

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2014
7:00 P.M. – TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: DANIEL BAILLY
STEPHEN BANNON
ANDREW BLECHMAN
DEB PHILLIPS
SEAN STANTON

JENNIFER TABAKIN, TOWN MANAGER

1. CALL TO ORDER:

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

December 2, 2013 BOS and Fin Com Joint Meeting

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the December 2, 2013 minutes

SECOND: Steven Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

December 9, 2013 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the December 9, 2013 minutes

SECOND: Steven Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

December 11, 2013 BOS Special Meeting

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the December 11, 2013 minutes

SECOND: Steven Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

3. SELECTMEN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:

A. GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE BOARD.

Andrew Blechman suggested that it be considered in the future how to get town news out to the public. He suggested having 'good news' items put online or that a communication strategy be created.

Andrew complimented the Berkshire Eagle on a well-written column about Town Manager, Jennifer Tabakin.

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

A. FOLLOW UP ITEMS

- CITIZEN PETITION SUBMITTAL:

OPENS JAN. 27, 2014 @ 8:30AM; CLOSES FEB. 5, 2014 @ 4:00 PM

Jennifer Tabakin reminded the public about the citizen petition submittal dates.

B. DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Fire Department - Jennifer Tabakin reported that Elias Casey has been promoted to Fire Fighter. She congratulated him and said he will be a great addition to the Department.

DPW – Jennifer reported that a contract has been signed for the interior painting of the courthouse.

WWTP – Jennifer spoke about the WWTP upgrades and the different work packages. The phase I bids will be open 1/16 for sub-contractors and 1/30 for general contractors. She said that the first package will not increase the sewer rates.

Jennifer said that she received a price quote from Tighe and Bond to study the sewer rates. The price quote was higher than what is available. She said that they will take some steps back to determine how to deal with this.

Planning Dept. - Jennifer reported there will be a meeting with BRPC and the Housatonic Railroad on January 14th at 6:00 PM at Great Barrington Fire Station. She encouraged all to attend.

Solarize Mass. is having a Solar informational meeting on January 29th, 6:00pm – 8:00pm at Crissey Farm for those who want to learn more about the initiative and how solar energy can benefit you.

Jennifer is working with the Library Advisory Committee to hire a new Library Director. She will keep the Board posted.

5. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

A. MATTHEW & DARA LEVY/THE GFG CAFÉ FOR 2014 ANNUAL COMMON VICTUALLER LICENSE AT 284 MAIN STREET #9 FROM 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the license

SECOND: Steven Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

B. JENISE LUCEY/BERKSHIRE SOUTH REGIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LICENSE FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2014 FROM 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM AT 15 CRISSEY ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the license

SECOND: Steven Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. BOS – APPOINTMENT TO THE CULTURAL COUNCIL. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to appoint Rose Tannenbaum to the Cultural Council

SECOND: Steven Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

B. TOWN MANAGER'S EVALUATION PROCESS. (DISCUSSION)

Sean Stanton spoke about the new evaluation form that was presented to the Selectboard. This evaluation form is similar to one that is used in Chatham.

Jennifer Tabakin agreed to this evaluation form.

The results of the evaluation will be made public on 02/24/14.

Sean Stanton reminded the Selectboard that they are supposed to meet with town staff to get their input.

They also need to meet with the Town Manager one-on-one with their review results.

A summary of their comments will be made public.

Deb Philips requested a summary of the dates of this process.

Sean Stanton said that he will send it to the Selectboard.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

A. UPDATE – PLASTIC BAG REDUCTION BYLAW. (DISCUSSION)

Jennifer thanked the art students from the High School for the logos they created to consider for the plastic bag education campaign. The ban starts on March 1st.

Mark Pruhenski said that there will be a 2nd public information session on January 29th at 10:00 AM, Town Hall.

8. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:

Michele Loubert spoke about the sewer rates study that was requested. She asked what was presented as the scope when asking for a price.

Jennifer Tabakin responded that there is a procurement process so she needs to follow up to see if this request is appropriate.

Patricia Ryan asked when the Town Manager would find out about the procurement rule.

Jennifer Tabakin said that she will respond formally in the next few days.

Sean Stanton said that they need to find out the full cost of the Waste Water Treatment upgrades to be able to tell a consultant.

David Magadini spoke about the beautiful Christmas tree that was put up next to the gazebo.

He asked that the electricity be put back on in the gazebo so that he can heat up his soup.

David also asked if the citizen petitions are handed in to the Town Clerk.

Sean Stanton replied yes.

9. SELECTMEN'S TIME:

Andrew Blechman reminded the Selectboard not to forget about the meeting that they wanted to schedule with Delegation about their priorities.

10. MEDIA TIME:

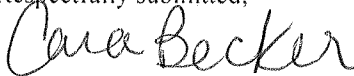
Eileen Mooney asked about the status of the old Fire House.

Sean Stanton responded that the Purchase and Sale has been signed by both parties. The contingency period ends 60 days from January 2.

11. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Deb Phillips, seconded by Steve Bannon, the Board adjourned its meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker
Recording Secretary