

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 22, 2013
7:00 P.M. – TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: DANIEL BAILLY
STEPHEN BANNON
ANDREW BLECHMAN – not present
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:

June 24, 2013 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the June 24, 2013 minutes

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

July 8, 2013 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the July 8, 2013 minutes

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

3. SELECTMEN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS

**A. ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION MUNICIPAL PURPOSE LOAN
OF 2013 BONDS. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)**

Lauren Sartori explained that new bids were accepted. There are \$3.6 million in bonds which came in at 2.35%. This will save \$108,000 for tax-payers.

The Selectboard signed.

Maximum useful life of departmental equipment.

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve as documented in the executive summary

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

B. GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE BOARD.

None

C. DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING MEETING CALENDAR.

The calendar was presented to the Selectboard for their review.

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

A. FOLLOW UP ITEMS

Jennifer Tabakin reported that the Strategic Planning Priorities Meeting is scheduled for August 21st at 6:30 at the Fire Station.

Jennifer said that she is working on scheduling a planning session with the Cullen Center. There is no date set as of yet.

The Dewey Court House lease is being reviewed.

The Castle Street drainage project is under way. There is a 13 storm water treatment unit being put in and will be visible above ground until placement.

Jennifer reported that Great Barrington has received Federal Disaster Assistance for the overtime accumulated during the blizzard of February 8 and 9. This amounts to \$27,000.

There will be an open house at the Senior Center on August 18.

The Health Department has reported that the Green River is now open; E-Coli is no longer a problem.

Jennifer spoke about the Mason Library Centennial celebration and the ongoing summer reading groups.

5. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME

Paul Kleinwald stated that he regards the selectboard and the other employees of the town as his family. He said that he speaks during this time because there is a lot that is kept out of view and secret; many important items become obscure and obsolete.

Mr. Kleinwald read statements from others who have experienced the Resource Officer in the school system.

Mr. Kleinwald gave 'formal notice' that he is having ID tags made for his cars. (He showed the Selectboard what they will look like.) He asked that the Police Department be informed that he will have these tags and he will send a copy to the government, Department of Transportation and the State Police. They can, in turn, determine if he is using his vehicle for 'commerce.'

Claudia Shapiro read a statement in regards to the special permit application for the airport. She spoke in opposition to the application; stating that one abutter on the list was inaccurate, the airport is a 'polluter', the application should have been filed under the Water Quality Protection Zone, and more.

John Breasted -- 2 Bernard Gibbons Drive -- spoke about the school resource officer. He asked 4 questions that were submitted to the Town Manager.

- 1) If the grant was to be awarded to our town and the School Committee wished us to accept it, would it not require a vote of the Board of Selectmen to approve the police department's entering into such an agreement?
- 2) Have you sought, or do you plan to seek an opinion from the town attorney about question 1?
- 3) Given that the initial \$16,000 appropriation would be leveraging a new and additional four year \$150,000 appropriation for the line items for police salaries and benefits, would this initial expenditure not require approval by a special town meeting, if the new officer were to be hired before adoption of the Fiscal 2015 budget by the annual town meeting in May 2014?
- 4) Have sought, or do you plan to seek an opinion from the town attorney about question 3?

6. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

A. THE GREAT JOSH BILLINGS RUNAGROUND/PATTY SPECTOR FOR PERMISSION TO UTILIZE TOWN ROADS FOR THE 37TH ANNUAL GREAT JOSH BILLINGS RUN - AGROUND ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2013. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to grant permission

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

B. NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY/LIZ STRAWN FOR AN ANNUAL BIKE MS RIDE ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2013. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the bike MS ride

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

Dan Bailly requested that it be reiterated that the bikers should ride in single file and not in groups for safety.

C. BERKSHIRE SOUTH REGIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER/JENISE LUCEY FOR ONE DAY
BEER AND WINE LICENSE FOR AUGUST 10, 2013 FROM 5:00PM – 8:30 PM AT
15 CRISSEY ROAD, GREAT BARRINGTON. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to approve the license

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. KATHY PLUNGIS – UPDATE ON MASON LIBRARY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

Library Trustee, Kathy Plungis spoke about the Mason Library 100th anniversary.

There will be events on the front lawn and inside the library. These will include:

5 Children's Authors

Ice Cream Social

Home-made popsicles by WIC

Historical society

A talk will be given by a historian.

She invited all to come and celebrate

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. SUSAN MAY AND BETH MOSER - DISCUSSION RE: SOLARIZE MASS/SOLAR COACH.

Beth Moser introduced Susan May who is the solar coach in Lenox.

Susan May spoke about the 'Clean Energy Center' that they worked with in this program. She said that they make it affordable to adopt solar. The program provides a guaranteed five-tier pricing structure over the life of the program. She added that the more people who sign up, the less expensive it is.

CEC will give workshops and answer questions.

Susan said that each town appoints a solar coach (who is responsible for marketing, promotions, and bi-weekly conference calls.) and a municipal representative (who is responsible for paperwork and overseas the money spent in the budget.)

2 communities can partner together as Lenox and Pittsfield have. Egremont is also interested in participating in this program. The towns must abut and have an active energy committee in order to work together.

Deb asked: 1) the amount of time the municipal employee needs to work

2) How is the installer chosen? Is it the lowest bid?

Susan replied that she is unsure how much time each position requires.

She said that an RFP is put out and each community selects the installer that they would like to work with. Some considerations may be: price, the size of the workforce, the type of equipment they have, what their focus is – residential or commercial.

Beth Moser said in order to participate in the next round; the selectboard's endorsement is needed. The Selectboard will also need to assist the Energy Committee in finding and appointing a solar coach and municipal representative.

Sean Stanton asked Jennifer Tabakin to decide on a municipal agent by the August 12th meeting.

B. BOS - RECOMMENDATION TO THE ZBA ON THE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION OF
MATTHEW DODDS FOR PROPERTY AT 65 ANDERSON STREET TO RECONSTRUCT A
PRE-EXISTING, NON-CONFORMING SHED/GARAGE BUILDING IN THE R-1-B ZONE.
(DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to send a positive recommendation

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

C. BOS – RECOMMENDATION TO THE ZBA ON THE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION OF MARTIN B. ALBERT AND ANNE M. JOHNSTON-ALBERT FOR PROPERTY AT 3 BERKSHIRE HEIGHTS ROAD TO BUILD AN ADDITION ON A PRE-EXISTING, NON-CONFORMING DWELLING IN R-2 ZONE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to send a positive recommendation

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

D. BOS – RECOMMENDATION TO THE ZBA ON THE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION OF AARON AND CAROLINE BECKER FOR PROPERTY AT 27 ½ ROSSETER STREET TO BUILD AN ADDITION ON A PRE-EXISTING, NON-CONFORMING DWELLING IN B-2 ZONE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Deb Phillips to send a positive recommendation

SECOND: Steve Bannon

VOTE: 4-0

9. SELECTMEN'S TIME:

Dan Bailly asked about the Housatonic Community Center parking lot. He said that it was supposed to get lines painted and asked that this be followed-up on.

10. MEDIA TIME:

Julia Ruth – Berkshire Record – asked about the committee that was to be created regarding gun safety. Deb Phillips replied that this topic is on the Strategic Planning Meeting Agenda.

Eileen Mooney asked about the status of the sale of the Fire Station.

Steve Bannon said that they are hopeful that August 12th will be the final date for the vote.

11. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Deb Phillips, seconded by Steve Bannon, the Board adjourned its meeting at 8:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker

Recording Secretary