

**Town of Becket
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
July 5, 2017
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall
557 Main Street, Becket**

Attendees:

Board of Selectmen: William ("Bill") Elovirta, *Chair*; Nicole Ledoux, *Vice-Chair*
Michael Lavery, *Clerk*

Staff: Ed Gibson, *Town Administrator*; Beverly Gilbert, *Recording Secretary*

Others: Paul Merrill, Jeanne Pryor, Tim Sullivan, Bob Gross, Dean Lagrotteria,
Gabrielle Murphy, David Edgecomb, Bob Scott, Tami Scott

1. Call to order

Bill called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. He noted that the BOS was recording tonight's meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Bill led the pledge of allegiance.

3. 7:05 p.m. Public Hearing: Papa Bob's LLC's 71 Chester Road (Rte. 20) on an application for an Annual Monday through Saturday (Six Day) Entertainment License and

4. 7:10 p.m. Public Hearing Papa Bob's LLC's 71 Chester Road (Rte. 20), an application for an Annual Sunday Entertainment License.

Bill indicated that the public hearing notice was for both agenda items 3 and 4. At 7:10 p.m. Bill called the Public Hearings to order. He read the public hearing notice as published in the Berkshire Eagle. He indicated that no one sent written comments to the BOS for either of the entertainment applications. Bill asked if anyone wished to remark on the Annual Monday through Saturday (Six-Day) application. Robert Scott, Manager of Papa Bob's LLC, discussed the application, and mentioned that Papa Bob's recent one-day entertainment events went well without incident. Tami Scott, one of the owners of Papa Bob's, introduced Tim Sullivan who will head Papa Bob's entertainment and will be involved with their security. Bob Gross stated that he is really glad Papa Bob's is open and inquired whether there would be any restrictions placed on the outdoor entertainment of which he and some of his neighbors share a concern. Robert Scott indicated that he intends for outdoor music sounds to cease by 11 p.m. and customers will vacate the deck (go indoors) by or before midnight. Robert Scott indicated that however, if acceptable, he will allow smokers to light-up outdoors but he will monitor such activity. Bob Gross indicated that his concern is about noise levels (not smokers). Bill asked if anyone else wished to comment on the Annual Monday through Friday Entertainment License Application (Six Day). Bill clarified with Tami and Robert Scott that the Annual Sunday Entertainment license will have the same restrictions as indicated for the Six Day Entertainment license. Bill checked if anyone had any questions or comments about the Annual Sunday Entertainment license. Nicole asked if the outdoor projector would also end at 11 p.m. The Scotts indicated that if there is a special event that may extend past 11 p.m., they would apply for permission from the BOS (one-day entertainment license). Michael moved to end the public hearings for Papa Bob's LLC's

application for an Annual Monday through Saturday (Six Day) Entertainment License and for Papa Bob's LLC's application for an Annual Sunday Entertainment License. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Nicole moved to approve Papa Bob's LLC's application for an Annual Six Day (Monday through Saturday) entertainment license with the stipulation that outdoor music must cease at 11 p.m. and customers must vacate the deck (may go indoors) by or before midnight. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Nicole moved to approve Papa Bob's LLC's application for an Annual Sunday entertainment license with the stipulation that outdoor music must cease at 11 p.m. and customers must vacate the deck (may go indoors) by or before midnight. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

5. BOS to vote on Town Administrator's recommendation re: Tax Assessing Services Request for Proposals and sign Contract for these services.

Ed provided a Becket Tax Assessment Service Composite Evaluation Summary. Ed and each member of the Board of Assessors had independently scored Regional Resource Group's (RRG) information contained in the non-pricing proposal envelope. RRG received 24 out of 27 maximum points. Ed indicated that it was only after they scored RRG that they opened the second sealed envelope containing the pricing. Ed advised that RRG is the town's existing vendor, they have been doing a good job and it is their recommendation that the BOS accept RRG's proposal. Bill moved to approve the contract with Regional Resource Group of Leominster, Massachusetts, for Tax Assessing Services in the total amount of \$156,600 for three fiscal years ending 6/30/2020. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Board to review minutes of previous meeting(s).

Michael moved to accept the meeting minutes of 6/21/2017 as read and edited. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Broadband Update: Board to consider approval of State Broadband Grant Contract and sign.

Ed reported that the town has been officially offered the state broadband grant contract. He discussed the contract between the town and the state. The BOS gave Ed permission to meet with Bill Ennen to correct (both Ed and Bill Ennen would need to initial the changes on the contract) several grammatical errors within the contract (including Page 8, 11, 12 and 13).

Bill moved to approve the state broadband grant contract between the Town of Becket and the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Bill moved to appoint the Town Administrator Edward J. Gibson as the authorized signatory (to sign paperwork and submit reports for reimbursements). Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Bill made a motion to appoint the Town Accountant Margaret McClellan as the authorized backup signatory on the contract. Michael seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ed reported that last week, the Broadband Committee and Ed had a two hour meeting with Westfield Gas and Electric at their headquarters and they have a tentative date to move forward with the broadband project.

Broadband Committee Member Bob Gross and Town Administrator Ed Gibson indicated if WiredWest will not relax its requirements for the town to receive broadband related debt return revenue (right now a town must have a sign-up rate of 50 percent to receive debt

return revenue), the Broadband Ad Hoc Committee and Ed may ask the BOS to consider contracting with another entity to assume WiredWest's function (perhaps Westfield Gas & Electric).

8. Board to Review and consider voting to re-appoint the Municipal Light Plant Manager.

Bill moved to re-appoint Town Administrator Edward Gibson as the Municipal Light Plant Manager for a term expiring 06/30/2018. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Town Administrator's Appointment Recommendations: BOS to consider Voting Approval.

Michael moved to accept the Town Administrator's recommendation to re-appoint Mark Hanford as Fire Chief for a term expiring 06/30/2018. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Town of Becket Public Records Access Guidelines for town website.

Bill moved to approve the Public Records Access Guidelines with the changes discussed at tonight's meeting. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously. These guidelines will be signed by the members of the BOS, posted on the town's website, and distributed to each town department/board/committee. Jeanne Pryor suggested that the town notify the clerks of the legislative districts within Becket. It was noted that the town is not the custodian of records for legislative districts.

11. Board to discuss Moratorium for Sale and Distribution of Recreational Marijuana.

Per Bill's inquiry, Ed will ask Town Counsel if a moratorium for the Sale and Distribution of Marijuana may include medical marijuana as well as recreational marijuana. Once this is determined, Ed will prepare a letter to ask the Planning Board to schedule a public hearing by September 1, 2017, regarding a Temporary Moratorium for Sale and distribution of Recreational Marijuana or for both Recreational and Medical Marijuana. The BOS intends to include a warrant article re: Marijuana Moratorium for Special Town Meeting that will occur in the Fall 2017. The BOS will ask the Planning Board if they are ready to present recommendations for a Medical Marijuana Bylaw at the Fall 2017 Special Town Meeting. Once the state's rules are known, the Planning Board may prepare recommendations for a Recreational Marijuana Bylaw.

12. Requests from various Departments for employee's to carryover vacation time.

The BOS will discuss this agenda item on July 19, 2017.

13. Ambulance Department Update

Ed reported on his meeting re: weekend shifts with the Director of the Ambulance Dept.

14. Town of Washington Request to join with them in applying to D.O.E.R. for inclusion in Solarize Mass. program discussion and possible vote.

Ed reported that the Becket Energy Committee favors joining with the Town of Washington in applying to the D.O.E.R. for inclusion in Solarize Mass. program as long as the Town of Washington shares in the work involved which would be of benefit to the Town of Becket. The number of households within Becket is sufficient for Becket to apply on its own. This is not the case with the Town of Washington. The advantages for applying to this program include: towns may get proposals from contractors to put solar panels on roofs at a discount

to the residents, and this is in keeping with the town's goals as a green community to promote green re-usable energy and reduce our carbon footprint. Michael moved to join with Town of Washington in applying to D.O.E.R. for inclusion in the Solarize Mass. program provided that the Town of Washington contributes equally to the tasks relating to managing the program activities assigned to the towns. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Monthly or Quarterly Reports: others tba

The BOS reviewed the Fire Department's May 2017 Report.

16. Letter from DEP re: Route 20 Spring

Ed advised that he has started the dialogue with DEP to develop a plan for the town to decommission the Route 20 Spring. Ed will contact Housatonic Basin for the appropriate wording to post a sign at the Route 20 Spring to alert the public of the positive coliform test results.

17. Inter-departmental Transfers of Funds

Bill moved to approve the following inter-departmental transfer of funds as requested by the Town Administrator:

- \$7,780 from Ambulance Salaries (60-231-5100) into Ambulance Expenses (60-231-5800-5500)

Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The Finance Committee will vote on this transfer.

18. Reserve Fund Transfers

Ed advised that he will submit to the Finance Committee a request for a reserve fund transfer in the amount of \$1,500 for Town Secretary Salaries.

19. Board of Selectmen's Comments and Announcements

Michael gave the BOS pages 10 and 11 from Town Meeting Time and pages 354 and 355 from Robert's Rules of Order for review and consideration for future discussion.

Bill indicated that Ed has been in contact with officials from the Town of Washington re: Town Beach permits they have been issuing. Several out of town residents have been observed with beach permits.

Bill indicated that a Pittsfield daycare provider bused in children to the town's playground while the town's day camp was in session. The driver of the bus moved the cones in the parking lot located next to the play scape where the parks program takes place. Bill stated that he thinks commercial entities should provide their own playground equipment, or they should frequent playgrounds within their own town. Nicole stated that she did not think the town may restrict access to the playground. Ed indicated that while it is his opinion that the park is open to the public, it is not okay for the bus driver to move the cones in the parking lot. The town had placed the cones for safety purposes.

20. Town Administrator's Report

Ed indicated that he anticipates that next week the Finance Committee will meet and vote on the final transfers for FY17. He submitted a reimbursement request for the town's EMPG safety grant for the purchase of a laptop and software and a projector for training and emergency management use.

21. Public Input

Gabrielle Murphy and David Edgecomb discussed a letter they had sent to the Board of Selectmen concerning that despite that the Town of Becket voted to opt out of the Mosquito Control Project, the Sherwood Greens Road District Prudential Committee entered into an agreement with the Berkshire County Mosquito Control Project for spraying in Sherwood Greens. Gabrielle and David oppose mosquito spraying and inquired if Sherwood Greens and other legislative road and lake districts have the authority to spend money and make decisions that do not specifically correlate with roads or lakes. Although individual homeowners may opt out, Gabrielle and David indicated that it is not possible to contain the spray which impacts the environment, and wafts to other properties. They asked if being exposed to the unwanted spray would constitute trespassing. They also indicated that some of the chemicals used are banned by the EPA if used near water and asked if this would be a town matter. The BOS indicated that this matter is not something within the town's jurisdiction. Ed indicated that the town's warrant article in which the town voted to opt-out of Berkshire County Mosquito Control was budgetary and contractual and did not necessarily constitute a ban on spraying in town. Michael indicated that because he resides in SG, to avoid a possible conflict of interest, he may need to recuse himself from participating in discussions in the capacity of his role of Selectman on this matter.

22. Any other business to come before the Board

Bill moved to approve, as presented by the Town Administrator, the list of Amended FY2018 Authorized Pay rates, and a two-week vacation benefit for the Ambulance Director (Department Head) effective 7/1/2017. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ed indicated that Nina Weiler (Collector's Office) asked if the town will issue beach stickers for individuals who camp year round at Bonny Rigg Camping Club. The BOS indicated that this category does not qualify.

Bill, as a follow-up, asked that a letter be sent to Jacob's Pillow regarding the Town's Beach Sticker policy.

Based on Ed's recommendation to add controls when issuing beach stickers to prevent residents outside the Becket and Washington community from obtaining beach stickers, the BOS, at its October 18th meeting, will include an agenda item to discuss modifying the beach sticker (year, color).

23. Review Correspondence – TBA

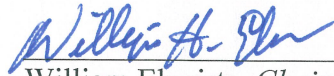
None

24. Board of Selectmen to adjourn the meeting

Michael moved to adjourn. Nicole seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Bill adjourned the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

Reviewed Payroll/Expense Warrants.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Gilbert, Secretary


William Elovirta, Chairperson

Documents discussed at this meeting:

- Papa Bob's LLC's 71 Chester Road (Rte. 20) applications: 1) Annual Monday through Saturday (Six Day) Entertainment License and 2) Annual Sunday Entertainment License.
- Becket Tax Assessment Services Composite Evaluation Summary Regional Resource Group, Contract between the Town of Becket and RRG
- KP Model for Temporary Moratorium on Recreation Marijuana Establishments
- Becket Volunteer Fire Department May 2017 Report
- FY2018 Selectmen Amended Authorized Pay Rates dated 7/5/2017
- Dept. of Environmental Protection letter dated 06/19/2017 re: Becket Route 20 Spring
- Request for Transfer as described above
- Request for Transfer from the Reserve Fund as described above
- Town of Becket all Department Expenditure Report from 07/01/2016 to 06/30.2017 date 06/29/2017
- 6/21/2017 BOS Meeting Minutes
- Town of Becket Public Records Access Guidelines
- Contract between the Town and the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development for Last Mile Municipally-owned Broadband Network Executive Office including Terms and Conditions, Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing, Signatory Listing (Proof of Authentication of Signature)