

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 7:00 p.m.  
April 26, 2016

PRESENT: Robert Dubois, Chairman Margo Bik, Vice Chairman  
Daniel Keefe Michael Catalano

ABSENT: Paul Haughey

OTHERS PRESENTS: Daniel Keyes, Town Administrator Patrick Costello, Esq., Town Counsel

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dubois at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL – ATTENDANCE:

As noted above.

3. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

- Certificate Not to Encumber:
- Special & Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles: An amendment to Article #4 was added to the Warrant Articles and was read in its entirety by Chairman Dubois. It asks for the transfer of funds in the amount of \$431,239 to fund capital debt payments.
- Update FY 16 - FY 17 Budgets (Blackstone/Millville Regional School Budget: The school is looking for \$860,000 in additional contributions from Blackstone and \$336,000 from Millville. Millville has indicated they do not have the funds to honor this request.
- Sycamore Estates: The Board of Selectmen are concerned that the Planning Board is accepting substandard plans from developers and should be accepting plans that meet conditions set by the Town of Blackstone. The Planning Board needs to be respectful and responsible when approving plans. In the past after the developer has left town, the residents complain about lack of conditions and the town is left to remedy the situation. A meeting between the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen will be scheduled in the near future to address what the Selectmen expect.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mrs. Bik, seconded by Mr. Keefe. There was no discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Boucher  
Recording Secretary

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 7:30 p.m.  
April 26, 2016

PRESENT: Robert Dubois, Chairman Margo Bik, Vice Chairman  
Michael Catalano Daniel Keefe

ABSENT: Paul Haughey

OTHERS PRESENT: Daniel Keyes, Town Administrator Patrick Costello, Esq., Town Council

1: CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dubois at 7:30 p.m. All members of the Board of Selectmen stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2: ROLL CALL – ATTENDANCE:

As noted under the heading “Present”.

3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF APRIL 5, 2016, APRIL 7, 2016 AND APRIL 19, 2016:

A motion was made by Mrs. Bik, seconded by Mr. Keefe, to accept the minutes as noted above.

4. GOOD AND WELFARE – PUBLIC (7:30-8:00 P.M. (5 min. time limit per participant):

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Sycamore Park Estates: Mr. Costello noted that the Planning Board should meet with the Board of Selectmen (and DPW Superintendent, Police Chief and Fire Chief) to determine what standards are acceptable before approving plans by developers in order to avoid future problems. In the past, when developers leave town, the town ends up being responsible for fixing the substandard plans approved by the Planning Board. The developers of Sycamore Estates want to build two affordable units off-site and eliminate street lights and sidewalks on one side of the road
- Blackstone Fire Fighters: They will be participating in a muscle walk on May 22, 2016 on Boston Common to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Residents are invited to join in the walk, make donations, and/or participate in any way they can to be supportive.

6. HEARINGS AND MEETINGS:

None.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- Soldier On: The RFP’s were opened this past Friday. The only RFP was submitted by Soldier On. Mr. Keyes will be meeting next week in Boston with officials who are interested in this project.
- Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles: An amendment has been added to Article 4 asking for the transfer of funds in the amount of \$431,239 to fund capital debt payments to include BMR Sewer Note, BMR Roof

Project, Recycling Electrical debt and Sorting Facility debt. This will require a 2/3 vote. The Capital Outlay Committee will make their recommendation on this Article.

- Update FY 16 & FY 17 Budgets: Mr. Keyes met last night with the Finance Committee. Their public hearing is scheduled for May 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

#### 8. NEW BUSINESS:

- Meeting with local members of BMR School District Committee pursuant to Regional Agreement to Review Candidates and Vote on Appointment to Fill Vacancy on School Committee: A nomination of Ms. Watson to fill the vacancy and be a member of the School Committee was made by Mr. Keefe, seconded by Mrs. Bik. There was no discussion and the vote was 7-0. Members of the School Committee included Mr. Chaplin, Ms. Greenstein and Ms. Jarrett.
- Letter of Interest – Jo-Anne Watson – School Committee Member: Ms. Watson stated she had been interested in volunteering in town for quite some time now and her current schedule would allow her to do this. She feels she has much to offer to the School Committee.
- Memorial Day Parade – May 29, 2016: Kick-off will be from the JFK School. Father O'Mara will be the Grand Marshall.
- Town of Millville Parade – May 1, 2016: The Town of Millville will be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a town with a parade which will begin at 1:00 p.m.
- Approve Request for a One-Day Liquor License from Blackstone Valley Boys & Girls Club, 115 Canal Street: A motion was made by Mrs. Bik, seconded by Mr. Keefe to approve this request. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.
- Daniel's Farmstead – Granite Marker: A motion was made by Mr. Keefe, seconded by Mrs. Bik to approve a granite marker at the corner of Main and Mendon Streets. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.
- Michael Parody – 43 Main Street Parking Area: Mr. Parody is asking permission to use town land as a parking area for his business which is designing parks and playgrounds. The building will be used for office space and storage. It was determined that language regarding a license to use the town-owned land will be incorporated in the agreement. A motion was made by Mrs. Bik, seconded by Mr. Catalano to approve this request. There was no further discussion and the vote was unanimous.
- Massachusetts Liberty Bell Relocation Request to State – George A. Warren: Chairman Dubois read the letter requesting that the Massachusetts Liberty Bell be relocated to the fourth floor of the State House. A motion was made by Mrs. Bik, seconded by Mr. Catalano, to support the request. There was no further discussion and the vote was unanimous.
- Approval of Payroll Warrant #16EWA23 and #16PW23: A motion was made by Mrs. Bik, seconded by Mr. Catalano, to approve the above payroll warrant. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.
- Approval of Vendor Warrant #16EW23: A motion was made by Mrs. Bik, seconded by Mr. Catalano, to approve the above vendor warrant. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.

- Matters that the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen reasonable anticipates to discuss: Mr. Dubois questioned the opening date for the bike path. Mr. Keyes noted that DCR expects the opening to be in late spring with an official dedication perhaps in August. The governor and lieutenant governor will be invited. In addition, former Senator Moore should be invited since he was a vital part in this project.

9. GOOD AND WELFARE – SELECTMEN:

Mr. Catalano - It is important that we work with the Planning Board, regarding Sycamore Meadows and hope they will be reasonable about what needs to be done. He also wished Board member Paul Haughey a speedy recovery.

Mr. Keefe – None.

Mrs. Bik – She reminded everyone that many wonderful things will be going on during the summer and encouraged people to support local establishments. The installation of the new Post Mistress, Karen McDonald, took place recently. She reminded people to take advantage of the activities at the Library. The blessing of the new senior bus was conducted by Father O’Mara recently. She encouraged everyone to read “A River Runs Through It” to see the many activities for the seniors. The silent auction will be held in October.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mrs. Bik, seconded by Mr. Catalano to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Boucher  
Recording Secretary

T-04-27-16

cc: Board of Selectmen  
Town Administrator  
Town Clerk