

**Lebanon, Maine
Select Board
Town Office Conference Room
Minutes –Meeting
June 15, 2023**

Members Present

PH Paul Philbrick – Chairman
SB Shelli Boucher – Selectwoman
Michael Walsworth – Vice Chair
CH Richard Harlow III – Selectman
KE Kevin Edwards – Selectman

Others Present

Laura Bragg	Paul Morrisette
Ernest Lizotte, Jr.	Stephen Nugent
Deborah Wilson	Kurk Flynn
Dottie Bebris	Paul Turnquest
James Folan	John Tierney
Will Robarge	Alex Morris
Todd Ouellette	Devin Bernatchez

For complete meeting minutes please view the meeting in full at <https://www.youtube.com/c/TownofLebanon>

6:00 Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of Kevin Edwards, Selectman elected on 6/13/2023

6:03 Chief Kurk Flynn updated the board on calls and thanks our mutual aid partners. The Chief will be out of town 6/16 thru 6/21.

6:06 Paving Bids – the board discussed the bids and the Road Commissioner’s input. The Road Commissioner prefers All State Construction because they use a better mix for the roads. Mr. Gerrish knows this company and has experience with them. **Selectman Harlow motioned to award the paving contract to Allstate Construction. Vice Chair Walsworth seconded. Selectman Edwards stated he will abstain – he is too new to be informed. Vote taken 4 in favor (Philbrick, Harlow, Boucher, Walsworth) 1 abstained (Edwards).**

6:10 Public Participation – Ms. Wilson informed the Board that the Lebanon Fire Corp. has turned over Toys for Lebanon Kids to her non-profit, Lebanon Momentum and filed a D/B/A with the Clerk. Ms. Wilson updated the board on events coming and past. Butch Lizotte congratulated Kevin Edwards on his win. Mr. Lizotte thanked the board and residents for allowing him to serve for the last three years. Chief Flynn read from 2 letters. He thanked the voters for approving his budget. Chief discussed the disrespect of people at the polls who cheered when the proposed fire station failed. The negative comments and cheering were uncalled for. Chief stated that he has been diagnosed with benign tremors which are getting worse. The doctor advised that he change his lifestyle. The Chief gave his notice and he will be done the last week of July 2023. He states he is not backing down because of the vote. The Chief read a letter thanking many people. Laura Bragg addressed the negativity at the election. She states that we need to do better and to be respectful. Ms. Bragg stated that you don’t have to agree but you should be respectful.

6:30 Selectboard Issues – Selectman Harlow provided the board with an update as to the insurance and the 2 brokers working for coverage for the town. The fire fighters that are present need to leave but thank the board and the staff for their support on their way out. Selectman Harlow discusses possible saving on electric by changing the supplier. Selectman Harlow discusses the Sign Ordinance and how to get feedback from the residents. Selectman Harlow thanks the voters for passing the marijuana ordinances and how much easier this makes it for the Town. Vice Chair Walsworth said good bye to

Butch Lizotte and stated that he appreciates the way they could argue and within minutes be friends. Selectman Walsworth stated he appreciated serving with Mr. Lizotte. The Fact & Findings for Natures Gift was signed – the motion to do so was done last week.

7:00 Public Hearing – Sunrise Agriculture – James Folan gave an overview of his business and paperwork. Selectman Harlow motioned to open the Public Hearing. Chair Philbrick seconded. Vice Chair Walsworth stated that due to his employment with the federal government he must abstain as a condition of his employment. Selectman Walsworth stated this is anything negative against Mr. Folan or his business and left the room. Vote taken 4 in favor (Philbrick, Harlow, Edwards, Boucher) 1 abstain (Walsworth) Selectman Harlow discussed the process, this is a Quasi-Judicial Hearing and is being governed by the Lebanon Adult Use Marijuana voted on 6-13-23. Selectman Harlow asked if there are any conflicts and there are none. Selectman Harlow reviews the file with the board. Sunrise Agriculture has all the necessary approvals. There are no questions. Selectman Harlow motioned to close the testimony. Selectwoman Boucher seconded. Vote taken; all 4 in favor. (Edwards, Boucher, Philbrick, Harlow) (Walsworth not present). Selectman Harlow motioned to approve and issue a license for a Tier 4 Cultivation. Selectman Harlow discussed the dates and the way to calculate the fee due to new ordinances. **The license will expire 6/15/2024 and the fee is \$7945.00 for difference of \$290.00. Selectman Harlow motions to approve the license with no conditions. Chair Philbrick seconded. Vote taken; all 4 in favor. (Edwards, Boucher, Philbrick, Harlow) (Walsworth not present).**

7:20 Selectman Harlow motioned to close the Public Hearing. Selectwoman Boucher seconded. Vote taken; all 4 in favor. (Edwards, Boucher, Philbrick, Harlow) (Walsworth not present).

7:25 Individual Select Board Issues – Chair Philbrick thanked the staff, voters and candidates that ran. We had a great crew! The Marijuana Ordinance has cleaned up issues and this was a great win. Chair Philbrick passed out expense summary reports to each member. #15 Codes & Land Use are currently in the hole with payroll for \$1500.00 and projected to be \$11000.00 short which includes taxes. Fire is currently in the hole \$17000.00 and average per payroll is \$10000.00 per week and \$39,000 in payroll for the next 3 weeks for about \$56,000 in the negative. The board discussed how to handle this. Vice Chair Walsworth discussed using the fire CIP but that isn't possible. Selectman Harlow asked about the payroll reserve account. This may be able to be used but not for Codes. There is \$44,000 in contingency but \$20,000 is allocated for the Auditor. This only leaves \$24000 available for Codes. General Government is under by a lot – could take monies for auditor from there and put it back in contingency. **Selectman Harlow motioned to remove \$20,000 earmarked on contingency for audits. Chair Philbrick seconded. Vote taken; vote carried. ** Chair Philbrick stated he will put together a formal proposal. Discussion regarding energy reserve due to high gas prices.**

7:42 Unfinished Business – all items reviewed and updated. Vice Chair Walsworth stated Fire Station 1 – the priority would be a roof, furnace and room for gear as well as washer/dryer and extractor. Tarring the roof is an option that could last 3 years which is the possible life of the fire station. The Board discussed that the vote for the proposed station was close. The board will reach out to the companies that submitted RFP's and discuss the life of the quotes. Vice Chair Walsworth discussed putting this back on the ballot in November. The Board discussed how this could be done. Selectman Harlow motioned to have Fire Station Committee - he would like it to made up of Select Board members, the Chief and fire fighters. There was discussion as to what this will look like. The Board decides that there will be 5 Select Board Members and 3 Fire members – one being the Chief. Selectwoman Boucher seconded The Committee will meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. Vote taken; vote carried. The first meeting will be June 28. Vice Chair Walsworth stated that the goals are to move out of station #1 in 3 years which is hopefully the life span of the building. If the question fails again the board will need to look at alternatives. Two options are to Contract out for Fire Services and/or repair station 1 which is NOT an option.

8:30 – Continuation of Unfinished Business

REMOVE MARIJUANA ADMINISTRATION

Fire Station: Revise date to 6/22/23 – Establishing a work committee of the Select Board and 2 or 3 Fire Department representatives to prepare a Fire Station proposal for the residents of Lebanon.

Roads: Vice Chair Walsworth provided an update of the projects listed – no changes

8:46 – Minutes

Vice Chair Walsworth made a motion to accept the minutes of June 8, 2023. Seconded by Selectman Harlow. Motion passed- 3 -yes (Walsworth, Harlow, Philbrick), 0-no, 2- abstain (not present Boucher, Edwards)

Selectwoman Boucher made a motion to accept the minutes of May 30, 2023. Seconded by Selectman Harlow. Motion passed – 3-yes (Boucher, Harlow, Philbrick), 0-no, 2- abstain (not present Walsworth, Edwards)

Selectwoman Boucher made a motion to accept the minutes of June 1, 2023. Seconded by Selectman Harlow. Motion passed- 3-yes (Boucher, Harlow, Philbrick), 0-no, 2- abstain (not present Walsworth, Edwards)

Paperwork

Selectwoman Boucher made a motion to authorize Chair Philbrick to sign the AWS (Animal Welfare Society) Agreement dated July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Seconded by Selectman Harlow. Motion passed 5-0.

Board approved and signed two, time off requests.

Selectman Harlow motioned to appoint Michael Kennedy as Deputy Code Enforcement Officer. Seconded by Vice Chair Walsworth. Motion passed 4- yes (Philbrick, Harlow, Boucher, Walsworth), 0-no, 1 abstain (Edwards)

Select Board signed the appointment paper for Rodney Furbush Jr. as Code Enforcement Officer. (This completes the paperwork for the appointment made on June 8, 2023.)

Selectman Harlow made a motion to reappoint Michael Kennedy, Laura Bragg, and Dennis W. Wilson as Planning Board members until June 30, 2026. Seconded by Selectwoman Boucher. Motion passed 5-0.

Selectman Harlow made a motion to reappoint Stephen Nugent as Alternate Planning Board member until June 30, 2024. Seconded by Selectwoman Boucher. Motion passed 5-0.

9:05 – Executive Session

Vice Chair Walsworth made a motion to enter into Executive Session for Personnel Matters pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6)(A) personnel. Seconded by Selectwoman Boucher. Motion passed 5-0.

9:57 –

• **Vice Chair Walsworth made a motion to exit executive session and adjourn the Select Board meeting. Seconded by Selectwoman Boucher. Motion passed 5-0.**