

Board of Selectmen
SPECIAL MEETING
September 26, 2013 – 3:00
Town Hall
MINUTES

1.0 First Selectman Joyce Okonuk called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. Selectmen John Bendoraitis, Linda Finelli and Administrative Assistant Patti Handy were also present. Audience: 8.

Motion made by Okonuk/Finelli to adjourn the order of the agenda and take up item 4.0 to accommodate guests. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

4.0 Members of the American Legion Post 180 were present to discuss their recommendations for the Veterans' Memorial Walk which was presented at the last Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting on September 10th. The Selectmen have all agreed to the proposed plan, but the decision had yet to be made as to whether or not the project needed to go to Town Meeting. Historical precedents involving the placement of other monuments on the Town Green were discussed and it was determined that some memorials have gone to Town Meeting while others have not. It was agreed that as no funds from the Town are to be expended, and that it is a restoration of the present memorials along with additions and improvements to the area surrounding them, that a Town Meeting was not necessary. In order for a motion to be made on this issue, it was necessary to address the minutes from the September 10th meeting first.

Motion made by Okonuk/Bendoraitis to again adjourn the order of the agenda and take up Item 9.0, Minutes, then return to Item 4.0. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

9.0 Minutes

9.1 Motion made by Okonuk/Finelli to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2013 Regular Meeting, amended as follows: In Item 5.0 under Correspondence, the last sentence should read: "This info will be provided to the Resident *State Trooper*." Also, in Item 7.1 under Old Business the motion that was made and recorded at the meeting was inadvertently omitted from the minutes. The motion should have read: "*Motion made by Finelli/Bendoraitis to endorse the Veterans' Memorial Walk proposal by the American Legion Post 180 and bring it to the Planning and Zoning Commission for CGS 8-24 recommendation and to Town Meeting. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*" Vote: Yes, unanimous.

9.2 Motion made by Okonuk/Bendoraitis to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2013 Special Meeting. Vote: Yes (2), Okonuk and Bendoraitis, Abstain (1) Finelli. Motion carries.

Motion made by Okonuk/Bendoraitis to return to Item 4.0 at this time to take action. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

4.0 Motion made by Bendoraitis/Finelli to rescind the motion made in Item 7.1 at the September 10, 2013 Regular Meeting. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

Motion made by Bendoraitis/Finelli to allow the American Legion to proceed with their proposed plan for the Veterans' Memorial Walkway on the Town Hall Green as previously approved by the Board of Selectmen and with the favorable recommendation of the PZC. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

Motion made by Okonuk/Bendoraitis to return to the regular order of the agenda with Item 2.0. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

2.0 Ryk Nelson, President of the Friends of Lake Williams briefed the Board on last year's attempt at a draw down, which was only marginally successful as the lake froze before the water level could be drawn down to the approved level. The Friends had requested a 5' draw down last year but the DEEP would only agree to a 3' drop, citing concerns about the level being restored. Although chemical treatments were helpful in controlling both the milfoil and the fanwort, a deep freeze on the perimeter of the lake bed would be more effective, less costly and a natural means of killing the weeds. The Friends would like to once again try for a 5' drawdown if DEEP will permit

it. The Selectmen agreed, with the stipulation that all residents must again be contacted and reminded that prior to any work being done on their shorelines or sea walls, they must first obtain an Inlands/Wetlands permit. Nelson assured them that the Friends would inform all lake residents of the process. **Motion made by Bendoraitis/Finelli to approve up to a 5' draw down of Lake Williams, or as otherwise permitted by the DEEP. Vote: Yes, unanimous.** The drawdown should commence in late October or early November once approval is received.

3.0 Okonuk provided an update on the process of merging Councils of Government in response to new Legislation being administered through the Office of Policy and Management (OPM). Member towns within WINCOG have met with Executive Directors and members of SCCOG, NECCOG and CRCOG learning the particulars of each COG and to determine their interest in all or part of the member towns of WINCOG. It was the recommendation that Lebanon strongly consider heading south and joining SCCOG as that Council of Governments seems to be the most appropriate for our community. In speaking with Undersecretary Dave LeVasseur of OPM, he indicated that Town Meeting approval is not required but rather the Selectmen may vote to indicate their preference to OPM. The recommendation coming from OPM to Planning & Development (State) on October 1st will be to merge the entire WINCOG to another COG but realizing that many members towns are not interested in moving as a whole, Dave anticipates individual letters from towns expressing their desire to head to one COG over another. **Motion made by Bendoraitis/Okonuk to recommend to OPM that the Town of Lebanon be allowed to join the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

4.0 (See Above)

5.0 Okonuk explained that the janitorial service that was hired in July of 2013, S.J. Services of Danvers, MA, for cleaning the Town Hall, Community Center and Fire Safety Complex was not performing up to expectations. Citing many issues, complaints and a list of problems with the company, Okonuk first spoke with and then followed the call with a letter to the company president cancelling their services as of September 27, 2013. She has contacted the next lowest bidder, Service Master Clean of Waterford, CT, and they are willing to step in immediately and take over the contract, even on a temporary basis. Okonuk asked the Selectmen to award the contract to Service Master Clean for one year, but as their bid was significantly higher than that of S.J. Services, the Selectmen were reluctant to agree. It was decided to contract Service Master Clean for two months and put the contract out to bid again to see if more options become available. **Motion made by Bendoraitis/Finelli to hire Service Master Clean for two months, beginning on September 28, 2013, and to re-advertise the bid for Janitorial Services. Vote: Yes, unanimous.** Okonuk will request a two-month contract from Service Master.

6.0 Alicia Wayland presented a request from the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House Board to apply for a grant to the Hugh Trumbull Adams Memorial Fund for Phase II Repairs to the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House Museum. Wayland presented a detailed estimate for costs related to the on-going repair and restoration of the Museum. **Motion made by Okonuk/Bendoraitis to approve the application for a grant from the Hugh Trumbull Adams Memorial Fund in the amount of \$174,930.00 for Phase II Repairs to the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House Museum. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

7.0 Members of the Trumbull Jr. House Board asked permission to dispose of an old exhibit case which was donated to the museum and cannot be used in the space that is available. Okonuk suggested that perhaps the case could be placed in auction by a local antique dealer(s). She will check with a few dealers in the area to see if there is any interest and if not it will be hauled to the Transfer Station for disposal. **Motion made by Bendoraitis/Okonuk to approve the request for disposal of the exhibit case. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

8.0 Thomas Hennick of the State Freedom of Information Commission has reviewed and approved the latest revision to the Town's FOIA Policy. **Motion made by Bendoraitis/Finelli to approve the revised FOIA Policy for the Town of Lebanon. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

9.0 Minutes

9.1 (See Above)

9.2 (See Above)

10.0 Appointments/Reappointments/Resignations

- 10.1 Motion made by Bendoraitis/Finelli to appoint Michael Okonuk to the Zoning Board of Appeals as recommended by the Democratic Town Committee. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**
- 10.2** No action was taken on the appointment to the Cemetery Commission as the applicant's voter status could not be verified.
- 10.3 Motion made by Okonuk/Finelli to remove Melissa Perkins as a member of the Recreation Commission as requested by the Recreation Commission due to lack of attendance and participation. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**
- 11.0 Motion made by Bendoraitis/Finelli to approve the Tax Refunds for August presented as follows:**
- | | |
|---|--------|
| Webster, Robert or Ladd-Webster, Edith M. | \$6.84 |
|---|--------|
- Vote: Yes, unanimous.**
- 12.0 Motion made by Bendoraitis/Finelli to adjourn at 4:10 pm. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman