

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2013  
7:00 P.M. – TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:** DANIEL BAILLY  
STEPHEN BANNON  
ANDREW BLECHMAN – not present  
DEB PHILLIPS – not present  
SEAN STANTON

JENNIFER TABAKIN, 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:**

September 23, 2013 Regular Meeting

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to approve the September 23, 2013 minutes

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE:** 3-0

**3. SELECTMEN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS**

**A. GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE BOARD.**

Steve Bannon said that people are looking for places to dump leaves. He suggested Joe Sokul compile this information for next year.

**B. DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING MEETING CALENDAR.**

The Selectboard was given a copy of the upcoming meeting calendar.

**4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**A. FOLLOW UP ITEMS.**

Nothing to report

**B. DEPARTMENT UPDATES.**

No updates at this time

**C. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**- FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Sharon Gregory expressed the concern of the Finance Committee regarding the Housatonic School. They are concerned about having a timely decision for the fate of this building. Sharon presented recommendations from the committee for this project. She suggested that a plan can be presented at Town Meeting if a decision is made in time.

Sharon also suggested that a water rate study be completed. She spoke about the upcoming Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades and said that a fair and equitable plan needs to be made for the upcoming cost.

Jennifer Tabakin said that she has requested a cost proposal for this study and will provide the information when she has it. A decision can then be made as to whether it is worthwhile to do.

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. BOS - RECOMMENDATION TO THE ZBA ON THE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION OF ROBERT AND MARY ANN NORRIS, TO BUILD AN ADDITION THAT WILL EXTEND INTO THE REQUIRED SIDEYARD SETBACK AT 22 PROSPECT STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to send a positive recommendation to the ZBA

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 3-0**

- B. NATIONAL GRID AND VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. FOR PERMISSION TO INSTALL ONE JO POLE ON ALFORD ROAD, GREAT BARRINGTON, BEGINNING AT A POINT APPROXIMATELY 715 FEET SOUTH OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE INTERSECTION OF CASTLE HILL AVENUE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to grant permission

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 3-0**

- C. NATIONAL GRID AND VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. FOR PERMISSION TO INSTALL ONE POLE ON ALFORD ROAD, GREAT BARRINGTON, BEGINNING AT A POINT APPROXIMATELY 190 FEET SOUTH OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE INTERSECTION OF CASTLE HILL AVENUE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to grant permission

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 3-0**

- D. NATIONAL GRID AND VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. FOR PERMISSION TO INSTALL ONE JO POLE ON ALFORD ROAD, GREAT BARRINGTON, BEGINNING AT A POINT APPROXIMATELY 120 FEET WEST OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE INTERSECTION OF HALEY ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to grant permission

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 3-0**

- E. BOS AND BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES - JOINT APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Hilda Banks Shapiro to nominate Adam Gudeon to the Board of Library Trustees

**SECOND:** Ed Abrahams

**VOTE: 4-1 Kathy Plungis against**

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to appoint Adam Gudeon to the Board of Library Trustees

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 3-0**

**6. OLD BUSINESS: None**

**7. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME**

Patricia Ryan – 14 Oak St. – spoke about water rates. She distributed a packet of information to the Selectboard.

She stated that only 11% of towns still use a flat fee currently. She feels that the EDU system is inequitable and unfair. Patricia suggested that a water rate study be done and asked for a copy of the Town Managers request for the cost estimate for such study.

Hans Heuberger said that EDU's are unequally distributed and feels that a water meter is most accurate.

Dan Bailly asked what % of homes in Great Barrington are on the sewer.

Jennifer Tabakin responded that she will get this number.

Richard Needleman – 9 Stanley Dr – spoke about town finances and the concept of ‘want vs. need.’ He spoke about the Main Street Reconstruction and the potential High School renovation as items that we may ‘want’ but don’t necessarily need. He stated that we have spent large amounts of money on the police station, fire station, fire truck and Wastewater Treatment Plant updates. He suggested that efforts be redirected to reducing debt and getting Town finances in order.

David Magadini spoke about the 127<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Statue of Liberty. He read facts and quotes about the Statue of Liberty.

**8. SELECTMEN'S TIME:**

Sean Stanton said that he received a letter from John Breasted asking the Selectboard to reconsider their vote regarding issuing a bond for the High School renovation.

No motion was made to change the vote.

Sean Stanton will let Mr. Breasted know that there was discussion about this matter.

**9. MEDIA TIME:**

Eileen Mooney asked about the sale of the Fire Station.

Jennifer Tabakin said that there is still a tentative agreement.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker  
Recording Secretary