

Board of Selectmen
SPECIAL MEETING
August 19, 2014 – 5:00 PM
Town Hall

MINUTES

- 1.0** The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Joyce Okonuk at 5:27 p.m. Selectmen Linda Finelli and John Bendoraitis were present. Guests: (2) Planner Phil Chester and Finance Director Veronica Calvert.
- 2.0** At the request of the town auditor, Finance Director Veronica Calvert drafted a policy pertaining to the town's self-insured dental policy. The policy includes recommendations from auditor which includes keeping a large balance in the reserve (auditor recommends 15% of the average of total claims paid from past two fiscal years) and reserve can be used for unanticipated claims or to stabilize premium increases. Selectmen recommended minor changes to language. Funds are managed in two pools, one each for the town and Board of Education.
Motion by Bendoraitis/Finelli to approve the Town of Lebanon's Self-Insured Dental Policy as edited. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 3.0** Public Act 14-33 (as part of CGS 12-91) allows Boards of Selectmen in non-charter towns to exempt horses and ponies from taxation by way of an ordinance. Current Assessor Emma Sousa, who was unable to attend the meeting, and former Assessor Tom Tanganelli recommend to the Selectmen that such an ordinance be enacted. It was determined by the Assessors that the time it takes to do the billing and other associated costs does not warrant the small amount of revenue generated. Only a fraction of the horses and ponies in town have ever been identified for assessment purposes by their owners leaving all the rest not identified nor taxed. Planner Phil Chester also supports the ordinance as it is his opinion that the town should be encouraging more agriculture and allowing residents to have horses and ponies on their properties will result in additional taxation on the structures housing the animals. **Motion by Okonuk, seconded by Finelli to approve An Ordinance Exempting Horses and Ponies from Taxation per CGS 12-91 (PA 14-33). Vote: Yes, unanimous**
- 4.0** First Selectman Joyce Okonuk and Phil Chester met with town attorney Charles Anderson to review the parcels and process necessary to dispose of town-owned property. All identified parcels were reviewed and it was determined that the process will take more time than expected so this matter should not be brought to the upcoming town meeting. Attorney Anderson will continue to work with the town to prepare all recommended parcels for future sale. Matter tabled.
- 5.0** **Motion by Finelli, seconded by Okonuk to approve a Resolution for the Lease-Purchase of a 2015 International Plow Truck and to bring this transaction to Town Meeting for final approval. Vote: Yes, unanimous**
- 6.0** **Motion by Finelli, seconded by Okonuk to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Vote: Yes, unanimous**

Respectfully Submitted,



Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman