

Board of Selectmen
REGULAR MEETING
Town Hall
May 6, 2008 - 6:00 PM
MINUTES

1.0 First Selectman Joyce Okonuk called the Regular meeting of the Board of Selectman to order at 6:00 P.M. Selectman John Bendoraitis and Selectman Russ Blakeslee were present. Also in attendance, Administrative Assistant Mary Ellen Wieczorek and audience of 4.

2.0 **Minutes**

- 2.0** Motion by Blakeslee, seconded by Okonuk to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2008 Special Meeting. Vote: 2 yes (Blakeslee and Okonuk); 1 abstain (Bendoraitis) Motion carried.
- 2.1** Motion by Blakeslee, seconded by Okonuk to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2008 Special Meeting. Vote: 2 yes (Blakeslee and Okonuk) 1 abstain (Bendoraitis) Motion carried.
- 2.2** Motion by Bendoraitis, seconded by Okonuk to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2008 Special Meeting. Vote: 2 yes (Bendoraitis and Okonuk); 1 abstain (Blakeslee) Motion carried.
- 2.3** Motion by Bendoraitis, seconded by Okonuk to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2008 Regular Meeting. Vote: 2 yes (Bendoraitis and Okonuk); 1 abstain (Blakeslee). Motion carried.
- 2.4** Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2008 Special Meeting. Vote: 2 yes (Okonuk and Bendoraitis); 1 abstain (Blakeslee) . Motion carried.
- 2.5** The minutes of the March 17, 2008 Special Meeting were acted upon at a previous meeting. No action.
- 2.6** The minutes of the March 25, 2008 Special Meeting were acted upon at a previous meeting. No action.
- 2.7** Selectman Bendoraitis requested the following correction to the minutes of the April 1, 2008 Regular Meeting. Item 8.0 (Public Forum), 7th sentence, strike: *nor have the Selectmen stating that the Board should have notified the town when initially approached by CL&P and other meetings.* Corrected to read: ***nor have the Selectmen notified the public when initially approached by CL&P.*** Motion by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2008 Regular Meeting, as amended. Vote: 2 yes (Bendoraitis and Blakeslee); 1 abstain (Okonuk). Motion carried.
- 2.8** Motion by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2008 Special Meeting. Vote: 2 yes (Blakeslee and Bendoraitis); 1 abstain (Okonuk). Motion carried.
- 2.9** Motion by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2008 Special Meeting. Vote: 2 yes (Bendoraitis and Blakeslee); 1 abstain (Okonuk) Motion carried.

3.0 **Correspondence - None**

4.0 **Old Business**

4.1 As a follow-up to the last meeting, Selectman Bendoraitis contacted Walker Systems to see if they would be agreeable providing a few hours of "start-up familiarization" on our computers at little or no cost to the town. Bendoraitis contacted Jonathan Davis at Walker Systems who agreed to providing four hours of up front "familiarization" service at no cost. The Computer Tamers proposed "unlimited service" in their proposal with Walker Systems providing eight hours of support per month. Should service be needed beyond that level, extra hours will be at \$190 per hour. In addition, however, should the eight hours not be needed, the town will receive a credit for unused time that will be reflected in a reduced service bill the following month. Bendoraitis and Okonuk expressed concern that the connectivity problems between the Finance Office and Bd of Education Office has not been solved since it began in July 2007, resulting in lost productivity and much frustration by staff. Numerous calls to the Computer Tamers, although responded to, did not result in any solution. Furthermore, the town brought in a contractor to check out the wires and changed from Charter Communication to AT&T in an attempt to help rectify the situation to no avail. Walker Systems, having various levels of staff available, would offer what appears to be a more diverse group of employees that may better meet the town's needs. Bendoraitis commented that he is not dissatisfied with the overall service by the Computer Tamers but feels the time has come to try someone new. As previously stated at meetings, Blakeslee stated that the proposal from the Computer Tamers is lower and that the business is local. Allen Stein of the Computer Tamers stated they were not aware the problem still existed--they cannot fix a problem if they don't know about it. Okonuk replied that the Computer Tamers had been called several times a week for weeks/months and the problem was not rectified. Staff just gave up and stopped calling. No calls from the Computer Tamers were being initiated to check on the status of the problem. Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to award the computer/server maintenance contract to Walker Systems in the amount of \$14,568.00/yr for a two (2) years contract to be paid quarterly. Vote: unanimous.

4.2 The Recreation Commission voted to award the Field Mowing and Maintenance bid to LawnScapes of Lebanon, who was awarded the bid the last two years. The Commission noted satisfaction with this contractor's work and wish to continue doing business with him. Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to award the Mowing and Maintenance of the Aspinall Fields to LawnScapes of Lebanon for a two (2) year contract for a total of \$9,000.00 from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2010, as recommended by the Rec Commission. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

4.3 The Finance Office part-time Accountant confirmed that there will be no detrimental impact on any other deductions should the Town proceed to change the MERS contributions to pre-tax basis. Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to elect to change the employees MERS contribution to a pre-tax basis effective July 1, 2008 for the Lebanon Town Employees in Group Code B and for the Lebanon Highway Employees in Group Code T. The First Selectman will communicate this change to employees. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

4.4 At the April 25, 2008 Special Meeting, the Selectmen approved the CIP Plan for 2008-09. Following that meeting, an error was discovered in that the incorrect bridge was named under Item #1 of the Plan. The Oliver Road Bridge is the bridge that should be noted under Item #1 of the CIP Plan (not the Tobacco Street Bridge). The First Selectman corrected the error and presented the revised CIP Plan to the Selectmen. Motion by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to amend the CIP Plan as proposed. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

4.5 The First Selectmen will meet the two bidders to walk through the Senior Center land for potential hay cutting. **No action** on the quotes for hay on the Lebanon Senior Center off Dr. Manning Drive.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Motion by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to hire Richard Chabot to provide cleaning services at the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House Museum for the 2008 season for a total of \$450.00, funds to come from the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House fund. Vote yes. Unanimous.

5.2 Motion by Okonuk seconded by Blakeslee, to approve the Jonathan Trumbull. Jr. House Museum the administration budget of \$9,350.00 for FY 2008-09, funds to come from the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House Fund. Vote yes. Unanimous.

5.3 At the March 25, 2008 Special Town Meeting, an Ordinance to establish a Historical Preservation Board was passed. The Selectmen now must appoint members to this newly established Board. Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to request the J.T. Jr. House Study Committee to recommend to the Board of Selectmen current members to be appointed to the newly established Historical Preservation Board; furthermore, the Selectmen will advertise these vacancies on Town webpage. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

5.4 No action on the revised ordinance for alternate members to the Board of Finance.

5.5 Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to hire the following personnel for the 2008 aquatic season at the Community Center Pool, as recommended by the Recreation Commission:

(a) One (1) Director; rate of pay \$13.11 / hr.

(b) Two (2) Water Safety Instructors (WSI); rate of pay \$ 9.84/hr.

(c) Up to Six (6) Life Guards; rate of pay \$8.98 / hr.

Vote: yes. Unanimous.

5.6 Resignations from Commissions/Committees

(a) Motion by Bendoraitis, seconded by Okonuk to accept the resignation of Kevin Blakeslee from the Summer Dance Fest Committee. The Board extends their appreciation and thanks for the years of service Kevin has given to this Committee. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

5.7 Appointments/Re-appointments to Commissions/Committees

APPOINTMENTS

(a) The Board took no action on the appointment of Mike Sundquist to the Economic Development Commission noting they would like the opportunity to meet and speak with Mr. Sundquist prior to appointment. No action.

(b) Motion by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to appoint Tom Corso to the Summer Dance Fest Committee, term to expire March 1, 2011, as recommended by the Committee. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

REAPPOINTMENTS

(a) Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to reappoint John Meli to the Flood and Erosion Control Board, term to expire June 1, 2011, expressing their sincere gratitude to Mr. Meli for his many years of service and commitment to the Board. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

6.0 Tax Refunds – Motion by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the following tax refunds as presented by the Tax Collector. Vote: Yes. Unanimous.

Francis Malozzi	Adjusted refund	\$22.78
Peter J. Chiarizio, III		\$80.40
James Civitello		\$86.30
James Civitello		\$29.24
Todd C. Hyburg		\$223.40
Todd C. Hyburg		\$190.23
John & Denise Okonuk		\$55.90
John & Denise Okonuk		\$58.44
John & Denise Okonuk		\$61.90
Robert or Mary Jane Crotty		\$164.83

7.0 Financial Report Update

The Selectmen reviewed YTD budgets as of 4/30/08 noting accounts that appear concerning. Joyce will discuss their concerns with the Town Accountant and report back at the next meeting.

8.0 Public Forum – There was no public requesting to participate.

9.0 Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. Vote: yes. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce R. Okonuk
First Selectman