

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2013
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:

March 11, 2013 Special Meeting.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the March 11, 2013 minutes

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

March 13, 2013 Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the March 13, 2013 minutes

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0-1 Alana Chernila abstains

3. SELECTMEN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:

A. GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE BOARD.

None

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

Nothing to report

5. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:

James Harris – Taconic Ave. – spoke about the transfer station. He said that Great Barrington is 'out of whack' compared to other towns. The annual sticker fee is less in other towns and recycling is free.

Mr. Harris questioned why the transfer station is open 2 more days, which results in an increase in salary.

Sean Stanton responded that the Slectboard was given information from staff regarding other towns' fees;

Great Barrington seems to be in line with them. Sean said that the Selectboard will discuss this with staff again.

David Magadini requested that the Town Warrant from last year be inserted into the current Town Report. He said that the results from the past Town Meeting are reported without distinction, so this would be helpful.

6. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

A. ANDREW AND ELIZABETH KRIEGMAN FOR A DRIVEWAY PERMIT AT 79 SEEKONK CROSS ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the permit with conditions as outlined by staff.

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

B. STACEY VAN DEUSEN/COUNTRY MARKET FOR 2013 ANNUAL COMMON VICTUALLER LICENSE AT 284 MAIN STREET, STORE #9, GREAT BARRINGTON. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the license

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

C. JANET ELSBACH/FAIRGROUNDS REALTY, LLC FOR ONE DAY WEEKDAY ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2013 FROM 4PM – 7PM AT 774 MAIN STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve license

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

D. RANDY WEINSTEIN/THE WEB DUBOIS CENTER FOR ONE DAY WEEKDAY ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2013 FROM 9AM – 7PM AT 684 MAIN STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the license

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

E. STEPHEN PEARLMAN/ASTON MAGNA FOUNDATION FOR MUSIC, INC. FOR PERMISSION TO HANG A BANNER ACROSS MAIN STREET (FROM TUNE STREET TO TOM'S TOYS BUILDING) FROM MAY 1, 2013 TO JULY 15, 2013. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve hanging the banner from June 1, 2013 – July 15, 2013.

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

The Selectboard agrees that a policy needs to be developed around this.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. CONSENT TO MULTIPLE REPRESENTATION OF THE TOWN BY KOPELMAN AND PAIGE, P.C. IN THE MATTER OF THE TIME WARNER CABLE NORTHEAST LLC TELEVISION LICENSE RENEWAL NEGOTIATIONS. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to consent to multiple representation of the town by Kopelman and Paige, PC

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

B. BOS – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO TREE COMMITTEE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to appoint Laurily Epstein to the tree committee

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

C. BOS – ARBOR DAY, APRIL 26, 2013 - PROCLAMATION. (VOTE)

Sean Stanton read the Arbor Day Proclamation

MOTION: Deb Phillips to endorse the proclamation

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

D. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SUPPORTING GREAT BARRINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY
RE: GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATION TO ABOLISH LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITIES.
(DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Sean Stanton said that he contacted the Governors office to get his side of the story and was told that he would get a call back. Sean said that he is not ready to move ahead until then.

Deborah Salem – Great Barrington Housing Authority – said that the Governor appointed a commission who came up with a plan which is now being dismissed. Deborah said that the Great Barrington Housing Authority covers all of its operating expenses and runs very efficiently.

Sean Stanton said that he will also speak to Barbara Heaphy, Executive Director of the Housing Authority.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to table until the next meeting

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

E. BOS – RENEWAL OF ACCESS CORPORATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN CTSB AND THE
TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the Renewal of Access Corporation Agreement between CTSB-TV and the Town of Great Barrington

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

F. FOOD TRUCK DRAFT BYLAW. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

There was discussion about the draft bylaw.

Steve Bannon questioned the amount of space needed for the truck.

It was also pointed out that the bylaw is not clear when it speaks about food trucks in front of a restaurant. (Can someone else's food truck be in front of your restaurant?)

Sean Stanton said that this is not ready for the warrant for Town Meeting.

Andrew Blechman said there was discussion in the past about having food trucks outside the business district.

Kevin O'Donnell responded that this would require a zoning change.

Mark Pruhenski said that this bylaw is a result of a policy decision to have food trucks on a regular basis. It was drafted to help protect businesses downtown.

Alana Chernila urged the Selectboard to be thoughtful about the concern that it may take away restaurant business. She said that food trucks tend to bring people out, fosters creativity and starts conversations about food. Alana said that food trucks downtown, done effectively, could have a positive impact on businesses.

Deb Phillips suggested a map with lines drawn as to where the trucks can be. She also asked how many parking spots would be lost.

Sean Stanton asked Mark Pruhenski to follow up on these items.

G. BOS - REVIEW 2013 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES.

It was agreed to delete Article 18 and Article 20

MOTION: Deb Phillips to send the warrant as amended to the Town Meeting.

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. LOCATION OF THE MINI TOWN MEETING. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to move the mini town meeting of April 24, 2013, 6:00 pm to the Mahaiwe in preparation for the Town Meeting.

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

B. ANN CONDON/CASTLE HILL TRAFFIC CITIZENS GROUP – TRAFFIC UPDATE AND
REQUEST FOR PLACEMENT OF SPEED HUMPS. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

John Horton read a letter from a traffic citizens group who request 4 speed 'humps' and one stop sign at Hollenbeck and Castle Hill. A cost estimate was given for removable speed 'humps'.

Alana Chernila said if there is consideration for these speed 'humps' then they should look at all residential areas in Great Barrington and Housatonic.

Joe Sokul said that traffic counts are beginning to be compiled from this and other areas. Joe said that this data is needed to support this type of decision.

John Horton responded that the perception is that there is a lot of speeding in this area where there are also a lot of children. These things need to be considered along with the traffic count.

Dan Bailly compared the cost of speed 'humps' to the cost of filling pot holes. If speed 'humps' are added, money may have to be shifted from road maintenance to speed 'humps.'

Michele Loubert said that there are no sidewalks in Housatonic. She recently wrote a letter to Chief Walsh regarding the excessive speeding on Route 183 and Van Deusenville Rd. She thanked the Chief for acknowledging her letter and asked that a traffic count be done in these areas.

C. DRAFT RESOLUTION CREATING A COMMITTEE ON GUN SAFETY - DISCUSSION.

Deb Phillips questioned the term 'gun safety' saying that it feels too confined.

Alana Chernila said this was a conscious decision on her part; gun safety is something that we can all get behind.

Sean Stanton added "ad hoc."

The first to lines beginning with 'whereas' were removed.

The word 'such' in the 3rd section was removed.

Sean Stanton read the draft resolution.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve as amended

SECOND: Alana Chernila

VOTE: 5-0

9. SELECTMEN'S TIME:

None

10. MEDIA TIME:

Eileen Mooney asked if Jennifer Tabakin signed the contract as the newTown Manager. Sean Stanton replied that she has not yet.

Eileen also asked if there will be a Town Manager for the Town Meeting.

Sean Stanton replied that he expects that there will be, but is waiting to hear from her attorney.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Steve Bannon, seconded by Alana Chernila, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker
Recording Secretary