

Board of Selectmen
SPECIAL MEETING
January 12, 2015 – 11:00 AM - Town Hall
MINUTES

1.0 First Selectman Joyce Okonuk called the meeting to order at 11:16 a.m. Also present were Selectmen Linda Finelli and John Bendoraitis and Administrative Assistant Patti Handy. Audience: 0.

2.0 On October 16, 2014 the Board of Selectmen authorized the First Selectman to enter into negotiations with the Willimantic Switchboard (WW) for emergency dispatch services for FY 2016. Both WW and the current provider of dispatch services, KX Dispatch (KX) of Colchester were notified in writing of the town's intention to change provider as of July 1, 2016.

The First Selectman met with and conveyed this message to WW representatives asking them to proceed to develop a contract for all the entities within the WW Dispatch region which includes Willimantic City Police and Fire, North Windham, South Windham and Windham Center Fire Departments, Windham Hospital and the Town of Franklin. Lebanon would sign a contract if all parties involved did the same. The annual cost to be a member of WW would be approximately \$19,300 per year. Since that time, despite verbal assurances that the contract would be forthcoming, nothing has developed.

In the meantime, KX Dispatch of Colchester is implementing the planned merger on July 1, 2015 with the Town of Montville. Should Lebanon stay with KX the annual fee for FY 16 would be \$58,220 and if the town leaves prior to the end of their two-year contract, the penalty would be \$50,050. At a recent meeting of KX, the First Selectman was urged to make a definite decision on the dispatch services ASAP as the other entities involved need to be made aware of their annual costs for FY16. Lebanon's leaving KX would result in their receiving less state aid, so revenues would decrease thus increasing costs to members.

To date, no contract has been received from WW. Based on newspaper reports, the City and Dispatch Board still have a great deal to work out. As a result, the Selectmen felt the town should remain with KX for the final year of the contract which ends on 6/30/2017 and will continue to look at Willimantic Switchboard as they work out the details of their contract during the next year.

Motion made by Finelli/Bendoraitis to direct the First Selectman to notify KX of Lebanon's intention to finish out their two-year contract and to withdraw the letter of notice to KX that was previously sent. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

Handy left the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

3.0 The Selectmen finalized the Selectmen Operating Budgets for FY 2016. **Motion made by Finelli/Bendoraitis to submit the Selectmen's Operating Budgets for FY 2016 to the Finance Office. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

4.0 **Motion made by Okonuk/Bendoraitis to adjourn the meeting at 3:56 p.m. Vote: Unanimous.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman