

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2011
7:00 P.M. – REGULAR SESSION – BOARD ROOM**

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

7:00 P.M. – Public Session – Board Room

1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 28, 2011 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Deb Phillips: To accept the minutes from March 28, 2011 – Regular Meeting with changes as discussed

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

3. SELECTMEN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:

Alana Chernila announced that the Library is accepting volunteers if anyone is able to do so.

Deb Phillips read an E-mail from Beth Moser about the recycling and trash bins. She stated that they need replacing and that replacing these should be a part of the Main St. project. She suggested that they be replaced with stainless steel bins that would cost \$1500 each.

Deb Phillips spoke about the organization 'Let's Move' that gives parent's information and education about good fitness choices. Deb said that she would volunteer to be a liason and said this may put the Town in line for funding in the future. The Board discussed becoming a 'Let's Move Town.' *All agreed to pursue becoming a 'Let's Move Town'.*

Sean Stanton stated that there is a warrant article regarding the Housatonic Mill Overlay District. The BOS want to be named the special permit granting authority in this article.

Jack Musgrove from the Planning Board said that they were asked to write the bi-law and feels that they are more educated about this than the BOS, since it is their specialty.

Sean Stanton replied that he likes the site planning review and that he understands the streamlining approach.

Jonathan Hankin said that they should have had this discussion a while ago. He stated that it is not know if there will be any interest in the re-development of the mills, but this will make it possible.

Jack Musgrove suggested that the BOS be an advisory board as they have done in the past.

Sean Stanton said that the Planning Board should have the site plan review and the BOS should be the SPGA.

Jack Musgrove replied that the Planning Board was given the task to create a process that will streamline control and make it attractive to a developer. We are focused on the Towns best interest.

Suzie Fowle-Schroeder said that the Planning Board should have control. She said that the Board has left no rock unturned.

Deb Phillips said that she feels that both Boards work well together but she thinks about Boards in the future and feels that joint meetings are important.

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

A. HOUSATONIC SCHOOL CAMPUS TASK FORCE EXTENSION

Kevin O'Donnell stated that the Housatonic School Campus Task Force has asked for an extension until August 1st. He said that a survey has been sent out to all Great Barrington residents and they have scheduled a public forum as well.

Sean Stanton replied that he feels that some of the questions on the survey were asked in a way that seemed leading.

Stephen Bannon responded that there is a statement about the maintenance of playground and he said that \$5000 was spent to update the equipment and they are looking at upgrading it as well. He feels that the statement was not accurate and should have been neutral.

Eileen Mooney asked how the Task Force will know if the number isn't skewed if copies are available elsewhere.

Sean Stanton replied that they will not know.

Alana Chernila said that she would like to hear what is going on and have the Task Force give the BOS an update before they decide.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon: To have the Housatonic School Campus Task Force update the Board at the April 25th meeting.

SECOND: Alana Chernila

VOTE: 5-0

5. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:

A. THOMAS JENSEN, FRANCES COLEMAN, JUDITH KALES- 11 ROGERS ROAD VIOLATION

Frances Coleman – 34 Blue Hill Rd- stated that a cease and assist was issued to 11 Rogers Rd in the past (about 8 months ago) and since then, there has been no cessation to the activity. She said that they are rapidly expanding and are planning on planting a tree farm. She stated that it is very noisy and suggested that they should move to a commercial area. Flood lights have been put in the barn which shines right into her window. It is also noisy in the AM, PM and on weekends and she feels that it is decreasing her housing value.

Ms. Coleman asked the BOS to do a site visit and would like to hear what she can expect.

Sean Stanton asked that the Building Inspector follow up.

Stephen Bannon said that the next step would be to go to Court.

Sean Stanton said that he would like an update at the next meeting by the Building Inspector to determine the next step.

David Magadini – stated that April is Parliamentary Law month and encouraged all to attend the Town Meeting on May 2. He said that people have to know about parliamentary procedure in order to know if the process is being conducted correctly. He encourages all to learn how to make motions, etc.

Carol Diehl -224 Grove St. – said that there is a lot of excitement and enthusiasm about the Housatonic overlay district, however, people don't realize that it involves new construction. She stated that Rep.

Pignatelli asked people to vote for it, or else no revitalization will happen. She asks that people vote 'no' to the overlay district because it involves existing and new buildings. If it is voted against, there can be another proposal made that will be in favor of the community.

Chip Elitzer – 39 Alford Rd – spoke to the warrant article that discusses the unfunded healthcare issue.

He stated that property taxes are increasing as population decreases. He said that he offered his help, pro-bono, to help explore this issue. He stated that the taxpayers want to know the range of possibilities of what to expect going forward. He added that they need to define which variables are important to this and see what will happen if you change them.

Sean Stanton replied that the door hasn't been closed on his offer. The Board needs to get more information and will talk to him about it.

Suzie Fowle-Schroeder announced that Muddy Brook Elementary School will be holding Mud Day 2011 on May 21st from 10-2. It is an annual event that is a celebration of the Berkshires landscape and outdoor learning. It is also to celebrate the schools' new science program. There will be music, a farmers market, mud and more. The high school has a bike rodeo the same day, so it will be a coordinated event.

She also asked that 'no-idling' signs be put up at the Housey Dome.

Deb Phillips said that she would figure out if there is a way to get more free signs.

6. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

- A. **CONTINUATION OF MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY D/B/A NATIONAL GRID AND VERIZON NEW ENGLAND, INC. REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO INSTALL ONE (1) JO POLE AND ANCHOR ON SILVER STREET BEGINNING AT A POINT APPROXIMATELY 380 FEET EAST OF THE CENTERLINE OF THE INTERSECTION OF NEWSBOY MONUMENT LANE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)**

Dorothy Phillips – owner of 36 Silver St – stated that she has made progress since the last meeting. She is negotiating with her neighbor to get an easement for underground lines. She asked for a continuance for a month to get the utilities underground and not close out the option of a pole.

MOTION: Deb Phillips: to grant continuance for 1 month until May 23rd

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

- B. **CONSTRUCT INC. FOR A ONE DAY ALL ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR LICENSE FOR MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011 FROM 5:00 PM- MIDNIGHT AT CAMP EISNER IN THE DINING HALL. FEE WAIVER REQUESTED (DISCUSSION/VOTE)**

MOTION: Bud Atwood: To approve license with fee waiver as requested

SECOND: Deb Phillips

VOTE: 5-0

- C. **GREAT BARRINGTON FISH AND GAME FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR APRIL 23, 2011 FROM 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM AT LONG POND ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)**

MOTION: Bud Atwood: To approve license

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

- D. **GREAT BARRINGTON FISH AND GAME FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR MAY 27, 2011 FROM 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM AT LONG POND ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)**

MOTION: Bud Atwood: To approve license

SECOND: Alana Chernila

VOTE: 5-0

- E. **GREAT BARRINGTON FISH AND GAME FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR MAY 14, 2011 FROM 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM AT LONG POND ROAD. FEE WAIVER REQUESTED. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)**

MOTION: Deb Phillips: To approve license with fee waiver as requested

SECOND: Bud Atwood

VOTE: 5-0

- F. **GREAT BARRINGTON FISH AND GAME FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR MAY 15, 2011 FROM 12:00 PM – 7:00 PM AT LONG POND ROAD. FEE WAIVER REQUESTED. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)**

MOTION: Stephen Bannon: To approve license with fee waiver as requested

SECOND: Bud Atwood
VOTE: 5-0

G. GREAT BARRINGTON FISH AND GAME FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LIQUOR
LICENSE FOR MAY 21, 2011 FROM 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM AT LONG POND ROAD.
FEE WAIVER REQUESTED. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Bud Atwood: To approve license with fee waiver as requested
SECOND: Deb Phillips
VOTE: 5-0

H. MAY 1, 2011 LICENSE RENEWALS (VOTE)
- REAL ESTATE SIGNS.
- COIN OPERATED SOFT DRINK AND FOOD MACHINES.

MOTION: Deb Phillips: To approve license renewals as listed
SECOND: Bud Atwood
VOTE: 4-0-1 Stephen Bannon recused himself

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. REPORT FROM CITIZEN TREE GROUPS. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Deb Phillips stated that this group is made up of 3 members. All trees have been donated but they are looking to have a budget for the future. They are very interested in shepherding seedlings to be used for the Main St. project.

Deb Phillips said that she is trying to get Trees Please, Tom Ingersol and the Ad Hoc Tree Committee together so that they can get a coordinated effort in this area.

MOTION: Deb Phillips: that a formal tree committee be created and that all of these people be asked to be a part of it.

SECOND: Stephen Bannon
VOTE: 5-0

(It was suggested that the committee should have a larger mission statement than the Main Street Reconstruction Plan)

Sean Stanton said that this can be discussed at the next meeting on April 25 with the next day being Arbor Day.

Kevin O'Donnell said that he will put together a protocol outlining duties and responsibilities of the tree committee and bring it to the next meeting on 4-25 to be voted on. After this, the committee can be advertised for more members.

B. REVIEW 2011 TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Kevin O'Donnell recapped warrant articles for the Town Meeting.

Kevin O'Donnell spoke to one warrant article explaining that it was requested that the fire station use the electric message board and the chief plug in the information himself.

Stephen Bannon said that it should be the same across the board and it is currently not allowed.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon: that this request not be put on the warrant
SECOND: Alana Chernila
VOTE: 2-3 Motion failed

MOTION: Bud Atwood: that this request be put on the warrant
SECOND: Deb Phillips
VOTE: 3-2 (Stephen Bannon and Alana Chernila against)

There was discussion in regards to the warrant articles about the sign code.

MOTION: Deb Phillips: to amend the warrant article to say 'up to 6 temporary signs per event'
SECOND: Alana Chernila
VOTE: 4-1 (Stephen Bannon against)

In regards to the warrant article on the overlay district: (9.8.3)

MOTION: Bud Atwood to change wording to 'the Board of Selectmen as the Special Permit Granting Authority'

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

Alana Chernila stated that they should think about moving more power to the Planning Board in general.

There was discussion about changing the wording of Eileen Mooney's petition to become 'Citizen endorsed by Selectmen' (placed earlier on the warrant.)

MOTION: Deb Phillips: to put all warrant articles on as discussed

SECOND: Bud Atwood

VOTE: 5-0

C. NEW ENGLAND LOG HOMES TAX ABATEMENT AGREEMENT WITH CDC.
(DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Kevin O'Donnell stated that there was a reconciliation on the dollar amounts and he will get it to the Board on 4-25.

8. SELECTMEN'S TIME:

Alana Chernila asked if the Town is running for Tree City USA.

Kevin O'Donnell responded that they are checking on the expenditure for this. He feels that they should be able to meet this amount.

Sean Stanton suggested that this be put on the agenda so they can read the proclamation that is required for the process.

9. MEDIA TIME:

Eileen Mooney asked if elderly transport is going to continue.

Stephen Bannon replied yes but they are looking for donations with their budget cuts.

10. ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Deb Phillips, seconded by Stephen Bannon, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker

Recording Secretary