

Board of Selectmen  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
February 16, 2012 – 5:00 PM - Town Hall  
**MINUTES**

**1.0** First Selectman Joyce Reynolds Okonuk called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Selectmen Linda Finelli and John Bendoraitis, and Administrative Assistant Patti Handy were also present. Audience: 6.

**2.0** **Public Forum**  
None

**3.0** **Minutes**

**3.1** **Motion made by Finelli, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2012 Regular Meeting. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**3.2** **Motion made by Finelli, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2012 Special Meeting. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**4.0** **Correspondence**  
None

**5.0** **Police Report**

The Selectmen reviewed the report provided by the Resident State Trooper, Dave Southworth. They would like to have Trooper Southworth attend a future meeting and go over the report format and provide additional detail.

**6.0** **New Business**

**6.1** Alicia Wayland was present to request that the Selectmen recommend to Town Meeting to expand the number of members of the Library Building Committee from seven to nine, to include members of the Library Board of Trustees and the Library Director. By doing so, it would make the town eligible for any state library grant funds that may come available. **Motion made by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to bring to Town Meeting a request to revise the Library Building Committee to include nine (9) members, three (3) of whom must include two (2) members of the Jonathan Trumbull Board of Trustees and the Library Director. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**6.2** Wayland was also present to request that the Selectmen vote to reappoint the Part-Time Museum Director at the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House Museum for the 2012 season, for the same salary and hours as the previous year. **Motion made by Finelli, seconded by Bendoraitis to reappoint Candice Brashears as the part-time museum director at the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House Museum for the 2012 season, at a salary of \$20.67 per hour, for a maximum of \$7,234.50, for 350 hours of work, with no benefits or holiday/sick time, funds to come from the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House fund. Vote: yes, unanimous.**

**6.3** Bendoraitis has developed and installed department-specific software for the Land Use Department, which he maintains and for which he has trained staff to utilize at no cost to the Town. He requested that the Selectmen extend the software agreement between the Town of Lebanon and John Bendoraitis through December 15, 2013. **Motion made by Finelli, seconded by Okonuk to extend the software agreement between the Town of Lebanon and John Bendoraitis through December 15, 2013, at no cost to the town. Vote: Yes (2), Finelli and Okonuk, Abstain (1) Bendoraitis. Motion carries.**

**6.4** Philip Chester, Town Planner was present to request that the Selectmen recommend to Town Meeting the release of \$15,000.00 from the Open Space Fund for the purpose of preserving Beltane Farm, a 22-acre property at 59 Taylor Bridge Road.

**Motion made by Okonuk, seconded by Finelli to recommend to Town Meeting the Release of fifteen thousand dollars and no cents (\$15,000.00) from Capital Reserve Acct. #220-900-5469 (Open Space Fund) for the purpose of preserving Beltane Farm, a 22-acre property at 59**

**Taylor Bridge Road as part of the match for the Connecticut Department of Agriculture Community Farms Preservation Program. Vote: Yes, unanimous.** The Selectmen also noted that this is the first farm in the state to be preserved through this new state program.

**6.5** Chester was also present to request that the Selectmen allow wine-tasting and the sale of locally-made wine at the Lebanon Farmers' Market during the 2012 season. As the State Legislature passed a bill last year allowing the sale of wine at local farmers' markets, Chester thought the addition of locally-grown wine would be a nice addition to the Market. Priam Vineyards in Colchester has accepted his invitation to join the Market this year. The town's insurance carrier, CIRMA has also acknowledged one wine tasting event this season would be acceptable to them. As the town will not be receiving an Ag Viability Grant this year, Chester and Market organizers are looking for alternative ways to increase revenue, including sponsorships from local businesses. The Economic Development Commission is also considering providing financial support this year as the Market benefits local businesses. **Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to allow the Lebanon Farmers' Market to sponsor one wine tasting event in the 2012 season, and to permit local wine to be sold on a regular basis at the Market. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**6.6** The Proclamation for Girl Scout Week was tabled to the March 6, 2012 Regular Selectmen's meeting. No action.

**6.7** As a result of the recent decision of the State Redistricting Committee, the Town of Lebanon will now be divided into two separate House Districts. Consequently, a request has been made by the Registrars of Voters to bring to Town Meeting a Resolution allowing for two polling places in one location as per CGS 9-168a. After consulting with the Town's Attorney, the matter now needs Town Meeting approval. **Motion made by Finelli, seconded by Bendoraitis to bring to Town Meeting a Resolution authorizing the Registrars of Voters to designate the Lebanon Fire Safety Complex at 23 Goshen Hill Road, Lebanon as the single polling station for all general and special elections for the 47<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> Legislative Districts. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**6.8** The Selectmen reviewed and discussed their Capital Requests for FY 2012-13. Additional requests will be reviewed at the next Special Meeting. No action.

## **7.0 Old Business**

**7.1** Chester revisited a previous request from the Conservation Commission to dissolve the current Commission (that was created originally by a vote at Town Meeting) and to pass an Ordinance creating The Conservation and Agriculture Commission. The Selectmen reviewed the revised draft of the proposed ordinance and agreed to bring it to Town Meeting. **Motion made by Finelli, seconded by Bendoraitis to bring to Town Meeting a request to abolish the Conservation Commission and to adopt *An Ordinance Creating the Conservation and Agriculture Commission*. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**7.2** The Selectmen reviewed the revised proposals for Renewable Energy Certificates from Sterling Planet and Renewable Choice. Bendoraitis clarified the differences between the two proposals, and it was clear that Renewable Choice offered the best pricing options. **Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to purchase 60 megawatts (60,000 kW) of renewable energy certificates from Renewable Choice of Boulder, CO for a cost up to \$240.00 for two years, 2012-13. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**7.3** The Selectmen reviewed the refreshed pricing from Direct Energy Services for the Lebanon Energy Buyers Group program as provided by Jim Macauley, Chairman of the Energy Task Force Advisory Committee. No action.

**7.4** Okonuk wished to revisit the correspondence from resident Betsy Petrie regarding the formation of a Town Charter Study Committee that was first discussed at the December 6, 2011 Selectmen's meeting. After brief discussion, the Selectmen agreed to form the committee. **Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to appoint a seven (7) member Charter Study Committee, charged with examining the present form of government in Lebanon and making**

recommendations to the town as to whether operating under a Charter would be of benefit, as was recommended by the Plan of Conservation Development. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

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

**8.1 Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to reappoint both Byron Lennox and Daniel O'Hearn as Deputy Fire Marshals for one year, terms to expire on 3/01/2013. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**8.2 Motion made by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to accept with regret, the resignation of Claudia Meder from the Library Building Committee. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**8.3 Motion made by Okonuk, seconded by Finelli to appoint Julie Culp to the Library Building Committee, term to expire at the completion of the project. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**8.4 Ellen Macauley, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission, was present to discuss appointments and reappointments to the Commission. After some discussion re present vacancies and reappointments that have come due, the Selectmen asked Ellen to discuss the re-appointments with the full EDC and make recommendations to the Selectmen re reappointments. No action.**

**8.5 Motion made by Okonuk, seconded by Finelli to reappoint Keith LaPorte and Shaun McCarthy to the Cemetery Commission for three (3) years, terms to expire on 2/1/2015, as recommended by the Cemetery Commission. Vote: yes, unanimous.**

**8.6 Motion made by Okonuk, seconded by Finelli to reappoint Enes Martineau to the Recreation Commission for a three (3) year term to expire on 2/1/2015, as recommended by the Recreation Commission. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**The Selectmen also asked that a letter be sent to retiring member Andy Luft (not seeking reappointment) with sincere appreciation for his many years of volunteer service to the Commission and the children of our community.**

**9.0 Motion made by Bendoraitis, seconded by Finelli to approve the Tax Refunds for January 2012 presented as follows:**

<b>Tax Refunds – January 2012</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Clark, John E.	\$50.29
Morgan, Katrina K. or Morgan, David W.	\$15.85

**Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

**10.0 Financial Reports**

No reports available for discussion.

**11.0 Executive Session**

**11.1 Motion made by Okonuk, seconded by Finelli to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:40pm to discuss potential litigation by the Inland Wetlands Commission. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

Selectmen returned to regular session at 6:50 pm. No action.

**12.0 Motion made by Okonuk, seconded by Finelli to adjourn at 6:50 pm. Vote: Yes, unanimous.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman