

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SELECTBOARD'S MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015
7:00 P.M. - REGULAR SESSION
TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: ED ABRAHAMAS
DANIEL BAILLY
STEPHEN BANNON
DEB PHILLIPS
SEAN STANTON – not present

JENNIFER TABAKIN, TOWN MANAGER

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Deb Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 23, 2015 Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the February 23, 2015 minutes

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

3. SELECTBOARD'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:

A. GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE BOARD

Ed Abrahams announced that the Claire Teague Senior Center, in conjunction with the Police Department, is offering a 'daily call' option. This would be a check in call to those who request it. If you are interested, please call 528-1881.

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

Town Manager, Jennifer Tabakin said that there is an 'Age Friendly Community' survey taking place for those over 50. This survey will help plan and prioritize services. Jennifer encouraged the media to distribute the survey.

Jennifer said that there is also a survey of 18-39 year olds that can be accessed online via survey monkey. This is designed to figure out why young adults stay in the area or move away.

Each of these surveys will be linked to the town website.

The Town Manager explained the "circuit breaker tax" in which \$1050 can be received as part of an aged 65 (and over) tax return. The number of people participating in this is lower than in other towns. This does not affect our tax rate at all. Jennifer encouraged those who qualify to participate.

The Town Manager announced that there will be a public hearing at the Fire Station tomorrow (March 10) at 6:00 PM regarding the work on the Park St. Bridge in Housatonic.

The Ely Block buildings have been taken down. Thanks to the owner of the property for allowing the Fire Department to do the training on the empty buildings before they came down.

Meetings with contractors about the Main Street Reconstruction Project have begun.

Jennifer said that she was pleased to see that there was a nice article in the Berkshire Record about the Mason Library.

There is a vacancy on the Conservation Commission.

The parcels that were sold during the auction have been closed upon. Outstanding tax title work is progressing.

The North Plain Rd. retaining wall construction is scheduled to take place April 1st through Fall 2015. The paving program will begin in May. The sidewalk replacement project is going out to bid in March with work to begin in May.

Wastewater Treatment Plant construction is ongoing.

There is a 'Housing Strategy' seminar scheduled at Crissey Farm on March 31st from 9am – 2:30 pm.

The Town Manager distributed a letter asking for funding from Mass DOT for the Bridge St. bridge work. Jennifer read the letter.

Deb Phillips encouraged the community to send letters as well. (Copies were made available)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to have the Selectboard sign and send the letter that was presented

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

All signed

5. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

- A. RENEWAL OF 2015 WYANTENUCK COUNTRY CLUB SEASONAL ALL ALCOHOLIC CLUB LIQUOR LICENSE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the license

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- B. DAVID P. RYEL/I.E. INC. (BUTTERNUT BASIN INC.) FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR MARCH 21, 2015 FROM 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM AT 380 STATE ROAD (SKI BUTTERNUT TUBING CENTER). (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the license

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

- C. MARY R. WHITE/ST. PETER'S CHURCH FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR MARCH 14, 2015 FROM 5:15 PM – 8:00 PM AT ST. PETER'S PARISH CENTER (CORNER OF COTTAGE AND EAST STREETS). (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve the license

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

6. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. CONTINUATION - GARY STOLLER/350MA GROUP – REQUEST FOR SB TO PASS A RESOLUTION FOR THE STATE PENSION FUND TO DIVEST ITS HOLDINGS IN FOSSIL FUELS. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

The language is the only change; it is directing the Selectboard to sign.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

A future vote will be taken to put this resolution on the warrant.

B. **CONTINUATION** OF SB RECOMMENDATION TO ZBA ON THE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION OF PAUL GREENE ON BEHALF OF NICKI WILSON TO CONSTRUCT A SCREENED PORCH ON THE REAR OF A PRE-EXISTING, NON-CONFORMING DWELLING AT 80 CASTLE HILL AVENUE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Paul Greene presented this plan. He explained that the deck is non-conforming and is falling down. The footprint is almost the same yet slightly larger.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to send a positive recommendation to the ZBA on the special permit.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN FY 2016 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to approve participating in the FY 2016 household hazardous waste collection

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

B. CHRISTINE WARD/LAKE MANSFIELD IMPROVEMENT TASK FORCE (LMITF) REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR PLANNING SUPPORT IN FY 2016 BUDGET. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Christine Ward spoke on behalf of the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force.

Ms. Ward read a letter that was presented to the Selectboard requesting \$40,000 to hire a consulting team for future capital improvements to the Lake Mansfield area. Community input, meetings etc. will be required. The letter was submitted with a report of the conditions of the Lake Mansfield area and the complex issues to be considered for the future.

Dan Bailly said that he is very impressed with the work of the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force in this matter and their engagement with the community. They have been doing a great job keeping the town informed.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to support the \$40,000 request in this year's capital budget for future capital improvements to the Lake Mansfield Recreation area.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

C. VIVIAN ORLOWSKI/AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION - REQUEST SB TO VOTE AGAINST TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP) FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (FTA). (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Vivian Orłowski submitted a letter from the Agricultural Commission to the Selectboard that was written to Congressman Neal. She explained that the Agricultural Commission is working to support local farms, farm land, farm markets, etc. The Agricultural Commission has a role not only locally, but regionally and state-wide. In February, 2 members of the Commission took part in the Massachusetts Food System Plan. (Ms. Orłowski submitted information regarding this to the Selectboard) Their current focus is on the TPP, in which she is asking for the Selectboard's support in voting against via the letter to Congressman Neal that was presented. Senator Warren has also spoken out against TPP. Ms. Orłowski asked for an endorsement of the presented letter to be sent via e-mail due to the urgency of the matter.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to endorse the request in the attached letter dated December 12, 2014 by the towns Agricultural Commission to Rep. Richard Neal and the Selectboard also urges Rep. Neal to vote against Trade Promotion Authority fast track legislation for TPP.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-0

8. **CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:** None

9. **SELECTBOARD'S TIME:** None

10. **MEDIA TIME:** None

11. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Steve Bannon, seconded by Dan Bailly, the Board adjourned its meeting at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cara Becker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cara Becker
Recording Secretary