

TOWN OF LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

January 22, 2013

Selectmen's Meeting

Members Present: John R. Brunelle, Chairman
George Lambert (Vice Chair)
Frank Byron
M. Patricia Jewett

Members Absent: Brent Lemire (excused)

Also Present: Jason Hoch, Town Administrator

5:30 p.m. Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Items for Consent:

1. Payroll and Accounts Payable week of January 21

Approval of Consent Items

Selectman F. Byron **motioned** that the Board of Selectmen approve the items listed under consent. Selectman P. Jewett **seconded** the motion. The motion carried **4-0-0**.

Other Business-

Selectman F. Byron would like a quick discussion on the Deliberative Session slides
Selectman J. Brunelle would like to talk logistics for the next BOS meeting on the 28th. (Mr. Brunelle will be out of Town). Logistics for the Eagle Scout presentation on Sunday.

Consideration of Library Trustee Request to withdraw warrant article

Selectman J. Brunelle stated they received a letter from the Library Trustees which states "At the January 14, 2013 meeting of the Library Board of Trustees, the Board voted to withdraw their warrant article for a Teen/Technical Services Librarian position. Without the support of either the Board of Selectmen or the Budget Committee on the 2013 ballot, the Trustees felt it best to pursue this position again in the 2014 budget Year." Selectman Brunelle asked the Board what they wanted to do. Selectman P. Jewett **motioned** to withdraw the article. Selectman G. Lambert **seconded** the motion. Discussion: Selectman F. Byron stated that he voted on this article when it came up for review by the Board of Selectmen to abstain. Mr. Byron stated that he abstained because he did not have any information on it. Mr. Byron mentioned that the question he asked at the meeting was has anybody talked to any of the Trustees of the Library in terms of providing any more information or anything else to help the Selectmen re-examine or re-vote the position. Mr. Brunelle stated that they haven't asked for any additional information;

however, during their original presentation to the Board and to the Budget Committee they did provide detailed a description of the position. He is not sure why they should withdraw. They need to sell it to the people and let the people decide. If it fails, they can come back in 2014, if they feel there is a real need for this position.

Mr. Brunelle stated that if we withdraw this article, then the people do not get a chance to look at it. Mr. Hoch stated that in terms of information, at the presentation to the Selectmen, they had a pretty detailed explanation of what the position was, what they were looking to do and it came out of the first pass that this Board had and was recommended it as part of the overall budget. Following the Budget Committee's removal of the funds from the budget, the Board reconsidered this as a warrant article. The decision not to recommend was explained as maybe this was not a good year for this. Mr. Brunelle said that based on the information that the Library staff presented, it made sense. During the Budget Committee side of the hearing, there was discussion about how this differs from the Libraries in place today at the Schools and are we just having the same role happening at the Library as is happening in the School system itself. The Board had some further discussion about this article. The motion to withdraw this article passed 3-0-1.

Other Business

Mr. Brunelle stated that Sunday, the 27th is the second Eagle presentation and they do have a certificate for the Eagle Scout presentation. Mr. Brunelle will be traveling and will not be able to attend. Selectman P. Jewett will pick up the certificate and present it on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Brunelle stated that he will not be present at the meeting scheduled for Monday, January 28th. The Vice Chair, Mr. Lambert will preside over the meeting.

Mr. Brunelle stated that he has the presentation for the Deliberative Session drafted. Mr. Brunelle will be sending out the draft midday tomorrow to everyone. Mr. Brunelle asked the Board to have their slides and any revisions they may have back to him by Monday the 28th.

Mr. Byron wanted to let everyone know that their is a House Bill going through, HB 197 which will re-district Litchfield with Hudson.

Selectman P. Jewett motioned to adjourn. Selectman G. Lambert seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0-0.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be January 28th at 6:00 pm at Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 P.M.

John R. Brunelle, Chairman

George A. Lambert, Vice Chairman

Frank A. Byron

Brent T. Lemire

M. Patricia Jewett