

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting
April 22, 2021 — 4:00 PM
TELECONFERENCE
MINUTES**

Members Present: First Selectman Kevin Cwikla, Selectmen Kathleen Smith, Robin Chesmer, and Betsy Petrie-McComber

Others Present: Bernard Dennler (Administrative Assistant/Teleconference Host)

1.0 Call to Order

K. Cwikla called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

2.0 Discuss and act upon accepting the resignation of Joe Wood as highway maintainer, effective June 8, 2021

K. Cwikla stated that Joe Wood had presented him with a letter of resignation as part of his planned retirement from the Town.

B. Petrie MOVED to accept the resignation of Joe Wood as a highway maintainer, effective June 8, 2021, with regrets. K. Smith SECONDED.

B. Petrie noted J. Wood is a longtime employee of the Town and asked that this be noted in the minutes. K. Cwikla said they accept the resignation with a heavy heart. R. Chesmer said he was a good operator.

MOTION CARRIED 4:0

3.0 Discuss and act upon adopting a resolution supporting home rule for decisions and actions related to planning/zoning

K. Cwikla discussed a resolution adopted by the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding proposed legislation in Hartford that reduces responsibilities and home rule with regard to planning and zoning matters. He asked for the Board of Selectmen to adopt the same resolution.

K. Smith MOVED to approve the resolution supporting home rule for decisions and actions related to planning and zoning, included as Attachment A to these Minutes. B. Petrie SECONDED.

R. Chesmer said he would like to vote yes as he feels strongly about it but offered to recuse. R. Chesmer noted that he voted in favor of the resolution as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission. He said he helped write the resolution. B. Petrie asked for a summary of the legislation and to explain the need for the resolution. R. Chesmer discussed the state legislation that would limit the powers of Planning and Zoning. He said that a one-size fits all approach to zoning does not fit with Lebanon's unique status as a farming community.

MOTION CARRIED 4:0

4.0 Discuss and act upon a proposal for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Capital Improvement Plan

K. Smith MOVED to approve a proposal for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Capital Improvement Plan, included as Attachment B to these Minutes. B. Petrie SECONDED.

K. Cwikla said the CIP plan would be approved at Town Meeting. The Selectmen discussed Town Meeting process. B. Petrie noted that the prices listed are estimates. K. Smith said it needs to be explained clearly that some projects listed are currently underway but the dollar figures listed may not be exact. B. Petrie said the CIP plan just gives the Town the opportunity to apply for funding from the state so the estimates are acceptable.

MOTION CARRIED 4:0

5.0 Discuss and act upon calling the Annual Town Meeting on May 3, 2021 at 7:30 PM

K. Cwikla stated that the Board of Finance recommended adjourning the budget discussion at Town Meeting to referendum. B. Dennler explained that the remaining Executive Orders require the Town to have a virtual component of the Town meeting and that counsel advised a hybrid format. He explained the plan for a hybrid format meeting with an in-person component at the Lyman High School gymnasium with a teleconference component taking place on Zoom.

B. Petrie suggested acting under Executive Order to delay the Annual Town Meeting until the other Executive Orders requiring a hybrid format have expired. She said she disagrees with sending the budget approval directly to referendum. Town Meeting is Lebanon's form of government. She said she understood the timeline for changing the process would be complicated and therefore would vote to approve the proposed Town Meeting resolution as presented.

K. Cwikla MOVED the following:

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 the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:30 P.M. in the Lyman Memorial High School Gymnasium, 917 Exeter Road (Route 207) Lebanon, Connecticut, and via Zoom as a "hybrid meeting" (details located the bottom of this Legal Notice and on LebanonCT.Gov/TownMeeting2021), to consider and act upon the following:

- 1. Consider the proposed 2021–2022 Fiscal Year budget for the Town of Lebanon in the amount of twenty-six million three hundred three thousand six hundred forty-one and no cents (\$26,303,641.00) for the General Town Government, Board of Education, Special Revenue Accounts and Capital Expenditures with Revenue Estimates of six million seven hundred forty-six thousand nine hundred ninety-eight and no cents (\$6,746,998.00) and the remainder to be raised by taxes with an estimated mil rate of 28.4 mils.*

2. *Consider and act upon approving the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) as proposed by the Board of Selectmen.*
3. *Pursuant to Section 7-7 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, to adjourn said annual town budget meeting at its conclusion and to submit Item number 1 on the call of this meeting to be voted upon using voting tabulators on May 11, 2021 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Fire Safety Complex, 23 Goshen Hill Road. The question to be voted upon shall be placed on the ballots as:*

“SHALL THE PROPOSED FY 2021-2022 BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF LEBANON \$26,303,641.00 FOR THE GENERAL TOWN GOVERNMENT, BOARD OF EDUCATION, SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES WITH REVENUE ESTIMATES OF \$6,746,998.00 AND THE REMAINDER TO BE RAISED BY TAXES WITH AN ESTIMATED MIL RATE OF 28.4 MILS BE ADOPTED?”

Voters approving the resolution will vote “YES” and those opposing the resolution will vote “NO.”

Electors will vote at the following polling place: Lebanon Fire Safety Complex at 23 Goshen Hill Road in Lebanon. Persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors shall vote at: Lebanon Fire Safety Complex in Lebanon. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk’s office. Absentee ballots will be counted centrally in the Lebanon Fire Safety Complex at 23 Goshen Hill Road in Lebanon.

4. *Any other business proper to come before Town Meeting.*

Copies of these proposals are available at the Town Clerk’s Office.

Zoom webinar information for remote attendance pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order 9H(1), the expiration of which was extended to May 20, 2021 pursuant to Executive Order 11:

When: May 3, 2021 07:30 PM Eastern Time

Topic: Town of Lebanon CT Annual Town Meeting

Please use the link found at LebanonCT.Gov/TownMeeting2021 to join.

Passcode: 1700

To join manually, use webinar ID: 890 5115 7056

Passcode: 1700

To join by telephone:

Dial 1-312-626-6799

Webinar ID: 890 5115 7056

Passcode: 1700

This Zoom webinar information can also be found at LebanonCT.Gov/TownMeeting2021.

K. Smith SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 4:0

6.0 Adjourn

B. Petrie MOVED to adjourn at 4:33 PM. K. Smith SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 4:0

Respectfully submitted,

Bernard W. Dennler III
Administrative Assistant



**TOWN OF LEBANON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
MUNICIPAL ZONING DECISION MAKING**

WHEREAS, the Town of Lebanon established Zoning in April 1962; and

WHEREAS, all towns are not the same and Connecticut has a limited agricultural land base and the Town of Lebanon is a leading agricultural community providing 'Connecticut Grown' food and valuable ecosystem benefits for all Connecticut residents; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut's towns and cities successfully use local zoning and planning processes to balance private property rights, the community's interests, demands on infrastructure, housing needs, and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, local control and decision making empowers the residents and taxpayers of each city and town to carefully tailor zoning policies that reflect its unique geography, economy, and housing market; and

WHEREAS, localized decision making ensures the greatest level of accountability while allowing affected community members the greatest level of input and the platform through a public hearing to provide specific, relevant information on potential impacts that only they would have knowledge of; and

WHEREAS, local control and local input enable neighbors and the local community to provide beneficial suggestions, identify errors, and maximize community buy-in on zoning proposals; and

WHEREAS, proposals have been introduced in the General Assembly to strip local planning and zoning processes and public input from cities and towns; and

WHEREAS, BY RIGHT development gives outsized rights to developers over all other property owners and prevents local planning and zoning commissions from identifying the potential impacts of their project and imposing conditions upon a developer to address those direct impacts; and

WHEREAS, eliminating public hearings and community input on zoning matters could have unintended consequences such as increased infrastructure costs, increased local property taxes, and reduced home and business values which will be borne by the town residents; and

WHEREAS, each city and town already has the choice to modify or abolish its zoning ordinances if the elected town or city government decides it best serves the community's interests; and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Lebanon opposes State Mandated one size fits all Zoning Legislation and the ability of any outside housing authority to have jurisdiction of our town's Affordable Housing plan and any similar legislation that would further overrule, remove or diminish local control and decision making related to planning and zoning or affordable housing from the Town of Lebanon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to all members of the State Legislature.


CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) 2021 – 2022

To enable the town to apply for grants under the State of Connecticut Local Capital Improvement Program, the municipality must have an approved Capital Improvement Program. Below is a list of those items which are proper for that program.

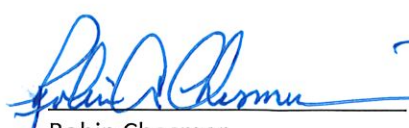
- Project #1: Replace the culvert under Chappell Road on the Susquetonscut Brook with new pipe structure. Estimate includes design and construction costs.
Estimated cost: \$775,000 Project to be completed in 2021
- Project #2: Replace the culvert under Tobacco Street on Brousseous Brook with new pipe structure. Estimate includes design and construction costs.
Estimated cost: \$576,000 Project to be completed in 2021-2022
- Project #3: Construct Public Works Facility in new location including vehicle and equipment storage, vehicle repair, salt/sand storage and office. Study Committee presently gathering design and cost estimates.
Estimated cost: \$3,000,000 Project to be initiated 2021-2022
- Project #4: Replace bridge Randall Road over Gillette Brook with new precast concrete box culvert structure. Estimate includes design and construction costs.
Estimated cost: \$360,000 Project to be completed in 2021-2022
- Project #5: Replace bridge Smith Road over Unnamed Brook with new precast concrete box culvert structure. Estimate to include design and construction costs.
Estimated cost: \$250,000 Project to be completed in 2021
- Project #6: Replace drainage on Mack Road West from #194 to Pease Brook and Pease Brook to Route 87 (Trumbull Highway).
Estimated cost: \$1,500,000 Project to be completed in 2022-2023
- Project #7: Replace the Goshen Hill Road Bridge over Exeter Brook with new structure. Estimate includes design and construction costs.
Estimated cost: \$662,000 Project to be completed in 2021
- Project #8: Hazardous Tree Removal and Trimming for nonutility-related hazardous branches, limbs, and trees on municipal property or within a municipal right-of-way.
Estimated Cost: \$200,000 Project to be completed 2021-2025
- Project #9: Town Hall, Alden Tavern, and Senior Center Parking Lot improvements.
Estimated Cost: \$400,000 Project to be completed in 2022-2024

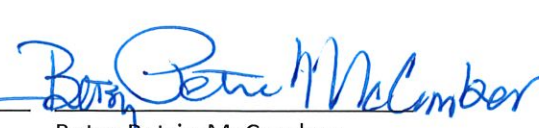
Approved this 22nd day of April, 2021.
Lebanon Board of Selectmen


Kevin Cwikla
First Selectman


Kathleen Smith
Selectman


Glen Coutu
Selectman


Robin Chesmer
Selectman


Betsy Petrie-McComber
Selectman

RECEIVED
Time: 3:09 PM
APR 23 2021

Town Clerk
LEBANON, CT