

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2013
7:00 P.M. – TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: STEPHEN BANNON
 ANDREW BLECHMAN
 ALANA CHERNILA
 DEB PHILLIPS
 SEAN STANTON
 KEVIN O'DONNELL, TOWN MANAGER

7:00 PM – PUBLIC SESSION – BOARD ROOM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Sean Stanton called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. December 10, 2012 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the December 10, 2012 regular meeting minutes as amended

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

B. December 19, 2012 Special Meeting.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the December 19, 2012 Special Meeting Minutes.

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

3. SELECTMEN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:

A. GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE BOARD.

Alana Chernila said, at the sustainability meeting that was held on 12/19, there was no direction given to create a synopsis of the discussion.

Kevin O'Donnell responded that this summary was sent out to the Board. He will re-send for their review.

Alana said that she is excited that the transfer station is now open 3 days a week. (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday). Refer to the town website for times and sticker information.

Deb Phillips requested a report on Council on Aging staffing.

Sean Stanton said that Iredale Mineral Cosmetics/ Bryant School offices will be in touch with him by the end of the week in regards to a visit, and he will then contact the Board.

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

Kevin O'Donnell said that there are openings on the Agricultural Commission, Conservation Commission, Tree Committee, Parking Task Force, Design Advisory Committee and the Charter Review Committee. Please contact him if you are interested.

A. DPW SNOW PLOWING AND WINTER MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

Joe Sokul said that he makes a determination whether to plow when there is 3 inches or more of snow.

They depend on the Police Department when there is a storm during 'off' hours. Joe said that they usually salt when there is just a covering of snow and they plow when there is accumulation. All gravel roads get sanded.

Deb Phillips asked about pre-salt.

Joe Sokul responded that it is a 'wasted' material. He said when it goes down, it quickly bounces off.

Sean Stanton asked if we can bid on state contracts.

Joe said that he will research this; however, we would be on the states schedule.

ALL AGREE THAT JOE SOKUL WILL LOOK INTO THIS.

Alana Chernila reminded residents that sand is available to them at the Transfer station, Senior Center, and the Housy Dome. (One 5 gallon pail at a time)

5. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:

Dr. Fred Conforti – 2 Lakeview Rd. – said that he is representing a larger group of residents who want to express their support for the Town Manager. Dr. Conforti submitted a petition to renew Kevin O'Donnell's contract as Town Manager. He will also submit the petition to the press. Dr. Conforti stated that the decision not to renew the Town Manager's contract is extreme and unwarranted. He said that Kevin O'Donnell has carried out every policy directive.

Dan Bailly – 207 North St. – asked where the Board stands on the RFP for the Housatonic School.

Sean Stanton said that he had a conversation with Tim Geller from the CDC. Sean would like to have Tim come in and discuss CDC's plan. Sean said that another possibility is putting up a 'For Sale' sign, if it's legal. Dan replied that the Housatonic Task Force left the decision in the Selectboard's court and said that they need to do something.

Michele Loubert asked if the condition of the Housatonic School will be allowed to deteriorate, since there was no response to the RFP. Michele referred to her letter to the Board dated 1/11/13. She said that there are broken windows and asked about energy conservation.

Sean Stanton thanked Michele for letting the Board know about the windows. He said that the situation should be taken care of in a week.

Sharon Gregory – Hollenbeck Ave. – has been on the Parking Task Force for 2 years and said that there is a problem with parking. Sharon said, as the population comes to a 40 to 50 year low, to 6800, the Economic Development of the town center is very important. She said that this needs to be looked at as a whole community and in respect to Economic Development.

Craig Okerstrom-Lang said that there is a load center planned, as a result of the Main Street Reconstruction, for the corner of Railroad and Main in front of Tune Street. This will add a utility meter. Craig asked that the Board consider moving the load center to an alley or back-street. The load center is 5 feet tall, 2 feet wide and would require bollards around it if kept in the original location. The bollards are not currently in the plans. Craig suggested the back right corner of the Calligari building; the building next to Toms Toys and Louis Ellis. He said that Mr. Calligari agreed to allow the load center to be placed there.

Tim Lovett– Railroad St. Property co-owner- said that he is concerned about the location of the load center. He asked that the Board explore other options.

6. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

- A. BERKSHIRE SOUTH REGIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER/JENISE LUCEY FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LICENSE FOR FEBRUARY 9, 2013 FROM 6:00 – 9:00 PM AT 15 CRISSEY ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve license

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

- B. BERKSHIRE SOUTH REGIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER/JENISE LUCEY FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LICENSE FOR MARCH 7, 2013 FROM 6:30 – 8:30 PM AT 15 CRISSEY ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve license

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. RESOLUTION – LEGISLATION TO REGULATE AND BAN MILITARY STYLE WEAPONS AND ASSOCIATED AMMUNITION. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Kevin O'Donnell presented a working draft resolution regarding this topic.

Alana Chernila said the President is going further with this topic and they may want to mirror what the President announces.

Deb Phillips suggested a resolution or statement regarding mental health services that are available and accessible to the community.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to table this until 1/28/13

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

Andy Moro asked that the Board do some research on what is 'semi-automatic' and what is considered full capacity before making any decisions.

B. BOS - APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to appoint Dan Bailly to the Historic District Commission

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

C. BOS – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE ENERGY COMMITTEE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to appoint Mark Supranowitz to the Energy Committee

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

D. NATIONAL GRID AND VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. FOR PERMISSION TO INSTALL STUB POLE 29-84 AND ANCHOR & DOWN GUY TO ALLOW FOR THE REMOVAL OF EXISTING TREE GUY SUPPORT AND TREE ON HURLBURT ROAD, GT BARRINGTON, BEGINNING AT A POINT APPROXIMATELY 3810 SW OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE INTERSECTION OF ALFORD ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve petition as submitted

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

E. RECOMMENDATION TO THE PLANNING BOARD ON A SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION OF STUDIO ONE LLC/SANDRA MUSS, 1800 WEST 25TH STREET, MIAMI BEACH, FL TO CONVERT AN EXISTING MILL BUILDING AT 410 PARK STREET, HOUSATONIC, MA TO A SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE WITH ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT IN THE HOUSATONIC MILL REVITALIZATION OVERLAY DISTRICT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 9.8 AND 10.4 OF THE GREAT BARRINGTON ZONING BY LAW. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

The lawyer representing Sandra Muss presented the project with the architect and engineer providing visual details.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to send a positive recommendation to the Planning Board

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

F. DISCUSSION DRAFT RESOLUTION RE: TOWN MANAGER SCREENING COMMITTEE.

Alana Chernila suggested that the screening committee applicants be given the opportunity to speak at the January 28th meeting.

Kevin O'Donnell said that he will let the applicants know about this opportunity.

There was discussion about how to vote for each member.

The Selectboard agreed to take out paragraph 7 regarding the screening committee being able to meet with Town Counsel.

Deb Phillips will research how many meetings and the duration of the meetings that would be expected for the Screening Committee.

G. PRESENTATION OF DOWNTOWN PARKING TASK FORCE REPORT.

A presentation was given regarding the parking task force program that is to be implemented. The presentation revealed that there are 210 “prime spots” in the village center. There are 125 other spots not considered prime.

The task force gave 3 recommendations:

Improve availability of parking for visitors

1. Temporarily remove restrictions during construction.
2. Relocate employees and tenants
3. Monitor – 35 maximum lost spaces during construction

Relocation program to clear visitor spaces

Spot-saver program

Milestones for implementation

The spot SAVER (space, accessibility, visitors, employees and residents) program was described.

There was discussion about the implementation of the plan with dates.

The task force asked the Selectboard for their support.

The program will cost between \$1500 and \$2000 to get started.

Steve Bannon suggested that task force change the wording in their program from ‘visitor’ to ‘customer.’

Alana Chernila said getting landlords on board to enforce this program is key.

MOTION: Andrew Blechman to endorse the parking task force program as presented.

SECOND: Deb Phillips

VOTE: 5-0

**H. DAVID MAGADINI – REQUEST TO REVOKE DAYS INN INNHOLDER’S LICENSE.
(DISCUSSION/VOTE)**

MOTION: Alana Chernila to have Kevin O’Donnell follow up with Town Counsel as to whether a public hearing is necessary, and if so, to schedule one.

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

8. OLD BUSINESS: None

9. SELECTMEN’S TIME:

Sean Stanton said he has received notifications regarding the delay of the Main Street Reconstruction. He suggested a meeting with the design team to discuss the delay and also the possibility of moving the ‘load center.’

Kevin O’Donnell said that he will follow-up on these items.

Alana Chernila stressed the importance of all information regarding this coming from the Town Manager.

There was discussion about the time-frame of the project.

Kevin O’Donnell said that he will find the information from the survey given to business owners regarding project timing.

The Selectboard agreed to meet on 1/22 at 6:00pm to discuss moving the load center. They all agree to continue the discussion about easements concurrently.

Andrew Blechman asked if a Town Meeting reminder will be sent with the tax bills.

Kevin O’Donnell said that it will go as a separate mailer.

Andrew asked if someone could go through the Main Street Reconstruction map with Jenny Clark so she can mark where things are going to be. The Selectboard was not interested in doing so.

10. MEDIA TIME: None

11. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Deb Phillips, seconded by Steve Bannon, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cara Becker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cara Becker
Recording Secretary