

## **SELECTBOARD'S MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, JULY 31, 2017**

**7:00 PM – REGULAR SESSION**

**TOWN HALL, 334 MAIN STREET**

### **PRESENT**

Sean Stanton  
Steve Bannon  
Dan Bailly  
Ed Abrahams  
Bill Cooke  
Town Manager- Jennifer Tabakin  
Town Planner- Chris Rembold

### **7:00 PM - OPEN MEETING**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

#### **2. SELECTBOARD'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:**

A. General Comments by the Board.

Sean Stanton made an announcement wishing to honor the recently past John Beckwith, a former Great Barrington Selectboard member and a former police officer. The Board observed a moment of silence for the former town officials.

Intern Chris Peretti a landscape architecture student, gave a presentation on his summer project which addressed the parking availability downtown. Chris created a user friendly, easy to read, comprehensive map of the parking. Chris identified the public and private parking on his map. Dan Bailly asked if this map was going to be distributed to the Chamber of Commerce. The Town Manager said that it has been given to the Chamber, it will be posted on the Town's website, and the Mahaiwe Theater has asked for copies of the map to distribute when event tickets are purchased. Eileen Mooney asked how many parking spaces there are downtown. Chris said there is about 1,000 total and public vs. private availability was almost equal.

The Town Manager announced that the Town received a grant from the EPA to address Brownfield sites in Housatonic. The grant awarded the Town with \$300,000 to use towards remediation projects.

### 3. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

- A. Robin Vickery/ Great Barrington Fish and Game for One Day Beer and Wine Liquor License for August 13, 2017 from 11:00am - 7:00pm at 338 Long Pond Road. (discussion/vote)

**Motion:** Steve Bannon moved to approve

**Second:** Dan Bailly

**Vote: 5-0**

- B. John Krol/OneEighty Media, Inc. for permission to use Town roads for the Gr8t Road Race on August 6, 2017 starting at 8:00am just north of Big Y on Route 7 and finishing in the Guido's parking lot. (discussion/vote).

**Motion:** Steve Bannon moved to approve

**Second:** Dan Bailly

**Vote: 5-0**

- C. Ari Cameron/ Railroad Street Youth Project (RSYP)

- To request SB's support to paint a mural on the side of the Carr Hardware next to Rubi's Café facing the Triplex parking lot, and
- To request permission to section off 10 parking spaces, which includes one handicap space from August 24, 2017 –August 29, 2017, as per list attached. (discussion/ vote).

Ari Cameron clarified that the spaces will be taken from 8:00am- 8:00pm. Mr. Cameron also clarified that there are additional dates that RSYP wishes the Selectboard to approve for this activity. Those added dates are August 10, August 23-29 with August 11, and August 18 as potential rain dates. Eight of the spaces will be taken for five days and then three for weekday painting. The handicap space will not need to be taken for the mural painting.

**Motion:** Steve Bannon moved to approve sectioning off 10 parking spaces, without restricting the use of a handicap space on August 10 and August 23-29 with the scheduled times that are attached.

**Second:** Dan Bailly

**Vote: 5-0**

**Motion:** Steve Bannon moved to approve the location of the dedication plaque as designed in the application.

**Second:** Dan Bailly

**Vote: 5-0**

### 4. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Town Manager/ Town Planner/ DPW –update on Bridge Street infrastructure project.

Town Planner, Chris Rembold presented on the Bridge St. infrastructure project. Mr. Rembold said that it is his hope to finalize the plans soon so that the project can go out to bid and construction can begin in 2018. This project is funded through a Mass Works grant. The \$2.1 million awarded is meant to assist projects that will develop public infrastructure that will in turn lead to economic development. The development of this section of downtown will focus on the walkability with the addition of sidewalks as well as improve the aesthetics. Steve Bannon suggested that the proposed parking spaces surrounding the new Co-op building remain parallel spaces rather than diagonal so that that people are not backing out into busy traffic. Sean Stanton suggested that developing the east side of the river should wait until the Town knows what will happen with the New England Log home site. Steve Bannon also said that he would like to see this money used towards sections of town where the future development is more certain than it is around the New England log home site. Mr. Rembold countered that with improved accessibility and aesthetics developers might be more inclined to invest in that site. Mt. Stanton also noted his preference for underground utilities rather than aboveground as they exist currently. Mr. Rembold

said that placing the overhead utility lines underground is not feasible from Hammertown to School Street because there is already too much underneath that section of Bridge Street.

**Motion:** Steve Bannon moved to approve proposed Phase I and Phase II encouraging as much underground utilities as feasible.

**Second:** Dan Bailly

**Vote: 5-0**

- B. SB- Review and provide input to Community Preservation Committee (CPC) on the Community Preservation Act Plan. (Discussion)

Ed Abrahams said the CPC will hold a public hearing within the next week to re-visit the plan. Town Planner, Chris Rembold said that this plan is what assists the Committee as well guides the applicants towards the projects that the CPC prefers to fund. Ed said that the Committee has had extensive discussion about funding only Town owned projects rather than privately owned projects in the future. Dan Bailly said that he would not recommend changing the plan from how it currently exists and operates. Sean Stanton wanted Ed to relay to the Committee the importance of funding agricultural lands in attempt to better preserve farming.

- C. SB- to approve the DPW Pole Barn at the Transfer Station (discussion/vote).

The Town Manager explained that this pole barn was deemed to be necessary when the Town Highway vehicles will no longer be stored at the former Fire Station. The Highway equipment is presently stored outside and subjected to the elements and premature wear.

**Motion:** Steve Bannon moved to authorize the approved \$210,000 to install a highway storage facility.

**Second:** Dan Bailly

**Vote: 5-0**

- D. SB- to authorize Attorney Ira Kaplan to represent the Town of Great Barrington on issues pertaining to wipes (discussion/vote).

Ira Kaplan briefed the Board on the legal options available to the Town to address the un-flushable wipes. One possibility is for Great Barrington to join an existing class action lawsuit and another possibility is for Great Barrington to file its own class action lawsuit. Mr. Kaplan said there would be an advantage of having more control over the settlement if Great Barrington was the primary plaintiff involved in the lawsuit.

**Motion:** Steve Bannon moved to authorize Attorney Ira Kaplan to represent the Town of Great Barrington on issues pertaining to wipes pending the approval of possible compensation.

**Second:** Dan Bailly

**Vote: 5-0**

## **5. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:**

## **6. MEDIA TIME:**

Eileen Mooney, The Newsletter asked what the plan is for the Health and Buildings Department. The Town Manager said that the plan to move both departments over to the Town Hall is still the plan and they are working on finalizing that as quickly as possible.

## **7. CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION-** Town Manager's Conference Room.

MGL.c. 30A, sec. 21 (a) (3) to discuss ratification of the extension of the collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME Local 204 (DPW) and AFSCME Local 204 (Libraries) and Massachusetts Coalition of Police, Local 350 (Police).

**Motion:** Steve Bannon moved to convene into Executive Session.

**Second:** Dan Bailly

**Roll Call Vote:** Sean Stanton: Yes, Steve Bannon: Yes, Dan Bailly: Yes, Ed Abrahams: Yes, Bill Cooke: Yes. 5-0

Reconvene into Open Session

SB- to vote on Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreements.

**Motion:** Steve Bannon moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement for AFSCME Local 204 (DPW & Libraries).

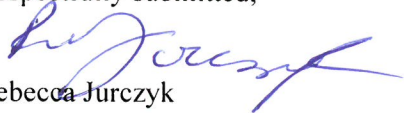
**Second:** Dan Bailly

**Vote: 5-0**

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion made by Steve Bannon, seconded by Dan Bailly, with a unanimous vote of remaining Board members, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05PM

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Jurczyk  
Recording Secretary