

**Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
September 1, 2020 — 5:00 PM
TOWN HALL & TELECONFERENCE
MINUTES**

Members Present: First Selectman Kevin Cwikla, Selectmen Kathleen Smith, Glen Coutu, Robin Chesmer, and Betsy Petrie McComber

Others Present: Julie Culp (Library Building Committee); Jim Russo (Library Building Committee); Dennis Cronin (resident); Berkeley Nowosad (Library Board of Trustees); Kenneth Perry (resident); Tony Tyler (Friends of Lake Williams); Allen Olenick (LVFD); Phil Chester (Town Planner); Valerie Belles (Senior Accountant); Jay Tuttle (Highway Foreman); Bernard Dennler (Administrative Assistant/Teleconference Host)

1.0 Call to Order

K. Cwikla called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

2.0 Public Forum

Julie Culp spoke in favor of the Jonathan Trumbull Library expansion. She discussed the history of the Library Building Committee and the expansion, including the 2015 referendum authorizing funding and bonding. She asked the Board of Selectmen to authorize the First Selectman to sign the contract for Phase II Services as listed under Item 6.1 of the agenda.

Jim Russo also spoke in favor of the JTL expansion. He discussed ongoing concerns some have expressed about the parking. He stated that individuals who sit on multiple boards or organizations involved in these discussions should recuse themselves from a future joint meeting of those organizations.

Dennis Cronin, 320 Babcock Hill, spoke in favor of the JTL expansion and authorizing the First Selectman to sign the contract for Phase II architectural services. D. Cronin also spoke in favor of funding for milfoil treatment at Lake Williams Dam.

Berkeley Nowosad, Library Board of Trustees, spoke in favor of the Board of Selectmen moving the library expansion forward.

Kenneth Perry, 110 Clark Road, spoke about a conservation easement held by the Town of Lebanon. He stated the Board of Selectmen can change it. He said an amendment was made previously under First Selectman Joyce Okonuk. He discussed the history of the easement and stated he wants to build another house on the land. K. Cwikla said he would look into the issue.

3.0 Correspondence

3.1 Monthly Letter from Troop K

B. Dennler said the report had not arrived.

3.2 Police Activity Report

The Selectmen reviewed the report.

4.0 Financials

4.1 Monthly budget reports

K. Smith said the Switchboard account is in the red. V. Belles stated she would investigate that account.

5.0 Consent Agenda

K. Cwikla stated items under 5.1 would be struck and taken up as new business.

K. Smith MOVED to approve the Consent Agenda as amended:

5.1 ~~Approval of Minutes~~

~~Approve the following minutes:~~

- ~~a. Minutes of the August 11, 2020 Special Meeting~~
- ~~b. Minutes of the August 14, 2020 Special Meeting~~
- ~~c. Minutes of the August 25, 2020 Special Meeting~~

5.2 Approval of Tax Refunds

Neal Traci and John A	\$2874.78
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G. Coutu SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 5:0

6.0 New Business

Discuss and act upon:

6.1 Authorize First Selectman to sign a contract for Phase II Services for Additions and Renovations to the Jonathan Trumbull Library with Jacunski Humes Architects, LLC

B. Petrie MOVED to authorize the First Selectman to sign the contract for Phase II Services for Additions and Renovations to the Jonathan Trumbull Library with Jacunski Humes Architects, LLC. G. Coutu SECONDED.

Discussion followed the motion. B. Petrie stated the contract looked standard for a Jacunski Humes contract. B. Petrie stated she was concerned about what may happen after the two-year period of the contract if the work was not completed. She said she hopes they will be in the building by then. They also discussed a previous asbestos study on the building which B. Petrie noted should be available. B. Petrie also stated she would not expect to be invited by the Historical Society to a joint meeting on their behalf, although she is on the LHS Board, as the LHS has a subcommittee handling the Green.

The Selectmen noted modifications had been made to the base AIA agreement based on town counsel recommendations.

MOTION CARRIED 5:0

6.2 Issue at Lake Williams Dam

T. Tyler, Treasurer of the Friends of Lake Williams, stated an incident happened at the dam during the tropical storm Isaias which was an eye-opener. She stated a fire on Rt 207 sent fire trucks to hook up to the dry hydrant at Lake Williams. The number of trucks parked at that location delayed the fire trucks from being able to fill up. She said there needs to be more oversight and involvement from the Town. She suggested the Town and Friends of Lake Williams work together and try to get the state involved in management of the lake, including with the milfoil problem.

Assistant Fire Chief A. Olenick said there can be issues with the access to the dry hydrant. He also raised concerns about when the lake gets lowered which could cause frost to get into the dry hydrant pipe when it freezes. B. Petrie discussed the need to treat all of the lakes similarly and that there are some public safety issues at all of them. She suggested putting a gate in the area of the dry hydrant could solve the safety issue. T. Tyler noted that all funds to date used at Lake Williams have come from a fund that came from tax dollars paid by property owners solely from the lake.

NO ACTION TAKEN

6.3 Lebanon Green Conservation and Preservation Training

K. Cwikla said the Selectmen had been invited to preservation training by the Lebanon Historical Society. He said he would get back to them with dates.

NO ACTION TAKEN

6.4 Hiring of a Transfer Station Materials Handler

K. Cwikla said there is a vacancy due to an employee leaving for college. He said Benjamin Treiss who previously worked there is looking to return.

B. Petrie MOVED to reinstate B. Treiss at his previous hourly rate, effective immediately. Coutu SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED 5:0

6.5 Appointment of municipal representative for TN Dispatch

K. Cwikla MOVED to appoint Betsy Petrie McComber to serve as the municipal representative for TN 911 Dispatch G. Coutu SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 4:0

B. Petrie abstained from the vote.

B. Petrie MOVED to amend the agenda to add item 6.6 "Authorize the First Selectman to sign the Savol Pool Contract." K. Cwikla SECONDED.

6.6 Authorize the First Selectman to sign the Savol Pool Contract

K. Cwikla said the Recreation Department was looking for the First Selectman to sign the contract to close the pool. G. Coutu said the pool was not open this year. B. Dennler said the pool had been opened for maintenance only. K. Cwikla added that the pool cover also needs to be replaced. Funds would come from the Recreation budget.

B. Petrie MOVED to authorize the First Selectman to sign the 2020 Savol pool contract. K. Smith SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 5:0

K. Cwikla MOVED to amend the agenda to add Item 6.7a, b, c "Approval of Minutes" as struck from the Consent Agenda. G. Coutu SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 5:0

6.7 Approval of Minutes

Approve the following minutes:

- a. Minutes of the August 11, 2020 Special Meeting

K. Smith MOVED to approve the Minutes of the August 11, 2020 Special Meeting K. Cwikla SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 2:0

G. Coutu, R. Chesmer, and B. Petrie abstained from the vote.

- b. Minutes of the August 14, 2020 Special Meeting

K. Smith MOVED to approve the Minutes of the August 14, 2020 Special Meeting. K. Cwikla SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 2:0

G. Coutu, R. Chesmer, and B. Petrie abstained from the vote.

- c. Minutes of the August 25, 2020 Special Meeting

K. Smith MOVED to approve the Minutes of the August 25, 2020 Special Meeting. K. Cwikla SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 3:0

G. Coutu, R. Chesmer, and B. Petrie abstained from the vote.

7.0 Old Business

Discuss and act upon:

7.1 Road and Bridge Update

K. Cwikla said Anchor is continuing to monitor work on Chappell and Goshen Hill. Smith Road construction should begin soon. Randall Road has been referred to Anchor Engineering for completion on the bid documents.

J. Tuttle said there is a balance of \$30,000 and there is still center line striping to perform. He said that is prior to the new appropriations from the Board of Finance. He said shimming, chipping,

and crack sealing has been completed. There is striping to be done at the Fire House and at the Senior Center. He confirmed work at the Senior Center will be complete in the next few weeks.

NO ACTION TAKEN

7.2 COVID19 Operations Update

K. Cwikla said the Selectmen did a school walkthrough ahead of schools opening on September 8. Town Hall doors will also be unlocked on that date. The Director of Health from Uncas Health visited the Town Hall to help advise on the full opening plan. B. Petrie discussed the fire department's operations and said they are continuing to pick up PPE and also toured the schools for some operations. She said the First Selectman should meet with fire department officials to discuss the COVID fund which has been funding stipends for volunteers. K. Smith noted the governor's Executive Order have been extended to February.

NO ACTION TAKEN

K. Smith MOVED to adjourn the order of agenda and add Item 8.0 "Discuss and Act Upon: Energy Consulting Contract." K. Cwikla SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 5:0

8.0 Discuss and Act Upon: Energy Consulting Contract

V. Belles said she and K. Cwikla had met with Best Practice for an Energy Consulting Contract. It would be the same work as performed currently by Tradition Energy. She said she has been working with Bob Sirpenski at the schools on this. The Town and schools share an energy consultant. K. Smith asked if it would function the same as the current contract the Town is under for consulting services. V. Belles said yes.

G. Coutu MOVED to authorize the First Selectman to sign a contract for consultation services with Best Practices Energy . K. Smith SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 5:0

K. Smith MOVED to enter Executive Session and to invite attorney Catherine Marrion of Waller, Smith, and Palmer to participate by phone. G. Coutu SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 5:0

9.0 Executive Session

9.1 Executive Session: Discussion regarding Lebanon Green Litigation/Attorney-Client Communication

Executive Session began at 6:15 PM. Executive Session ended at 7:15 PM.

10.0 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bernard W. Dennler III
Administrative Assistant