

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – AUGUST 22, 2006

Present: Ch. Patricia D. Carlino, Frank A. Consolati, Gordon D. Bailey, Board of Selectmen
Robert L. Nason, Town Administrator

Ch. Carlino called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** August 8, 2006

2. **Public Hearings:** None

3. **General Business:**

Mr. Tracy Gelormino came before the Board to ask that they consider granting him a Class II used car license. He is a used car broker, not a dealer. He sells cars primarily from dealer to dealer. He does, however, occasionally sell an automobile to an individual and that's why he needs the license. He has an office at 625 Chapel Street. He will have no inventory. There being no objection from the Board, they voted, unanimously, to approve the Class II license.

Christopher Brittain came before the Board to explain a proposed article he would like to place on the next town meeting warrant. The article would ask that the town establish an Agricultural Commission. This commission would be made up of residents of the town or owners and farmers of agricultural property within the town. They would support and promote commercial agriculture and other farming activities in the town. They would also act as advisors to any town board, committee or commission that may need their expertise. Mr. Brittain said there were many such commissions in Berkshire County and the proposed article was modeled after what already existed. The Board voted, unanimously, to support the warrant article.

Police Chief Ronald Glidden came before the Board to discuss incidents of unsatisfactory behavior at Lee Sandy Beach. There were three incidents involving two individuals. He has instructed the beach staff to call the police department any time they see any suspicious activity and let the officers make the determination on what type of action should be taken. Ch. Carlino said she received a letter regarding the consumption of alcohol at the beach. She said there needs to be a policy regarding that. Linda Cysz, a member of the Sandy Beach Committee, explained that the beach is on property owned by High Lawn Farm. The town has a "gentlemen's agreement" with High Lawn Farm to supervise and maintain the property. She acknowledged that the popularity of the beach has increased dramatically over the years and parking is a problem. Ch. Carlino asked the beach committee members to look at trying to eliminate the overcrowding. She suggested a meeting with representatives of the High Lawn Farm, Sandy Beach Committee members and the Selectmen to discuss the issues at the beach. There was discussion on the prohibition of alcohol. Chief Glidden said he was concerned with who would be enforcing any restrictions at the beach because it is private property.

The town received four bids for field testing and laboratory services at the wastewater treatment plant. The DPW Supt. recommended the low bidder, John Turner Consulting, Inc. at \$17,190.00. The Board voted, unanimously, to award the bid to John Turner Consulting, Inc.

The Board was asked to approve an amendment to the town's contract for water meter installation with Klammer Plumbing and Heating that would increase the contract from \$101,810 to \$127,263, or by \$25,453. This is to cover the cost of additional units that need to be done in order to complete the project. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the amendment.

The Board received a memo from Dennis Kelly, Asst. DPW Supt., regarding quotes to repair a backhoe. The low quote was from Tyler Equipment Corp. in the amount of \$8,322.00. Subsequent to that, more repairs will be needed and Mr. Kelly is asking the Board to approve \$10,000.00 for repairs, the total amount appropriated. Because the cost of the additional repairs is unknown, the Board voted, unanimously, to authorize up to \$9,999.00 for the repairs.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the request from the Center for Ecological Technology to submit an FY07 Municipal Waste Reduction Grant application to the Mass. DEP.

The Board received an e-mail from Thomas Webb, Senior VP, Berkshire Housing Development Corp., requesting that the Chairman sign a form for CDBG/GMA Access Request. This form will allow Mr. Webb access to a DHCD website so he can close out an old Small Cities Grant Berkshire Housing managed for the town. The Board voted, unanimously, to sign the form.

The Board voted, unanimously, to reappoint Thomas Unsworth to the Personnel Board for a one year term.

The Board next reviewed an emergency services write-off policy drafted by the ambulance director. It would allow the Lee Ambulance Service to waive the fee for emergency services for volunteers and their immediate family. Others would be looked at based on an income scale. Although the Board had no objection to such a policy, Ch. Carlino objected to the Selectmen making these determinations at a public meeting. She felt there should be a mechanism within the ambulance service to implement the policy. This will be discussed again at a later date.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a Common Victualler's License to Panda Garden, a new restaurant on Main Street.

The Board received a Temporary Sign Permit Application from the School Department. The sign is a directional sign for the elementary school. The Board noted that there was no letter from the School Committee indicating they had approved this sign. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the sign permit with the condition they receive a letter from the School Committee or the School Superintendent confirming the approval.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a road cut permit for water line repairs on High Street.

4. Pending Business:

The Board received a copy of a letter to the DPW Supt. from Lee and Donna Skowron and their staff at the Lee Athletic Field (LYA summer program) thanking the DPW crew for the work at did at the athletic field and especially the new basketball hoops.

The Board received a letter from Molly Curtin-Schaefer praising the degree of dedication she observed by the staff at the Lee Athletic Field.

The Board received a letter from Tim Hickey, an instructor at Berk. Community College, thanking Alan Zerbato, WWTP Supt., and Michael Towler, WTP Supt., thanking them for the time and information they gave to his class during tours of their respective facilities.

5. Town Administrator:

Mr. Nason announced that the water bills have been printed and there will be no discounts as they are based on actual usage.

Mr. Nason has met with the Land Use Assistant and he is scheduled to meet with the members of the Zoning Board of Appeals the following evening about land use training. He explained that there were no such courses in the area and would suggest the training be brought to Town Hall. There is money in their budget for training and supplies.

The topic of municipal office space utilization was discussed next. Mr. Nason explained that David Parker, IT Trainer, is getting estimates on how much it will cost to provide all the necessary information technology equipment for the DPW to move into the Airolidi Building. Those numbers will be available for the next Selectmen's meeting. Mr. Nason discussed several ways to keep every department in Town Hall at the last team meeting. One solution to the problem of where to put the Town Accountant was to move the Tax Collector's office down with the Town Clerk and move the Treasurer and Accountant to the Collector's office. Selectman Consolati maintained his stand that the DPW office should move to the Airolidi Building and Ch. Carlino agreed. Discussion on short and long term solutions. Selectman Bailey had concerns that the Planning Board office would not provide adequate space and privacy for the Building Department without dividers. The Board will wait until they have seen estimates of how much it will cost to move the DPW to the Airolidi Building to make a final decision.

Selectman Bailey said he had been called by a member of the Board of Public Works. There are concerns about how we will know if the slope repairs on Reservoir Road remain stable. The Board suggested that the DPW Supt, who is a Professional Engineer, should be asked to monitor the slope. Mr. Nason will look into what this will cost.

6. Public Comments:

7. Motion to adjourn:

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2006 at 7 PM. The meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne M. Alderman, Selectmen's Secretary

cc:	Board of Selectmen	Principal Assessor	Dept. of Public Works
	Town Administrator	Board of Health	Town Treasurer
	Town Clerk	Conservation Commission	Town Reps. District Chairmen
	Town Collector	Police Chief	Superintendent of Schools
	Planning Board	Building Inspector	Town Accountant