

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
January 3, 2012

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 in the Selectmen's Conference Room.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss, Selectman Jon Truskauskas, and Selectman Frank Chiaramonte.

Attendees: Peter Thierry, Sal Bonola, Ellie Woike, Bud Wilkinson, Candace Jones-Pacholski, Bob Lavoie, Pam Root, and Terrance Ferrarotti.

Call to Order

Mr. Criss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Truskauskas moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on December 21, 2011. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

Public Participation

Mr. Seixas asked about the accounting software item on the agenda. Mr. Criss explained that the current software is antiquated. There is currently a discrepancy of \$38,000 in the town's budget that was discovered in October and reported by the auditors to the town. In December, it was brought to Peter Thierry's and Michael Criss's attention and they filed for a 30 day extension and have the accounting department spending approximately 40 hours searching for the discrepancy. The current software does not meet the needs of the Finance Department. Ms. Woike said the software is older than Town Hall and no longer adequate. Mr. Criss spoke with the town's auditors who recommended a software program that was researched and found to be well suited to the needs of the office as well as reasonably priced which in turn may save on audit expenses and make us much more state compliance.

Appointments and Resignations

None

Mr. Truskauskas moved to add Request for Tax Refund to the agenda. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

New Business

Request for Tax Refunds:

Mr. Chiaramonte moved to approve the following tax refunds: \$129.17 to Mary E. Young and \$2,280.91 to David and Pamela Lazaroski. Mr. Truskauskas seconded. All were in favor.

Authorize Resolutions:

Mr. Criss explained that in December, 2011 the Litchfield Hills Council of Elected Officials approved the submittal of three (3) applications to OPM for funding under the Regional Performance Incentive Program and each application requires a municipal resolution of endorsement. The applications are for a Regional Animal Control Facility Feasibility Study, a Regional Recycling Facility Feasibility Study, and Public Works Equipment for Roadway maintenance Study (to share capital equipment). The

resolutions need passage prior to applying for funding. This is funded by a grant through the Litchfield Hills Council of Elected Officials. Mr. Truskauskas moved that the Board of Selectmen adopt the resolutions endorsing the Regional Performance Incentive Program proposing a "Regional Animal Control Facility Study", a "Regional Organic Recycling Facility Feasibility Study", and "Public Works Equipment for Roadway Maintenance study." Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

Request for Accounting Software:

As previously discussed under "Public Participation" Mr. Criss referred to a letter of request from the Finance Department stating the need for new accounting software. Software by Edmunds & Associates, as recommended by the town's auditors, has been researched. The Finance Department agrees that the software will give them what they need. The cost is \$24,025 which includes training and software support for one year. Software support for the following years would be about \$5,500 per year. Mr. Truskauskas moved to approve the purchase of accounting software and to refer the item to the Board of Finance for approval. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

First Selectman's Report

Mr. Criss reported that the Lions Club offered to donate a full grown blue spruce to Town Hall for the next holiday season. Mr. Criss appreciated the offer and will speak with John Fredsall about a possible location.

With regard to the ambulance facility, Mr. Criss reported that he has encountered a few roadblocks but progress is being made and the project will move forward.

Mr. Criss reported that the town will be hosting a reception for Trooper Ian Nicholson tomorrow from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Town Hall. Trooper Nicholson has left his position in Harwinton to work for the Malloy Administration. He will be presented with a citation from the State of Connecticut thanking him for all his hard work and dedication to the town. Trooper Bill Arbour will be Harwinton's Resident Trooper for now. Trooper Jason Uliano will continue as the town's evening trooper.

Mr. Criss reported that CL&P has issued a report regarding street lights. They are requesting that people call to report any street lights that are not working. The toll free number to call will be put on the Town's webpage.

Correspondence

The Selectmen acknowledged receipt of the Fire Marshal's report for December, 2011. Mr. Criss acknowledged receipt of a letter of recommendation for Trooper Dave Pandiscia for the position of Resident Trooper for the town. The letter noted Mr. Pandiscia has eight (8) years of experience as an investigator for the Major Crime Squad. Mr. Criss will forward the letter to Lt. Brown with the State Police.

Adjournment

Mr. Truskauskas moved to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

Minutes submitted by _____

Melissa Santoro