

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON  
SELECTBOARD'S MEETING  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2015  
7:00 P.M. - REGULAR SESSION  
TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:** ED ABRAHAMS  
DANIEL BAILLY  
STEPHEN BANNON  
BILL COOKE  
SEAN STANTON

JENNIFER TABAKIN, TOWN MANAGER

**1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Chairman, Sean Stanton, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

July 13, 2015 Regular Meeting.

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to approve the July 13, 2015 minutes

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 5-0**

July 27, 2015 Regular Meeting

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to approve the July 27, 2015 minutes

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 3-0-2 Sean Stanton and Ed Abrahams recused**

**3. SELECTBOARD'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:**

Ed Abrahams announced that application deadline for CPA funds is 9/1/15 at 4:00 PM for the first round.

Steve Bannon announced that there has been a creation of the Berkshire County Educational task force. He said that the task force is looking at how the school district is set up. This task force is in its infancy with more discussion to come.

He announced that the BHRSD was awarded the 21<sup>st</sup> century grant for after school programs.

Steve said that an RFP will be awarded for the Regional Agreement Amendment Committee.

The school district received a farm to school grant which will be discussed at the next school committee meeting.

**4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Town Manager, Jennifer Tabakin, said that online bill paying will be 'live' soon on the website.

Jennifer announced that Town Hall and the old Fire Station offices will be closed on 9/23/15. The Town Clerk will lead the staff in cleaning and archiving.

Rotary has donated \$30,000 to the town for Holiday lights. The Town Manager thanked Susan Smith and Ed McCormick for their part in this.

Jennifer Tabakin requested that the Selectboard make a motion regarding the Community Compact application.

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon moved for the Selectboard to recommend that the Town Manager submit a letter to Daniel Bertran, Lieutenant Governor, saying that Great Barrington wishes to join in with Stockbridge, West Stockbridge, Otis, Sandisfield, Lee, Tyringham, Lenox, Alford, New Marlborough, Monterey, Richmond, and Sheffield to address regional shared services opportunities. Each of the 6 school districts

representing 13 communities signed a memorandum of understanding to form the Southern Berkshire Shared Services Project. The group has been meeting monthly for more than a year. The group has 2 goals: improved educational services to children and to reduce or limit expenses. The group has had initial success through sharing staff, purchasing and providing professional development. Each of the member towns is requesting additional support through the CCC process as we look for philanthropic support.

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 5-0**

Jennifer Tabakin asked the Selectboard to give support to the grant application for the Bridge St. streetscape.

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to give support to the grant application

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 5-0**

The Town Manager welcomed Margaret Hasset as Senior Center assistant.

Jessica Magelaner will act as Interim Library Director while Amanda DeGiorgis is out on maternity leave.

Jennifer announced that the town now owns a house on Highland Street in Housatonic. Estimates are being obtained for work.

#### **5. LICENSES OR PERMITS:**

- A. **CONTINUATION:** PATTY SPECTOR/THE JOSH BILLINGS RUNAGROUND TRIATHLON FOR PERMISSION TO USE TOWN ROADS FOR THE 39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GREAT JOSH BILLINGS RUNAGROUND ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2015. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to grant permission.

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 5-0**

- B. DANIEL TAWCZYNSKI/TAFT FARMS FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2015 FROM 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM AT TAFT FARMS, 119 PARK STREET NORTH. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to approve license with rain-date 2 weeks from the event.

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 5-0**

- C. JENISE LUCEY/BERKSHIRE SOUTH REGIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER FOR ONE DAY ALL ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR LICENSE FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2015 FROM 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM AT 50 CHURCH STREET (THE BRYANT BUILDING). (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to approve the license.

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 5-0**

#### **6. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. SB – APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION OFFICERS. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to approve the election officers as listed on the Town Clerk's memorandum.

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 5-0**

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to approve town election calendar as presented.

**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**VOTE: 5-0**

**7. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:**

Jessica Magelaner read some comments from the Library staff regarding staying open on Sundays. She stated that there has not been strong communication about Sunday hours with the staff. Jessica said that there has only been one day in which there have been over 30 people in Ramsdell on a Saturday; this does not speak to staying open on Sunday. She said that Sunday hours would require maintenance staff, IT, snow removal etc. which will all affect the taxpayers. Jessica recommended that handicap accessibility should be the focus instead of Sunday hours.

Molly McFall said that the decision to open on Sundays will increase taxes; she believes that increasing services at this time would be a mistake.

David Magadini expressed his concern regarding the 2 hour computer use limit at the library. He said that this limit exists even when no one is waiting to use the computer. He suggested use by right of 3-4 hours or use of availability. He presented the Selectboard with a policy to consider. David also suggested putting the old benches back on Main St. as the new ones make the town look 'citified.'

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

**9. MEDIA TIME:** Eileen Mooney asked if the Housatonic School RFP will go out this year. Jennifer Tabakin responded that she does not have a date yet.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion by Steve Bannon, seconded by Dan Bailly, the Board adjourned its meeting at 8:36 P.M.

**11. CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION and Not to Return to Open Session**

Roll Call Vote

- Negotiations with Library Union. (M.G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21 #3)
- Policy re: non Union Personnel. (M.G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21#2)

**MOTION:** Steve Bannon to convene into executive session and not to return to open session.


**SECOND:** Dan Bailly

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

ED ABRAHAMS	yes
DANIEL BAILLY	yes
STEPHEN BANNON	yes
BILL COOKE	yes
SEAN STANTON	yes

**ROLL CALL VOTE: 5-0**

Respectfully submitted,

  
 Cara Becker  
 Recording Secretary