

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2013
7:00 P.M. – TOWN HALL**

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

JENNIFER TABAKIN, TOWN MANAGER

7:00 PM – PUBLIC SESSION – BOARD ROOM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deb Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

October 21, 2013 Strategic Planning Priorities Meeting

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the October 21, 2013 minutes

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 3-0-1 Andrew Blechman abstains

October 28, 2013 Regular Meeting

This item will be put on the November 25th agenda.

3. SELECTMEN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS

A. GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE BOARD.

Dan Bailly spoke about the renovation vote. He said, 'as the school Board moves forward, the Selectboard should stand fast with the vote of Great Barrington.'

Andrew Blechman spoke about the Strategic Planning Priorities Meeting. He said that it was decided that there should be a conversation regarding what is needed from the 'Boston delegation' before bringing them in; in particular the school choice reimbursement formula. He asked that this be a future topic on an agenda.

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jennifer Tabakin reported that the Library Director position has been posted. There was a nice send-off for Kate Deviny. Jessica Magelaner is now the Interim Library Director.

A. FOLLOW UP ITEMS

Jennifer reported that the Dewey School rent has increased \$30,000 that will be used for work to the building.

Jennifer announced that the winter Parking Ban is now in effect through April 1 from 1:00am – 6:00am; no on-street parking.

She spoke about the movie being filmed in Great Barrington at Searles Castle. She said that this is a great sector to explore.

Jennifer said that the show Chronicle on ABC spoke of Great Barrington and PBS is showing a film called 'Many Rivers to Cross' that features Great Barrington.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. FELD CORP. D/B/A FIORI, MATTHEW H. FELDMAN, MANAGER TO SURRENDER THE COMMON VICTUALLER ALL ALCOHOLIC RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE AT 47 RAILROAD STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to accept

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. BOS AND TREE WARDEN TO CONSIDER REMOVING A PUBLIC SHADE TREE AT 454 MAIN STREET ON TOWN OWNED PROPERTY SHOWN ON ASSESSOR'S MAP 22, LOT 22-3 IN GREAT BARRINGTON. THE TREE SCHEDULED FOR REMOVAL IS AN 18 INCH +/- DIAMETER MAPLE TREE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

- a. Open Public Hearing

MOTION: Steve Bannon to open the public hearing

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- b. Explanation of Project: Joe Sokul said that he has been working with the owner of the Christian Science Center and has identified a tree that needs to be removed. Extensive pruning has brought it beyond repair. The tree warden agrees that it needs to come down.

Andrew Blechman said that he would like to see the tree. He expressed that Great Barrington is losing too many shade trees.

- c. Speak in Favor/Opposition: None

- d. Motion to Close Public Hearing

MOTION: Steve Bannon to close the public hearing

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- e. Motion re: Findings

MOTION: Steve Bannon that the findings are favorable to take the tree down is and outweighs any detrimental effects.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Deb Phillips – yes

Steve Bannon – yes

Dan Bailly – yes

Andrew Blechman – no

VOTE: 3-1 Andrew Blechman against

- f. Motion re: Approval/Denial/Table

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the removal of the public shade tree.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Deb Phillips – yes

Steve Bannon – yes

Dan Bailly – yes

Andrew Blechman – no

VOTE: 3-1 Andrew Blechman against

- B. PLAV, LLC D/B/A MARIO'S TUSCANY GRILL AND BAR, SAUD GUTIC, MANAGER FOR A NEW COMMON VICTUALLER ALL ALCOHOLIC RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE AT 47 RAILROAD STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

- a. Open Public Hearing

MOTION: Steve Bannon to open the public hearing

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

b. Explanation of Project – Richard Dohoney represented the new owner. He said that the current floor plan will not change. It is a family-friendly Italian-style restaurant. The owner introduced himself.

c. Speak in Favor/Opposition: Betsy Andrus said that she has met the new owner and the Chamber of Commerce feels that he and his restaurant will be a great asset to the town.

Pat Fennell said that he has eaten at the owners other location and it was great.

d. Motion to Close Public Hearing

MOTION: Steve Bannon to close the public hearing

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

e. Motion re: Findings

MOTION: Steve Bannon that the findings of fact outweigh any possible detrimental effects

SECOND: Dan Bailly

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Deb Phillips – yes

Steve Bannon – yes

Dan Bailly – yes

Andrew Blechman – yes

VOTE: 4-0

f. Motion re: Approval/Denial/Table

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the license

SECOND: Dan Bailly

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Deb Phillips – yes

Steve Bannon – yes

Dan Bailly – yes

Andrew Blechman – yes

VOTE: 4-0

7. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

A. SO. BERKSHIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/BETSY ANDRUS

- FOR PERMISSION TO CLOSE RAILROAD STREET FOR THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY STROLL ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2013 FROM 3:00 PM - 7:30 PM, WITH SET UP AND CLEAN UP FROM 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve with a rain date of December 8, 2013

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- FOR PERMISSION TO USE AND BLOCK EIGHT (8) PARKING SPOTS AT THE TOP OF RAILROAD STREET AFTER MARTIN'S RESTAURANT FOR THE ENTIRE DAY (DECEMBER 7, 2013). (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to grant permission

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- FOR PERMISSION TO USE 3 - 4 PARKING SPOTS STARTING AT THE INTERSECTION OF BRIDGE AND MAIN STREETS AND GOING DOWN BRIDGE STREET FOR THE HAY WAGON LOADING AND UNLOADING, TRAVELING DOWN THE NORTH BOUND LANE OF MAIN STREET, TURN INTO TD BANK PARKING LOT, COME OUT ONTO CHURCH STREET AND TRAVEL BACK IN THE NORTH BOUND LANE ON MAIN STREET FROM 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to grant permission

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- FOR PERMISSION TO SET UP THE NORTH POLE LAND (IN THE ALLEY FROM RAILROAD STREET TO THE TRIPLEX) THE WEEK LEADING UP TO THE STROLL AND SET UP THE DECORATED TREES AND PHOTO CUT OUTS ON THE SIDEWALK OF MAIN STREET THE DAY BEFORE THE STROLL (DECEMBER 6TH). (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to grant permission

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- B. SO. BERKSHIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/BETSY ANDRUS FOR TEMPORARY WEEKDAY OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE FOR SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2013 FROM 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM (INCLUDES SET UP AND CLEAN UP) AT MEMORIAL FIELD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve license

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- C. SO. BERKSHIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/BETSY ANDRUS FOR PERMISSION TO HANG BANNER ACROSS MAIN STREET FROM NOVEMBER 18 TO DECEMBER 9, 2013. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to grant permission

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. BOS – APPROVAL OF FINAL APPLICATION FOR BIODEGRADABLE PLASTIC BAG USE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Jennifer Tabakin presented the final application to the Selectboard.

The Selectboard would approve any applications that come in.

Jennifer reminded all that there will be a film at the Mason Library on November 16th at 6:00PM that will explain this topic.

Jennifer said that it is important to celebrate the ‘green efforts’ of businesses.

Andrew Blechman suggested that a copy of this movie be offered to the schools.

Pat Fennell offered to take a copy of the movie to CTSB and see if they will show it.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the final application

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- B. BOS - TO APPROVE FY15 BUDGET POLICY. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the FY15 Budget Policy

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- C. BOS – TOWN PLANNER – UPDATE ON LOCATION AND REGULATIONS OF MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Chris Rembold stated that 2 medical marijuana dispensaries are interested in Great Barrington. They are going through the application process with the State right now. The Planning Board has come to the consensus that a by-law should be created regarding this topic. The Planning Board would like to allow the dispensaries in certain zones. Chris said that they will create a draft by-law and ask for the Selectboards input.

MOTION: Steve Bannon that the Planning Board draft a by-law

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

D. RENEWAL OF CONSTRUCTION ZONE IMPACT AREA FOR MAIN STREET PROJECT.
(DISCUSSION/VOTE)

This item was already approved in the past. The one year designation has expired and this need to be renewed.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to renew

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

9. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:

Paul Kleinwald stated that he has always been treated well at Town Hall. Recently, however, when he submitted a bill of his fees for service he was not given a receipt that is was received. In the past, this was never a problem. He asked if the policy has changed.

Paul also spoke about the 14th amendment and gave a handout.

Michelle Loubert spoke about the school renovation vote. She said that there was a great turn out for the vote. Michelle said that BHRSD is not recognizing the will of the voters; there is still discussion about pushing for the renovation and possibly asking for a re-vote. She asked the Selectboard to acknowledge the will of the voters.

Pat Fennell said that there were 38 blank votes and asked if they were looked at.

Deb Phillips said that this would be up to our Town Clerk to look into.

10. SELECTMEN'S TIME:

None

11. MEDIA TIME:

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Steve Bannon, seconded by Dan Bailly, the Board adjourned its meeting at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker

Recording Secretary