

Board of Selectmen
REGULAR MEETING
Town Hall
April 7, 2009 – 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES

- 1.0** First Selectman Joyce Okonuk called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Selectmen Russ Blakeslee and John Bendoraitis, and Assistant Patti Handy were also present. Audience included Donna McCalla, President of the Hebron Historical Society, five adults and several area Girl Scouts.
- 2.0** **Public Forum**
None
Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to change the order of the agenda and take up item 6.1 under new business; Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 6.1** Okonuk read a Proclamation for National Girl Scouts Week and the Selectmen presented a plaque to the girls and their leaders. The girls in turn presented the Selectmen and the Town of Lebanon with refurbished “Vote Today” signs that they painted as a group activity. The signs will be posted at key town intersections whenever there is a town vote scheduled.
Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to return to the regular order of the agenda;
Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 3.0** **Minutes**
- 3.1** Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2009 Special Meeting, as amended as follows in item 3.0: *“Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to purchase four used upholstered chairs from Transfer Enterprises of Manchester, CT, cost not to exceed \$900, funds to come from fund balance in the Community Center fund”* Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 3.2** Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the minutes from the March 5, 2009 Special Meeting, with the following change: item 5.6 to strike the words *“all agreed”* from the first paragraph, line 12; Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 3.3** Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2009 Special Meeting; Vote: 2 yes, 1 abstain, motion carried.
- 3.4** Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2009 Special Meeting; Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 3.5** Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the minutes from the March 24, 2009 Special Meeting; Vote: 2 yes, 1 abstain, motion carried.
- 3.6** Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the minutes from the March 31, 2009 Special Meeting; Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 4.0** **Correspondence**
None
- 5.0** **Old Business**
- 5.1** The Selectmen permitted the ARC New London County Day Program to use the Community Center once per week to provide a new lunch setting for their clients. The ARC representative was advised the use would be reviewed after three months to determine if the use would continue. After using the facility for three months, the Selectmen have concluded the facility has been used in an appropriate manner and has been left clean/tidy. Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Okonuk to continue to allow use of the Community Center on a weekly basis by the ARC New London County Day Program, and to re-evaluate the program again in six months. Vote: yes, unanimous.
- Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to add a new item to the agenda under Old Business, to discuss and act upon adding the Jonathan Trumbull Library to the Town’s current computer maintenance contract with Walker Systems. Vote: yes, unanimous.

- 5.2 Bendoraitis met with representatives from Walker Systems to discuss adding the Jonathan Trumbull Library to the present contract that the Town has with Walker Systems. The Town currently pays \$90 per month for a limited amount of technical assistance via phone, and has incurred significant over-the-limit charges. He also stated that for \$295 per month, unlimited phone assistance is available. The determining factor would be in the number of technical calls that resulted in a higher level of assistance for the problem, which has a higher associated cost, and would not be covered under the expanded plan. Bendoraitis will do the research and report back at a later date. No action.

Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Okonuk to add another item to the agenda under Old Business, to discuss and act upon the roof clips on the Fire Safety Complex; Vote: yes, unanimous.

- 5.3 Bendoraitis questioned the status of the replacement of the roof ice clips that have fallen off the roof of the Fire Safety Complex. The clips were installed by Blakeslee Construction a year ago following the installation of the new roof on both the old and new sections of the FSC. During the first winter storm, all the clips fell off the roof as the adhesive used to apply them to the corrugate roof was not adequate to hold back the weight of the heavy snow/ice on the roof. Okonuk met with Blakeslee once early last winter and has called the twice since, but has yet to get her calls returned. She asked Selectman Blakeslee to look into the matter and he said that he would. No action.

6.0 **New Business**

6.1 (See Above)

- 6.2 Donna McCalla, President of the Hebron Historical Society presented a request to use the Town Green for filming a portion of an historical documentary, based on the rescue of the slaves Cesar and Lowis Peters, titled *Testimonies of a Quiet New England Town*.

Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the request from the Hebron Historical Society to film on the Town Green on or about May 24, 2009; Vote: yes, unanimous.

- 6.3 Application for the USDA/NRCS Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program for 2009 was postponed as information was not available; no action.

- 6.4 Marc Lang, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, presented an update on the progress of the trail to Commons Hill. Plans are being finalized. CL&P has given permission for the trail to boarder and cross their property in order for pedestrians to reach the Town-owned property. The trail will be gated (at the Route 87 end) to prohibit motorized vehicles, and signs will be posted as to what is and is not allowed on the trail. The trail will also be blazed for safety. No action.

- 6.5 Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve \$1,000.00 for the Summer Dance Fest Committee, for a deposit to Atlas Pyro Vision Productions, Inc. for the fireworks exhibition on July 27, 2009 at the Lebanon Summer Dance Fest. Vote: yes, unanimous.

- 6.6 Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the third annual Bailey's Garden Family Fun Run, to be held on Sunday, May 3, 2009. Vote: yes, unanimous.

- 6.7 The Selectmen reviewed the street light information provided by CL&P and BL&P. They have viewed the locations of the lights that the town is paying for. Bendoraitis said that he would like some input from Tom Conley, Public Works Foreman, identifying which street lights plow drivers use during winter storms to inspect their sanders. Bendoraitis proposed leaving on two-three lights in the areas of the school, but discontinuing all others. He said that residents in the vicinity of those scheduled to be turned off would be notified and offered the option of picking up the cost of the light, effective July 1st. Okonuk stated there are Town Meeting minutes from the 1950's indicating that some of the street lights were installed following a vote of Town Meeting. Consequently, only Town Meeting should determine if they are to be discontinued. Bendoraitis would like to schedule a Special Selectman's meeting to hear Conley's report.

Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to add the following to the agenda of the Annual Town Meeting. "Consider and Act upon the discontinuance of Town-funded street lights."

Vote: yes, unanimous.

- 6.8 Selectmen discussed the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for 2009-10. Okonuk presented the proposal (see attachment) and said that all projects listed would be eligible for State LoCIP reimbursement funds should adequate funds be available. Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the CIP Plan for 2009-10 as presented, and to bring the Plan to the Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2009; Vote: yes, unanimous

7.0 Appointments/Reappointments to Boards, Commissions and Committees

- 7.1 The Board discussed the recommendation by the Inlands Wetlands Commission at their November meeting to reappoint members Jim Bender, David Martin and David Wigfield. Although the Selectmen have no objection to reappointing Bender and Martin, they voiced concern over David Wigfield. Although Wigfield was a very active member of the Commission, it has recently come to the attention of the Selectmen that he is a seasonal resident, living in a seasonally zoned home on Red Cedar Lake. Okonuk added that past practice has not allowed seasonal residents to become appointed to boards and commissions. Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to re-appoint Jim Bender and David Martin to the Inland Wetlands Commission with terms to expire on 06/01/12, and declined the re-appointment of David Wigfield until further information is made available on his resident status. Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 7.2 The Selectmen received a letter of interest from Thomas Corso who is wishing to fill an alternate vacancy on the Flood and Erosion Control Board. Selectmen discussed the activity of the F&ECB as they meet only once per year, mainly due to a requirement of one yearly meeting. Okonuk said she felt Mr. Corso could make better use of his volunteer time serving on a more active board. She will contact Chair Harold Liebman to see if this vacancy really needs filling and if it does not, will contact Mr. Corso to see what other board/commission he may be interested in. No action.
- 7.3 Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the appointment of Gregory Scott Deshefy as a new member of the Code of Ethics Drafting Committee, term to expire at the completion of the project. Vote: yes, unanimous.

8.0 Financial Report Update

None were available.

9.0 Tax Refunds

Tax Refunds for March 2009

NAME	AMOUNT
Sanford, John or Melissa	\$216.32
Seidl, Andrew E. (Trust)	\$88.67
Anderson, David & Eileen	\$29.23

Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the tax refunds for March as presented; Vote: yes, unanimous.

10.0 Executive Session

Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to go into Executive Session at 7:00 pm for the purpose of discussing property negotiations; Vote: yes, unanimous.
Administrative Assistant Patti Handy was invited to stay for the session.

Selectmen returned to Regular Session at 7:05 pm.

11.0 Adjournment

Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to adjourn at 7:06 pm. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman