

MINUTES  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
May 2, 2011

The Annual Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of Lebanon, Connecticut, was held on Monday, May 2, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. in the Lyman Memorial High School Auditorium, 917 Exeter Road (Route 207) Lebanon, Connecticut. Audience: 143

First Selectman Joyce R. Okonuk called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

First Selectman Okonuk then called for nominations for moderator.

Moved by Phil Johnson, seconded by Keith Wentworth to nominate Edward Tollmann as moderator.

Vote called - motion passed.

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

Moved by Phil Johnson, seconded by Frank Malozzi to bring item 1 to the floor. *“Consider and act upon the acceptance of a \$20,000.00 (twenty thousand dollars and no cents) grant from the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism to perform an historic and architectural resource survey of Lebanon’s 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings.”*

Town Planner Philip Chester spoke to the question as follows. The town has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism. Grant funds will be used to hire an architectural historian to conduct an historic and architectural survey of 130 buildings around and surrounding the Lebanon Green. The town will not be asked to fund any part of this project. Additional grant funding for the remaining 170 buildings will be applied for.

Moderator Tollmann called the question: Vote called – item 1 passed

Moved by Phil Johnson, seconded by Linda Finelli to bring item 2 to the floor. *“Consider and act upon approving the 2011-12 Fiscal Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP), as proposed by the Board of Selectmen.”*

First Selectman Joyce Okonuk gave an overview of the FY 11-12 CIP plan. Okonuk stated that to qualify for State funding the town must have a capital improvement plan in place that has been approved through town meeting. Town funds have to be spent first before State reimbursement is received.

*(Copy of the FY 11-12 CIP follows these minutes)*

Moderator Tollmann called the question: Vote called – item 2 passed

Moved by Al Vertefeuille, seconded by Jason Huling to bring item 3 to the floor. *“Consider and act upon revising the motion made at the January 31, 2011 Special Town Meeting that created the Library Building Committee to include authorizing the Board of Selectmen to appoint seven members to the Library Building Committee, terms to expire upon completion of project.”*

First Selectman Joyce Okonuk stated that whereas the motion to form a Library Building Committee did not include the number of members and their terms, the Board of Selectmen is requesting a revision to the motion for their inclusion.

Moderator Tollmann called the question: Vote called – item 3 passed

Moved by Phil Johnson, seconded by Gregg Lafontaine to bring item 4 to the floor.  
*“Consider and act upon a Proposed Revised Ordinance regarding Scenic Roads.”*

Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman James Jahoda explained the two revisions made to the Scenic Roads Ordinance as follows. Section 3 line (1) revision waives the public hearing fee if a roadway is recommended for Scenic Road designation in the most recent Plan of Conservation and Development. Section 4 line (a) revision gives the Planning and Zoning Commission the option to require engineering or other technical reports documenting the need for the alteration and offering potential alternative solutions. (copy of the revised ordinance follows these minutes)

Moderator Tollmann called the question:  
Vote called – item 4 passed

Moved by Al Verteuffille, seconded by Phil Johnson to bring item 5 to the floor. *“Consider and act upon the proposed 2011–12 Fiscal Year budget for the Town of Lebanon in the amount of \$22,483,457.00 (twenty-two million four hundred eighty-three thousand four hundred fifty-seven dollars and no cents) for the General Town Government, Board of Education, and Special Revenue Funds, with Revenue Estimates of \$7,448,159.00 (seven million four hundred forty-eight thousand one hundred fifty-nine dollars and no cents) and the remainder to be raised by taxes with an estimated mil rate of 22.8 mils, representing a 3.3% increase in the amount to be raised by taxes, and to adjourn said item to Referendum, unless such date and times are altered by the Town Meeting, on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. Electors and persons qualified to vote in Town Meetings who are not electors, shall vote at the Fire Safety Complex, 23 Goshen Hill Road, Lebanon, Connecticut.”*

Board of Finance Chairman Liz Charron presented an overview of the proposed 2011-2012 Fiscal Year Budget and stated the following. The proposed 22.8 mil rate reflects a 0.7 mil increase due to decreased revenues. The proposed mil rate would increase taxes on a \$100,000 property assessment by \$70. Most areas of the budget were capped at a 1.5% increase. In response to many concerns voiced at the Budget Public Hearing, the Board of Finance made the following adjustments by adding back \$32,000 for police services, \$12,000 for public works and \$10,000 to the Library. They also added \$30,000 for fire apparatus to the Capital Budget, and \$20,000 for open space. (copy of the proposed FY 11-12 budget follows these minutes)

Superintendent of Schools Janet Tyler presented an overview of the Board of Education budget and its process, which reflects a 1.5% increase over FY 10-11. Tyler stated that some of the budget cuts include the elimination of 3.6 teaching positions due to retirees who will not be replaced, and the Middle School multi-age program.

Moved by Al Verteuffille seconded by Jason Huling, to adjourn item 5 to referendum.  
Vote called – motion passed

Consider any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Items suggested are as follows.

- Lake properties/residencies should be made year round
- Allow seasonal residents to serve on boards and commissions.

Moderator Edward Tollmann thanked all those who serve on boards and commissions volunteering many hours and for their outstanding efforts and work on behalf of our town.

Moved by Phil Johnson, seconded by John Bendoraitis to adjourn at 9:35 PM.  
Vote called – motion passed

Respectfully submitted,

Susan C. Coutu  
Town Clerk