for removal of branch overhanging Bender dirt road.

Dear Joyce:

On Friday April 13th, 2007 at 6:00 pm a public hearing was held by the Tree Warden at the site of the above mentioned location. The public hearing was held in response to public opposition to the removal of a large low hanging branch over Bender dirt road extending from a very large old white oak tree. The purpose for the removal of the branch was to allow all emergency vehicles from both Lebanon and surrounding support communities to be able to drive underneath the tree to access any emergency situation that may arise on Bender dirt road. The current height of the branch prohibits passage of some emergency vehicles.

A decision was made at the public hearing for the town to lower the grade of the road to provide adequate clearance under the branch. The grading is to be conducted as quickly as possible. If this remedy resolves the clearance issue then the branch will not need to be removed. In the event that the road grade cannot be lowered to provide adequate clearance, then the branch will need to be removed.

It is the decision of the Tree Warden that all remedies to provide adequate clearance under the branch will be attempted and that the branch will not be removed at this time. If, after all remedies to provide clearances fail, then the branch will be removed. In all instances where trees are involved, public safety must take priority.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Nichols

Lebanon Tree Warden