

Board of Selectmen
REGULAR MEETING
October 2, 2012 – 5:00 PM
Town Hall
MINUTES

- 1.0** Selectman Linda Finelli called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Selectman John Bendoraitis and Administrative Assistant Patti Handy were also present; First Selectman Joyce Okonuk was absent. Audience: 2.

- 2.0** **Public Forum**
None

- 3.0** **Minutes**

- 3.1** Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2012 Special Meeting. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 3.2** Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2012 Regular Meeting. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 3.3** Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2012 Special Meeting. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

- 4.0** **Correspondence**
None

- 5.0** **Police Report**
None available at this time

- 6.0** **New Business**

- 6.1** The following three bids were received for the contract for Snow and Ice Control for the Lebanon Public Schools:
- B&W Paving of Mystic: \$58,900
 - Bakaj Construction of Lebanon: \$85,000
 - T.M. Builders of Uncasville: \$142,800

Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to award the bid for Snow and Ice Control Services for Lebanon Public Schools for the 2012-13 season to B&W Paving LLC of Mystic, CT in the amount of \$58,900.00, pending review of bid qualifications and reference check. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

6.2 Jim Macauley, Chairman for the Energy Task Force Advisory Committee (LETF) was present to discuss recommendations from the LETF regarding energy alternatives for CL&P customers in Lebanon. Macauley outlined the current situation with Direct Energy (DE) and the attempts made by the LETF to negotiate a better rate for the remainder of this year. He said that DE was not willing to lower the current rate to equal the rate of other towns in the area due to market timing. The LETF has requested that Lebanon be included in the 2013 regional rate with other local towns, and DE agreed. DE will provide Lebanon with the 2013 agreement. Macauley also had an update on the performance contracting proposals from Celtic Energy to improve energy efficiency in town buildings and the progress made by the Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) program. He said that thus far the N2N program has earned 80K award points based on the number of residential sign-ups for energy assessments. The LETF would like to use a portion of these points to fund Celtic Energy's initial assessment for Lebanon and to create an on line "dashboard" for the town. Celtic may also be able to guide the Town in selection of a solar PPA provider in the future that would generate electricity that would be available to the Town at a special rate. If implemented these proposals would be no cost to the Town. Macauley also suggested that more involvement by Town employees and/or elected board members would be a great asset to the LETF. However, as Town staff is already stretched to their limits it was suggested that perhaps an increase in membership to the LETF may be a more viable possibility.

6.3 The Selectmen discussed the request for a computer replacement in the Health Department as another pc is failing. **Motion made by Finelli, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve up to \$700 for the purchase of a replacement computer for the Health Department, funds to come from TIP Account #208-620-6200. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

6.4 The Selectmen discussed renewing the General Service Agreement with the Walker Group. All are pleased with the quality of service, and agreed that the increase in cost over the budgeted amount was acceptable. **Motion made by Finelli, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the proposed annual General Service Agreement with the Walker Group for 11/1/12 – 10/30/13 in the amount of \$10,416.00, which represents an increase of \$1,272.00 over the budgeted amount for FY13, funds to come from Acct. 100-415-5320. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

6.5 The Recreation Commission has requested permission to hire Anchor Engineering to apply for a permit from the State Department of Health for water connection to the Aspinall Pavilion. Anchor would be responsible for all of the paperwork required for the permitting process. The Selectmen requested that Sandy Tremblay, Recreation Coordinator obtain an engineering cost estimate before approval. No action.

6.6 Prior to advertising mowing services for Lebanon Cemeteries, First Selectman Okonuk met with Sexton Marcia Schuett and the present mowing contractor. Sexton Schuett explained that there were numerous complaints this year about the quality of the mowing, mainly due to the regular rain which caused the grass to grow and need more frequent cuttings, especially in the New Lebanon Cemetery and the Goshen Cemetery. It was the recommendation of all three that mowings be increased in both New Lebanon and Goshen for the next year, increasing each by two mowings per year. The Selectmen asked for more clarification and a few additional changes before going out to bid and would like to discuss with the First Selectman again before advertising the bid specifications.

Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to add Item 6.7 to the agenda: Discuss hiring a consultant to assist the Town in investigating telephone upgrade options for Town Hall.

6.7 Bendoraitis explained that he has been working with Town Hall staff on possible options for upgrading the current telephone and internet system, both of which are very out-dated and inadequate for modern needs. Bendoraitis has obtained an estimate from Partner Consulting, a professional firm that specializes in conducting needs assessments for telecommunications applications. Bendoraitis was not requesting action on this item, only a discussion on the scope of the project and to express the need for technical expertise in moving forward with this project.

7.0 Old Business

None

8.0 Appointments/Reappointments to, and Resignations from, Boards, Commissions and Committees

8.1 **Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to accept the resignation of Kirsten Westbrook from the Economic Development Commission. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

Motion made by Finelli, seconded by Bendoraitis to add Item 8.2 to the agenda: Discuss and act upon an appointment to a full seat on the Economic Development Commission to fill the vacancy left by Kirsten Westbrook's resignation. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

8.2 **Motion made by Finelli seconded by Bendoraitis to appoint Jan Grigas from an alternate to a full seat on the Economic Development Commission to fill the vacancy created by the Kirsten Westbrook resignation, term to expire on 2/1/2016. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

9.0 **Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to approve a Tax Refund for September 2012 as follows:**

Tax Refunds – September 2012	Amount
Litwin, Joshua	\$3,194.50

Vote: Yes, unanimous.

10.0 Executive Session

10.1 The Selectmen entered into Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. to discuss potential litigation involving the Greenman Card Cemetery. Invited into Executive Session were Marcia Schuett, Sexton, Cemetery Commission members Howard Wayland, Chairman, Keith LaPorte and Shaun McCarthy.

Selectmen returned to regular session at 6:55 p.m. No action taken.

11.0 Financial Reports

None

12.0 Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joyce R. Okonuk". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman