

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 6, 2013
5:00 P.M. – TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: STEPHEN BANNON
ANDREW BLECHMAN
ALANA CHERNILA
DEB PHILLIPS
SEAN STANTON
JENNIFER TABAKIN, TOWN MANAGER

5:00 PM – PUBLIC SESSION – BOARD ROOM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Sean Stanton called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

2. SWEARING IN OF NEW TOWN MANAGER/JENNIFER TABAKIN

Town Clerk, Marie Ryan, conducted the swearing in of the new town manager, Jennifer Tabakin.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

September 10, 2012 Executive Session Meeting.

Deb Phillips explained the amended minutes saying that the content is the same but there are now names attributed to the comments.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the amended September 10, 2012 executive session meeting minutes

SECOND: Alana Chernila

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION: Deb Phillips to amend the minutes of the Selectmen's meeting on September 10, 2012 that were approved on October 9, 2012 to include, "6:00 PM – the meeting was called to order by Chairman Stanton and Steve Bannon made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Mass. General Law Chapter 30A, Section 21 for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to the negotiation of the Town Manager's contract which expires April 24, 2013 and to return to open session following this. This was seconded by Deb Phillips and approved by a roll call vote.

Steve Bannon – yes

Andrew Blechman – yes

Deb Phillips – yes

Sean Stanton – yes

Alana Chernila – yes

SECOND: Andrew Blechman

VOTE: 5-0

April 29, 2013 Special Meeting.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the April 29, 2013 special meeting minutes

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

4. BERKSHIRE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (BIFF) BANNERS/ FLAGS REQUEST

Ed May said that he is missing the signature of the owner on the application.

Sean Stanton said that he has received a positive response from National Grid and is awaiting formal permission.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the banners/signs going on the light poles on Main St.

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

5. BRPC/NAT KARNS – BERKSHIRE COUNTY REST OF RIVER LETTER TO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEP)

Nat Karns presented the letter that has been circulating through the ‘rest of river’ communities.

The ‘rest of river’ communities are those who are involved in the potential Housatonic River clean-up.

Nat Karns spoke about the DEP changes. He said that the changes will not allow a local Conservation Commission to establish special conditions. Mr. Karns said, in total, these changes could have serious implications. The tone of the letter, therefore, is of disagreement with the plan.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve signing the letter

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 5-0

Sean Stanton asked about the parcel of land in Housatonic; is there anything that can be done as a town to protect its use.

Mr. Karns responded that the town can continue to go on record with the objection.

Kate Deviny, Library Director, invited Mr. Karns to come and speak to the public at the Library about this matter.

6. APPOINTMENT LETTER FOR JENNIFER TABAKIN

Sean Stanton said that there is a minor amendment in the appointment letter for Jennifer Tabakin regarding time sheets.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the appointment letter as amended

SECOND: Deb Phillips

VOTE: 5-0

7. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Deb Phillips, seconded by Steve Bannon, the Board adjourned its meeting at 5:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker
Recording Secretary