

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2012  
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. October 22, 2012 Regular Meeting.

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to approve the October 22, 2012 minutes

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE:** 4-0-1 Andrew Blechman abstains

B. November 7, 2012 Strategic Planning Priorities Meeting.

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to approve the November 7, 2012 Strategic Planning Priorities Minutes as amended.

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE:** 5-0

C. November 13, 2012 BOS & Fin Com Joint Meeting

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to approve the November 13, 2012 BOS & Fin Com Joint Meeting minutes

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE:** 5-0

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

**A. DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING MEETING CALENDAR.**

The selectboard received the upcoming meeting calendar.

Steve Bannon said that it continues to be helpful to have this information all in one spot.

**B. GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE BOARD.**

Alana Chernila said that she has had several inquiries recently about food trucks. She said that the Selectboard has never had a conversation about the code regarding this and suggested that they discuss it.

Alana suggested that the Health Inspector and Building Inspector participate in the discussion.

**Kevin O'Donnell said that he will arrange this discussion.**

Sean Stanton said that he met with Richard Stanley about the Main St. Reconstruction project. Mr. Stanley had some thoughts and ideas about how people and vehicles can be moved throughout downtown as seamlessly as possible during this project. Mr. Stanley wrote a plan in order for this to be possible. Kevin O'Donnell said that he and Joe Sokul will review the document to see where these ideas may fit in to the current plan.

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

Kevin O'Donnell said that the Town Attorney's phone number and email was deleted from the agenda packet that is on the website, to avoid direct contact with him.

Kevin said that he is moving forward with the college internship program. This Saturday, the group will assist public works by weeding and mulching at various town buildings. The town will provide the supplies.

Kevin O'Donnell said that there are still positions available on the Agricultural Commission, Conservation Commission, Energy Committee, Tree Committee and Great Barrington Housing Authority. Anyone interested should email the Town Manager.

**A. PRESENTATION BY DAVID RUTSTEIN RE: GUIDED WALKING TOURS OF HISTORIC DOWNTOWN GREAT BARRINGTON.**

David Rutstein spoke about his time as a guide for the walking tours of historic downtown Great Barrington. He presented the selectboard with a summary of the walks and the brochure that was given out during his tours.

Mr. Rutstein said that 439 people took the tour over 6 months. This does not include private or 'handicap' walks and those given outside the season.

165 people took part in the tour during the summer of 2011 as part of the Great Barrington 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Participants include residents, those from other parts of the U.S. and even other countries. Mr. Rutstein said that Great Barrington is a destination location because of its historic legacy.

The Selectboard thanked Mr. Rutstein for his dedication and service.

**5. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:**

Lynn Cherry – congratulated Great Barrington on working towards becoming sustainable. She is working on creating a film ("Young Voices for the Planet") about the High School students who are trying to make the High School more sustainable through the food system. Ms. Cherry said that this is a great opportunity for Great Barrington to get the word out about what the Town is doing regarding sustainability. She is also creating a film, Solar-topia, which features children singing with Pete Segar. Pete Segar offered to add 2 lines to his song customized to Great Barrington if we commit to having a sustainability day (it would include viewing films on the topic and children singing the solar-topia song). Ms. Cherry also asked if there could be a screening of her film when it is complete at Town Hall.

Deb Phillips and Andrew Blechman will work together on this possibility.

**6. LICENSES OR PERMITS:**

**A. CONTINUATION OF KAREN AND PETER LINDSTROM DRIVEWAY PERMIT APPLICATION AT 40 EVERETT STREET. (VOTE)**

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to approve permit

**SECOND:** Andrew Blechman

**VOTE: 5-0**

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. NATIONAL GRID AND VERIZON NEW ENGLAND FOR PERMISSION TO INSTALL POLE AND ANCHOR TO ACCOMMODATE SERVICE TO 139 HURLBURT ROAD, BEGINNING AT A POINT APPROXIMATELY 1360' NORTH OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE INTERSECTION OF EGREMONT PLAIN ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)**

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to grant permission to install pole and anchor

**SECOND:** Steve Bannon

**VOTE: 5-0**

B. EILEEN MOONEY/THE NEWSletter – OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT  
RE: REQUEST TO BOS FOR A COPY OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2012 AND NOVEMBER 13,  
2012 EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES.

Sean Stanton said that he has not received a response from Town Counsel. In the meanwhile, Sean said that he will send Eileen a draft saying that they had an executive session to approve the minutes.

C. CREATION OF SCREENING COMMITTEE PER SECTION 5 OF TOWN CHARTER.

There was a discussion about who will make up the screening committee.

Steve Bannon said that he does not feel that Selectman should be on the committee, since they will ultimately have the final say. He feels that it should be open to citizens and not to staff.

Sean Stanton said that he feels that they should not restrict the pool.

Bud Atwood- 370 Maple Ave. – said that the Town Charter says otherwise in regards to the hiring process. He said that he is worried about spending money before the Town Manager leaves. Bud said that this process should be done when the current Town Manager's contract expires. An interim Town Manager should be hired and the Selectboard can then move forward with the screening/hiring process at that point. Bud said that no one should hire their 'boss'; no town employee should be on the committee.

**MOTION:** Deb Phillips to advertise for members of the screening committee for town manager.

**SECOND:** Alana Chernila

**VOTE: 5-0**

**8. OLD BUSINESS:**

A. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT (CPA) – NEXT STEPS. (DISCUSSION)

Kevin O'Donnell said that Chris Lamarre, Principal Assessor, put together a report about the next steps in the process. The document was presented to the Selectboard.

Dale Abrams presented information regarding the changes to the Community Preservation Act. He said that he has been speaking to the State Community Preservation Coalition about the creation of by-laws. Dale presented a draft of by-laws for the Selectboard to review with the town planner and for the language to be refined for the ballot.

Deb Phillips said that she would like to see 3 members-at-large. (J instead of G, H, and I on the draft)

Kevin O'Donnell said that he will have staff meet with Dale Abrams and the Friends of CPA. He will bring back a final by-law for the selectboard to review for town meeting.

B. CONSIDERATION OF EXTENSION FOR THE SALE OF THE OLD FIRE STATION.

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to approve the extension of the sale of the old Fire House to January 4, 2013 with the termination agreement of 7 days.

**SECOND:** Deb Phillips

**VOTE: 5-0**

**9. SELECTMEN'S TIME:** None

**10. MEDIA TIME:** None

**11. ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion by Deb Phillips, seconded by Steve Bannon, the Board adjourned its meeting at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker  
Recording Secretary