

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2013  
7:00 P.M. – TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:** DANIEL BAILLY  
STEPHEN BANNON  
ANDREW BLECHMAN  
DEB PHILLIPS  
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:**

October 28, 2013 Regular Meeting

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to approve the October 28, 2013 minutes

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 3-0-2 Deb Phillips and Andrew Blechman abstained**

November 12, 2013 Regular Meeting

**MOTION:** Dan Bailly to approve the November 12, 2013 minutes as amended

**SECOND:** Steven Bannon

**VOTE: 4-0-1 Sean Stanton abstains**

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

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

None

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

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

The Selectboard agreed to reserve 12/16/13 at 6:00 pm for a meeting, if needed.

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

**A. FOLLOW UP ITEMS.**

Jennifer Tabakin reported that there are still vacancies on the Parking Task Force and Conservation Commission.

The Library Director position is currently open.

**B. DEPARTMENT UPDATES.**

**- UPDATE ON DEWEY COURTHOUSE**

Jennifer Tabakin reported that the State will send the final lease documents. All terms have been agreed upon. The interior painting project and HVAC design services were submitted to the Central Register for publication. The interior painting bids are due in December.

Wastewater Treatment Plant – the DPW met with DEP on phase 1 and made some adjustments to the plan and schedule. The 100% plan will be submitted to DEP in January.

- SENIOR CENTER WORK – Work has been completed including bathroom fixtures, vanity tops, and automatic doors.

**-UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

- The mill and paving program will take place between January and June and focuses on a few Housatonic streets and some drainage work.
- The sidewalk program will take place between February and June.
- The building program will include new windows for the Ramsdell library and new carpet in the Town Hall.
- The Park program includes sewer and water line installation at Olympia Meadows and repairs to the Skate Park Bowl.

These are all projects that have been funded and approved in prior Fiscal years.

- WEB BASED BUILDING PERMITS SYSTEM – a grant has been applied for and it will pay for one time transition costs for the software and associated hardware for the system.
- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY – this is similar to the Master Plan and is available on the Town website and at the libraries. There will be a meeting about this on 12/4/13. This is the first step in applying for a Community Development Block Grant.
- REST OF RIVER COMMUNITIES UPDATE – BRPC has applied for a grant that will give money for attorney fees for future Rest of River costs.

Jennifer said that the audit was completed and there will be a presentation on it December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**5. LICENSES OR PERMITS:**

- A. GEORGE LAYE/GUTHRIE CENTER FOR TWO (2) ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LICENSES FOR NOVEMBER 26 AND 28, 2013 FROM 5:00 PM – 12:00 MIDNIGHT AT 2 VAN DEUSENVILLE ROAD, GREAT BARRINGTON, MA. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to approve licenses

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE: 5-0**

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. WOOD ANCHOR, INC. D/B/A **BELL & ANCHOR**, BETTINA SCHWARTZ, MANAGER FOR **A CHANGE OF DBA TO WOOD ANCHOR, INC. D/B/A PRAIRIE WHALE**, BETTINA SCHWARTZ, MANAGER AT 178 MAIN STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON, MA. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to approve the change

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE: 5-0**

- B. BOS – RECOMMENDATION TO THE BUILDING INSPECTOR ON THE BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION OF PITTSFIELD CELLULAR TELEPHONE COMPANY D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS TO SWITCH OUT TWO (2) OF ITS TWELVE (12) ANTENNAS AT 425 STOCKBRIDGE ROAD, GREAT BARRINGTON, MA. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to send a positive recommendation to the Building Inspector

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 5-0**

- C. BOS – LOCATION OF TOWN MEETING. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Beryl Jolly said that she is happy to host the Town Meeting again this year. She offered to put the information on the marquis, include it in E-mail blasts and send information in their mailings.

(approximately 30,000 mailings)

Jennifer Tabakin said that she had a meeting with Beryl and they discussed some changes that could be made to improve the meeting; a platform will be placed on the stage to make more room and ballot boxes will be added to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

Deb Phillips said that people had to come downstairs to speak and suggested that this be changed. Beryl responded that microphones could be brought up or the opera boxes can be used for those who want to speak.

There was discussion about the results to the survey that were made available after the Town Meeting.

Pat Fennel expressed that the Town Meeting is about 'doing business' and not meant to entertain. He said that the survey indicated that this location was not liked and the Selectboard should not ignore the survey.

Sean Stanton suggested that the Selectboard get the opinion of Ed McCormick and the Town Clerk before a decision is made.

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to table until 12/9/13

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE: 4-1 Andrew Blechman against**

D. BOS – LOCATION OF MINI TOWN MEETING. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to hold the mini Town Meeting at the Fire Station

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE: 5-0**

E. BOS – CLEAN AIR ACT RESOLUTION. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to approve the Clean Air Act Resolution

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE: 5-0**

## **7. OLD BUSINESS:**

A. BOS- PLASTIC BAG REDUCTION BYLAW- MARKETING PLAN. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Mark Pruhenski presented the plastic bag reduction marketing plan and calendar

He and Jennifer Tabakin met with some of the larger grocery stores and discussed the by-law and the compostable bag application. He said that the fear is that the plastic bag will just be replaced by paper bag use.

Mark said that working together with the stores will have a better effect.

Sean Stanton suggested taking the compostable bag section out of the by-law so that it is not an option.

There was discussion about a paper bag use charge by the stores and who should set the fee.

Jennifer Tabakin said that there will be a way to monitor the difference that this by-law makes because the stores have this data.

Deb Phillips asked that Jennifer Tabakin find out what other towns have done in regards to setting the fee, for the stores, for paper bag use and to find out if setting the fee is legal.

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to approve the plastic bag reduction marketing plan and work on a by-law amendment excluding the compostable bag application to be presented at the May meeting, as well as, continued research if and how the Selectboard should consider setting the fees on paper bags.

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE: 4-1 Steve Bannon against**

## **8. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME**

Paul Kleinwald – 578 Main St. – stated that he received a letter from Jennifer Tabakin in response to his letter regarding the fees that he feels are owed to him. He read his letter in response. Mr. Kleinwald gave out a copy of this letter.

## **9. SELECTMEN'S TIME:**

Dan Bailly, referencing the plastic bag reduction by-law, said that when the Selectboard makes a by-law, it should be comprehensive. He said that this one 'fell short.'

## **10. MEDIA TIME:**

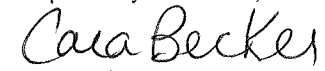
Eileen Mooney asked about the sale of the Fire Station.

Sean Stanton replied that negotiations continue.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Steve Bannon, seconded by Deb Phillips, the Board adjourned its meeting at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cara Becker".

Cara Becker  
Recording Secretary