

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
SELECTBOARD'S MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 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. SELECTBOARD'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:

A. GENERAL COMMENTS BY THE BOARD – none

B. SB – VOTE TO AUTHORIZE THE INTERIM LOAN FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT TRUST FOR PHASE 1 OF THE SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT WHICH IS NOT TO EXCEED \$4,210,000.

MOTION: Steve Bannon:

- (1) That the Town shall issue a bond or bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$4,210,000 (the "Bonds") pursuant to Chapters 29C and 44 of the General Laws and a vote of the Town passed May 7, 2012 (Article 9), which authorized a total borrowing of \$4,500,000 for the construction of sewers and other water pollution control facilities identified in such votes (the "Project");
- (2) that in anticipation of the issuance of the Bonds, the Treasurer is authorized to issue an interim loan note or notes (the "Notes") from time to time in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$4,210,000;
- (3) that each Bond or Note shall be issued as a single registered security, and sold to the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (the "Trust") at a price determined pursuant to the Financing Agreement;
- (4) that the Treasurer is authorized to determine the date, the form, the maximum interest rate and the principal maturities of each Bond and Note, and to execute a Financing Agreement (or Agreements) with the Trust with respect to the sale of the Bonds and Notes, such date, form and maturities and the specific interest rate or rates of the Bonds and Notes to be approved by a majority of the Selectboard and the Treasurer and evidenced by their execution of the Bonds or Notes;
- (5) that all action taken to date by the Town and its officers and agents to carry out the Project and its financing, including the execution of any loan commitment or agreement by the Treasurer, are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed; and
- (6) that the Treasurer and the other appropriate Town officials are each hereby authorized to take any and all actions necessary or convenient to carry out the

provisions of this vote, including execution and delivery of the Financing Agreement(s) and the Project Regulatory Agreement(s) relating to the Project.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

Jennifer Tabakin clarified that the Selectboard will sign the papers after the meeting.

3. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jennifer Tabakin reported that the town has been awarded \$842,569 from the Massachusetts Community Block Grant program. There are two parts to this program; the drainage project in Housatonic and the continuation of the Housatonic Housing Rehabilitation project.

4. A. TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING TO DETERMINE THE TAX ALLOCATION FOR FY 2016 FOR THE TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

FIRE DISTRICT

- a. Open Public Hearing

MOTION: Robert Avery to open the public hearing

SECOND: William Foster

VOTE: 4-0

- b. Explanation of Project

Assessor, Chris Lamarre, presented the fire districts options. He explained that the only appropriate options would be the residential tax rate or the single tax rate. He recommended the single tax rate. Chris explained that the fire district tax levy increased \$35,949 or 6%. This results in \$.89 to the tax bill.

- c. Speak in Favor/Opposition: None

- d. Motion to Close Public Hearing

MOTION: Robert Avery to close the public hearing

SECOND: William Foster

VOTE: 4-0

- e. Motion re: Findings

- f. Motion re: Approval/Denial/Table

MOTION: Robert Avery to adopt a single tax rate

SECOND: William Foster

Walter Atwood – yes

Kenneth Schumacher - yes

Robert Avery - yes

William Foster – yes

VOTE: 4-0

MOTION PASSED

SELECTBOARD

- e. Open Public Hearing

MOTION: Steve Bannon to open the public hearing

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

- f. Explanation of Project

Chris Lamarre recommended that the town adopt a single tax rate for FY16. The tax rate is \$14.29 which is a \$.57 increase over last year.

- g. Speak in Favor/Opposition: None

- h. Motion to Close Public Hearing

MOTION: Steve Bannon to close the public hearing

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

- e. Motion re: Findings

f. Motion re: Approval/Denial/Table

MOTION: Steve Bannon to adopt a single tax rate

SECOND: Dan Bailly

ED ABRAHAMS - yes

DANIEL BAILLY – yes

STEPHEN BANNON - yes

BILL COOKE – yes

SEAN STANTON – yes

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION PASSED

There was a brief discussion about the FY17 tax levy.

Sharon Gregory requested when the budget policy discussion comes in the fall, that there is a discussion of a whole array of options. She requested a special public hearing to allow more conversation.

Chip Elitzer stated that all members of our community are valued. He thanked Michael Wise for ‘being a good sport.’

Joel Malonzy said that he was impressed with the discussion at the Finance meeting, but walked away from the meeting feeling that the town is frustrated that they are being unfairly burdened due to the school district.

Sean Stanton said that there is a process to look at the School District Budget and encouraged people to be a part of it.

5. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

A. DALE ABRAMS/GB LAND CONSERVANCY FOR PERMISSION TO HOLD THE 5TH ANNUAL RUN FOR THE HILLS 5K - EVENT ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2015 FROM 8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM BASED OUT OF THE KILPATRICK ATHLETIC CENTER AT BARD COLLEGE AT SIMON’S ROCK. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to grant permission

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

B. REBECCA TAMOL-KAY/SAINT PETER CHURCH FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT BINGO ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2015 FROM 5:30 PM – 9:30 PM AT ST. PETER’S PARISH CENTER, 16 RUSSELL STREET. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Steve Bannon to grant permission

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

C. PETER STANTON/LIFE NEEDS COOP INC. FOR ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SEPTEMBER 13, 2015 FROM 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM AT 205 NORTH PLAIN ROAD FOR STANTON HOME PIGROAST. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

MOTION: Dan Bailly to approve license if certificate of insurance is provided before the event date and TIPS certification is provided.

SECOND: Ed Abrahams

VOTE: 4-0-1 Sean Stanton recused

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. ALANA CHERNILA/ENERGY COMMITTEE – UPDATE. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Alana Chernila asked for a re-assessment of the Energy Committee. She reported that they have lost members and are so small that they don’t have a quorum.

Alana said that the committee feels that they have fulfilled the mission.

Brandee Nelson asked that the committee be reduced to 5 members so they can have a quorum to approve the minutes.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to reduce the Energy Committee to 5 members

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

Brandee Nelson said that she would love to see the Selectboard in a liaison role with the Committee; a goal can then be determined. Brandee said that the Committee needs leadership.
Sean Stanton said that he will meet with them to discuss what the future of the Energy Committee is.
Alana Chernila said that the Green Communities Grant continues so the administrative side of this process needs attention.

B. SB – RECOMMENDATION TO ZBA ON THE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION OF JOHN TRACY/LINDA HODDY’S APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT A DECK ON A PRE-EXISTING, NON-CONFORMING HOUSE AT 224 NORTH PLAIN ROAD. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Diego Gutierrez presented this project. He explained that the property is within 50 feet of the setback. The deck will be elevated on posts.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to send a positive recommendation

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

C. SB – RECOMMENDATION TO ZBA ON THE SPECIAL PERMIT APPLICATION OF KSNS STOCKBRIDGE ROAD REALTY TRUST TO ADD A THIRD FLOOR AND 20 GUEST ROOMS TO THE HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS AT 415 STOCKBRIDGE ROAD. THE BUILDING IS LEGALLY PRE-EXISTING, NON-CONFORMING BECAUSE THE BYLAW CHANGED AFTER IT WAS BUILT. (DISCUSSION/VOTE)

Nick Arienti explained the project. He said that this would include the addition of a 3rd floor within the same footprint. He explained that the Holiday Inn gave the owner an ultimatum that it must be a 3 story building or they will pull the franchise. The project must be completed by 2017.

There will be minimal traffic increase as a result of this project. There will be no burden to the existing public utilities.

Ed Abrahams expressed his concern with recommending that the ZBA ignore the current by-law.

Nick Arienti said that there are only 3 buildings under this rule in the town. He re-iterated that this will be for existing use; they are not proposing something new.

MOTION: Steve Bannon to send a positive recommendation

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 4-1 Ed Abrahams against

7. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME: None

8. SELECTBOARD’S TIME:

Ed Abrahams gave a reminder that the CPA application deadline is 9/1/15 at 4:00PM.

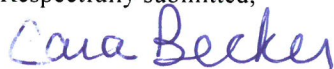
9. MEDIA TIME: Eileen Mooney asked if there are negotiations with the Library Union.

Sean Stanton said that the minutes regarding this have not been approved so he cannot answer this question.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Steve Bannon, seconded by Dan Bailly, the Board adjourned its meeting at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker
Recording Secretary