

Town of Litchfield  
Select Board  
June 25, 2018  
Final Minutes

**1.0 Convened 6:30; Pledge to Flag; Selectmen,** Mark Russell, Chairman, Rayna Leibowitz and Gary Parker; **Staff:** Trudy Lamoreau, Town Manager; Larry Nadeau, Road Comm.; Bryan Lamoreau, Transfer Station Manager; Richard Lane, Toby Jutras, Cyndi Redmond and Tamas Szepsy, Road Advisory Comm; John Upham, FOAA Officer; Kelly Weissenfels, Budget Comm; Renee LaChappelle, BAR **and Guests Present** per the sign in sheet

**2.0 Minutes of June 11, 2018 Meeting submitted for final approval.** A motion to accept the minutes after correcting two minor typos was made by Gary Parker, seconded by Mark Russell and voted 3 - 0.

**3.0 Reports and Correspondence**

3.1 Town Manager - A. The Animal Control Officer has resigned effective 7/1/18. A search will be started. Mr Smith was advised his neighbor came in last week and licensed his three dogs, so that complaint has been satisfied.

B. Trudy reminded all present that the Town Office will be closing at 3:00 PM on Thursday. She checked with area towns and most with a June 30 fiscal year end are closing early or are not going to be open to the public at all the last day of their fiscal year.

C. There has been a problem with TRIO and Windows 10. Other towns have been having the problem too. TRIO is working on resolving the problems.

D. Trudy and others are meeting with FEMA representatives on Wednesday morning. A lot of time has been spent on compiling the information FEMA required.

3.2 Code Officer/Plumbing Inspector -Not present. Trudy advised he has been very busy. He may be bringing the issue of food sovereignty for small farmers to the Planning Board and later to this Board.

3.3 Road Commissioner - A. Maxwell Road is nearly ready. The driveway culverts are finished. One large cross culvert is 90% done. Hope for hot top within 3 weeks.

B. The Freightliner is down for a brake job.

C. Meeting with representatives of two or more trucking companies to develop specifications for the RFP for the new truck.

D. Meeting next Wednesday with MDOT representatives regarding proposed work on the Palmer Bridge, Route 197.

E. The Oak Hill Road will be the next Public Works Dept. project.

F. A question of whether the stumps of the Pine Trees on the Plains Road will be ground was asked. Trudy will try to find out.

G. There was concern expressed about the high rate of speed on Route 197. A request for more State Police and Sheriff's Dept. details will be made.

3.4 Fire & Rescue

3.5 Emergency Mgmt.

3.6 Assessing Agent

3.7 Transfer Station A. Bryan reported being extremely busy. Black bags of leaves were cut open to find household trash concealed below a few leaves. Clear plastic bags are now required of all items brought to the Transfer Station.

B. Bryan requested information regarding how to establish a reserve account so that leftover monies at the end of the fiscal year can be accrued to cover future needs. A warrant article for next year's Town Meeting must be developed and approved by the legislative body.

C. The plan for the oil storage building was discussed. Bryan has had several look at it and the best method seems to be lifting it onto the town's trailer and building a foundation for it with cement and rebar, then returning it to the foundation. The cost of concrete and iron is +/- \$3,200 so there isn't enough money available to do that and the pads for the other canisters, and the pads have a higher priority.

D. There is consideration for replacing the Gator we have now with a tractor with a bucket loader as

future budgets are developed..

E. Bryan announced plans to be open each Sunday, 8 - 4 until Nov. 1, in addition to the Friday and Saturday hours.

### 3.8 Other Town Committees

## 4.0 Agenda Adjustments

### 5.0 Scheduled Business

5.1. RJD appraisal - Robert J. Duplessis was present to discuss the revaluation project bid and contract. Bob identified the primary staff members who are expected to be collaboratively working on it. The intention is to start with the waterfront properties so they can be done when more owners are present. Identifications and photos will be provided to Trudy at the Town Office, to the Sheriff's Department, put on the Town's website and each person will have identification to show. The elements of the proposed contract were reviewed and found to be acceptable. A motion to approve and sign the contract was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 3 - 0.

5.2 Lindsay Nelson - A. Japanese Knotweed Spray variance - Lindsay advised the Knotweed at the northwest corner of the Ferrin Road bridge is very near (within 25') of Jimmy Stream. A variance from the Board of Pesticide Control will be necessary to treat that patch, but treating it is important as segments of root can be washed downstream very easily, establishing new patches. This is a 30 X 30' area and spraying would be done by hand, using a backpack sprayer with low pressure. Lindsay was authorized to proceed with the paperwork necessary for approval on a motion by Mark Russell, seconded by Rayna Leibowitz and voted 2- 0-1.

B. Lindsay discussed the need to stabilize the banking along the Ferrin Road when the Knotweed is killed to minimize erosion. She suggests 29 Speckled Alder plants at a cost of \$290.

C. She also suggested replanting the steep bank on the Small Road with the same plants or others which spread roots and send out suckers at a cost of about \$10 each. It was suggested she consider using a Conservation Mix as an alternative which can be sprayed on so manual planting on steep banks would not be necessary. She will try to get more information about that.

D. Lindsay reported there were 2 work days held at the Community Park to control invasive plants. They cut and wrapped trunk sections with heavy plastic contractor bags. She thanked the volunteers who helped.

E. There was discussion about roadside mowing and Glen Allen was identified as the mower and he usually does it in mid-August.

## 6.0 Unscheduled Business

### 7.0 Legal

## 8.0 Appointments and Resignations

8.1 Senior Advisory Committee -Eileen Turcotte reappointment requested. A motion to approve the appointment was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 3 - 0.

8.2 Conservation Commissions (Assoc) Tim Tracy - A motion to approve the appointment was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 3 - 0.

## 9.0 Warrants

9.1 Town Voucher # 24 for \$ 63,832.07 A motion to approve was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 3 - 0. Trudy advised this amount includes Training Stipends for the Fire Department firefighters.

9.2 Town Payroll # 26 for \$ 38,633.33 A motion to approve was made by Rayna Leibowitz, seconded by Gary Parker and voted 3 - 0.

## 10.0 Other Business

10.1. Mark Russell was sworn in as Selectman.

## 11.0 Selectmen/Public Discussion/Communication

### 12.0 Future Agenda Item

12.1 Feedback on Selectman's Handbook

12.2 Whippoorwill Road Culvert/Bridge (reissue bid request in Oct)v

**13.0 Adjournment** at 7.59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by

Rayna Leibowitz