

Board of Selectmen
SPECIAL MEETING
January 17, 2014 – 8:30 a.m.
Town Hall

MINUTES

- 1.0** Meeting was called to order at 8:40 AM by First Selectman Joyce Okonuk. Selectmen John Bendoraitis and Linda Finelli were also present as well as Finance Director Veronica Calvert.
- 2.0** **Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to call a Special Town Meeting for Monday, January 27, 2014, 7:30 p.m. at Lyman Memorial High School. Vote: Yes, unanimous. (See attached)**
- 3.0** The Selectmen received an email request from the Board of Finance requesting the Selectmen waive the bid requirements for the contract for audit services. There was no member of the Board present at the meeting to explain the request. Bendoraitis stated that although he has no issues with the services provided by the current auditor, the current auditor has been with the town for over ten years and from an administrative perspective it would be healthy for another set of “eyes” to look at our accounting to see if any other recommendations may be in order. Finelli agreed with Bendoraitis and stated that bringing in someone new to do an overview of our financials would be a good option. She also expressed her satisfaction with the work performed by the current auditor but does feel the service should be placed out to bid. Should the current auditor be the lowest bidder or the choice of the Board of Finance, she would have no objection. Selectmen asked Calvert her opinion on the matter and she feels the present auditor should be allowed to continue as she has worked closely with him and found him to be a ready-resource, providing guidance that has resulted in much progress being made in the department. He gets into the detail of our accounting which she feels is important. Although the contract with the town is for audit services only, the current auditor has always been available by telephone or email (without charge) for questions and opinions throughout the year. He is used as a regular resource for the Board of Finance Chair and the Finance Department. Okonuk supported Calvert’s comments and concurred as to the benefits that his guidance and advice have contributed to the Finance operations. She understands the position of the other Selectmen but also has concerns about the process of managing operations while adjusting to a new auditor. Calvert indicated that in the next audit, the Board of Finance will be asking for additional statements for the Capital Budget and the two new enterprise funds created for the WPCA. The current auditor has a thorough understanding of the Capital Budget history and was instrumental in helping the Finance Board track previous year’s income and expenditures in that budget. Due to the failure of a motion, no further action was taken.
- 4.0** No Executive Session required.
- 5.0** No action required.
- 6.0** No action required.
- 7.0** Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 AM. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF LEBANON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-1, et seq., public notice is hereby given to the Electors and those qualified to vote at town meetings of the Town of Lebanon that a Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2014 at 7:30 P.M. in the Lyman Memorial High School Auditorium, 917 Exeter Road (Route 207) Lebanon, Connecticut, to consider and act upon the following:

1. A Resolution Regarding the Norwich Public Utilities Water Storage Tank:

WHEREAS, the Town of Lebanon is negotiating a lease agreement with Norwich Public Utilities for the construction and maintenance of a water storage tank on property owned by the Town of Lebanon located on the southerly side of Connecticut Route 2 near the intersection of Camp Moween Road and Lynch Road,

BE IT RESOLVED, to accept a contribution in the amount of \$5,000.00 from Norwich Public Utilities and to appropriate said sum for the purchase of a certain piece or parcel of land from the Connecticut Department of Transportation located on the southerly side of Connecticut Route 2 and the northerly side of Lynch Road, as more particularly described in a deed from the Connecticut Department of Transportation to the Town of Lebanon dated August 7, 2013, and to authorize the First Selectman to execute and deliver such documents as may be necessary or desirable to effectuate said purchase. Said purchase is contingent upon the execution of a lease between the Town of Lebanon and Norwich Public Utilities pertaining to said land.

BE IT RESOLVED, to accept a contribution in the amount of \$1,900 from Norwich Public Utilities and to appropriate said sum for the release by the Connecticut Department of Transportation of deed restrictions for highway purposes within the right of way for Lynch Road, and to authorize the First Selectman to execute and deliver such documents as may be necessary or desirable to effectuate said release. Said release is contingent upon the execution of a lease between the Town of Lebanon and Norwich Public Utilities pertaining to said land.

BE IT RESOLVED, to authorize the First Selectman to execute and deliver a lease, as presented to the Board of Selectmen at its January 22, 2014 Special Meeting, between the Town of Lebanon and Norwich Public Utilities pertaining to the construction and maintenance of a water storage tank on property owned by the Town of Lebanon located on the southerly side of Connecticut Route 2 near the intersection of Camp Moween Road and Lynch Road, and to execute and deliver such other documents as may be necessary or desirable to effectuate said lease transaction.

Dated at Lebanon, Connecticut this 17th day of January, 2014.

Lebanon Board of Selectmen

First Selectman Joyce R. Okonuk _____

Linda R. Finelli _____

John A. Bendoraitis, Jr. _____