

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2013  
6:30 P.M. – TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:** DANIEL BAILLY  
STEPHEN BANNON  
ANDREW BLECHMAN  
DEB PHILLIPS  
SEAN STANTON

JENNIFER TABAKIN, TOWN MANAGER

**6:30 PM – PUBLIC SESSION – Fire Station Meeting Room**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Town Manager, Jennifer Tabakin, called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

**2. MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – UPDATE**

Town Manager, Jennifer Tabakin, gave an update on the Main Street Reconstruction Project. She said that she feels that the design is a good one.

Jennifer explained that the project is made up of:

- 1) Infrastructure which she said is the bulk of the work; 90% of the total project and cost.
- 2) Streetscape
- 3) Place-Making; the smaller things that are low cost and make a space work.

Joe Sokul spoke more about the infrastructure; sidewalks, curbs, underground utilities, gas lines and man-holes. There will be granite curbing, new signal equipment and the addition of a 5 foot wide bike lane. The parking lane is 7 feet wide and there will also be new street and pedestrian lighting.

Chris Rembold showed a virtual tour of the major intersections, trees, signal equipment etc...

Joe Sokul explained that the only place that there can be a sign in the middle of the road is at a mid-block crosswalk. Richard Stanley asked that these signs be taller.

Joe Sokul said that Elm Street will also be getting a signal. The Riverwalk will gain a kiosk and lighting. On the North end, trees were added that will fit under the power lines.

Jennifer Tabakin spoke about place-making. She said these are the things that create a destination or area of interest. Jennifer spoke of opportunities in place-making. She suggested creating welcoming entries, gathering spots and seating, planters, public art, special events, signs etc...

Jennifer spoke about a program called 'adopt-a-planter' in which a person would maintain a planter. There will be place-making workshops to discuss low risk, low cost, creative solutions.

The project will be out to bid mid-September at the latest. A contract is expected in October. The project will begin Spring 2014.

Joe Sokul reported that there is a traffic management plan and pedestrian access plan. All of this information will be posted.

A member of the audience asked who pays if the cost goes over budget. Jennifer Tabakin replied that it would be the responsibility of the State. The town only pays if they make the changes.

Leigh Davis asked what will happen to the name plaques that are currently in the trees. Chris Rembold replied that they will be removed and saved. A decision will then be made as to where to mount them.

Andrew Blechman said that there is a 'lack of excitement' north of the Post Office.  
Chris Rembold said that the power lines constrain the amount of big trees that can be put in.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Jennifer Tabakin adjourned the meeting at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cara Becker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Cara Becker  
Recording Secretary