

Board of Selectmen  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
Town Hall  
April 24, 2009 – 9:00 AM

**MINUTES**

- 1.0 The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Joyce Okonuk at 9:02 AM. Selectmen John Bendoraitis and Russ Blakeslee were present. Audience: 0
- 2.0 An item needing Town Meeting action was inadvertently left off the agenda for the Annual Town Meeting. The First Selectmen requested the meeting be re-noticed to include this item. Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to publish a revised agenda for the Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2009. Vote: yes, unanimous
- 3.0 During budget preparations this year, the Board of Finance made it quite clear that they would only fund \$17,000 to the Animal Control Budget. Expenses for this department have continually gone over the appropriation and as of this year, the deficit must stop in this fund account. The First Selectman reviewed the operating budget and determined that the wage of the ACO would need to be reduced to more than half of its present rate in order for the expenses to come in within budget. Okonuk met with the ACO, Michele Kellough and explained the situation. Okonuk further discussed with Kellough the reduced amount of dog activity over the past six months. Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to reduce the compensation for the Animal Control Officer in the FY 10 budget to \$8,000 per year. Vote: yes, unanimous  
Okonuk will continue to pursue regionalization of the Animal Pound with other towns in the region in an attempt to further reduce the costs of animal control services in Lebanon.
- 4.0 TIP updates will be provided at the regular meeting in May.
- 5.0 The nook being built into the wall in the lower level of Town Hall is moving forward nicely. The Selectmen had previously appropriated \$1,000 for this project. The amount appropriate covered the cost of building materials, a base units and the counter top. An additional appropriation is needed to cover the cost of electrical expenses associated with this project as well as the installation of a door bell at the ramp door to assist the elderly and handicapped when entering the building. Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to appropriate an additional \$1,300 for the nook project, funds to come from TIP Account 208 510 5117. Vote: yes, two  
(Okonuk/Blakeslee) abstain, one (Bendoraitis) Motion carried.
- 6.0 The Selectmen went into Executive Session at 9:35 AM for the purpose of discussing cemetery land negotiations.
- The Selectmen returned to Regular Session at 9:50 AM.  
The Board directed the First Selectman to write a letter to the property owners expressing no interest in their property at the present asking price.
- Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to authorize the payment of \$1,000 out of the Cemetery Land Fund to T.W. Henry Land Appraisers for the appraisal of potential cemetery land. Vote: yes, unanimous
- 7.0 Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 AM. Vote: yes, unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman