

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING – MAY 23, 2006

Present: Frank A. Consolati, Chairman, Gordon D. Bailey, Patricia D. Carlino, Board of Selectmen  
Robert L. Nason, Town Administrator  
Ch. Consolati called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

The Board voted, unanimously, to go into executive session to consider the value of real property and to discuss litigation strategy and return to public session at 7:00 PM. Roll call: Bailey, yes; Carlino, yes; Consolati, yes.

The Board returned to public session at 7:00 PM.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Board voted, unanimously, to appoint Selectman Carlino as chairman until the next annual town election. The Board also voted, unanimously, to reappoint Selectman Consolati as the Board's Clerk.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** May 9, 2006 and Executive Session May 9, 2006

2. **Public Hearings:** None

3. **General Business:**

Richard Vinette, Executive Director, Lee Community Development Corp., came before the Board to up-date them on the proposed Downtown Revitalization Taskforce. He explained it would be made up of members of the CDC, the Town of Lee, the Lee Chamber of Commerce and a citizen's advisory group. Mr. Vinette read a list of those who had agreed to participate. The Master Plan and Community Development Plan will be used as guidelines. Mr. Vinette stated he had posted a survey on the town's website to gather information on what the town is looking for regarding the downtown area. The first meeting of the taskforce will be June 5<sup>th</sup> at a time and place to be determined. These meetings will also be posted on the website. He said the first order of business is to determine the downtown corridor. Every building in the downtown area will be looked at. There will be four goals. First a plan, then to prioritize projects, the vision we want for the downtown and then the reality of what can be done. He stated that the Master Plan and Community Development Plan will be up-dated. Ch. Carlino asked if housing would be included in this plan and Mr. Vinette said yes. After further discussion, the Board voted, unanimously, to support the Downtown Revitalization Taskforce including the membership as presented. The Board thanked him for his efforts.

Mr. Nason acknowledged the Chamber of Commerce for their work in cleaning up and planting flowers in the downtown area spearheaded by Janice Keenan.

The Board voted, unanimously, to sign an agreement with Dalton Tractor & Equipment Co. to purchase an over the rail mower arm in the amount of \$11,464.41.

The Board voted, unanimously, to sign an agreement with Wright-Line to purchase a new console for the communications center in the amount of \$6,071.89.

The Board received a Mass. Standard Contract for Ch. 90 Reimbursement in the amount of \$183,274.00 which is allocated for bridge repairs. Mr. Nason said that there are now enough funds in that account to start looking for a bridge engineer to look at the structure of the town's bridges. The Board voted, unanimously, to sign the contract.

The Board received an amended Mass. Standard Contract for the state's share of the FEMA funds for damage done to town roads during the October 1005 floods in the amount of \$2,573.85. So far, a total of \$18,634.66 has been collected. The Board voted, unanimously, to sign the amended contract.

The Board voted, unanimously, to sign two agreements for trolley service with the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority for FY07 and one with the Town of Stockbridge for the 2006 season.

The town received four quotes for design review services for the F.L. Roberts Travel Plaza. The apparent low quotation was from Hill Engineers Architects Planners of Dalton, MA in the amount of \$6,300.00, the cost of which will be borne by F.L. Roberts. The Board voted, unanimously, to award the contract to Hill Engineers Architects Planners.

The Board is still looking for a representative to sit on the newly created Transportation Advisory Committee, a subcommittee of the Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization created by Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. Anyone interested should call the Selectmen's office.

Selectman Bailey asked if the Board would table the release of a performance bond to Silverleaf Resorts, Oak N' Spruce, for landscaping work done as a condition of a special permit granted in 1998. He would like to go there to inspect the property. The Board voted, unanimously, to table this item until their next meeting.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a permit for Berkshire Gas Co. to retire service at 50 Pleasant Street.

The Board received a letter from Papa Gino's asking their declare May 24<sup>th</sup> as "Papa Gino's Rustic Pizza Day in Lee". The Board felt this was inappropriate and declined to do so.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a Temporary Sign Permit to BCBG Maxazria at Prime Outlets at Lee.

**4. Pending Business:**

Zoning Board of Appeals meeting 6/7/06 @ 7:00 PM – F.L. Roberts & Co., Inc.

Planning Board meeting 6/5/06 @ 6:45 PM – Michael McManmon

**5. Town Administrator:**

The town received three bids for the construction of the new wastewater treatment plant. The apparent low bidder was Nickerson & Company at \$18,611,280.00. The documents will now be sent to Metcalf & Eddy, project engineer, for their consideration and recommendation. The Board will have to meet prior to their next meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup> in order to meet the construction timetable. The Board agreed on May 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at which time Metcalf & Eddy will have their award recommendation. Metcalf & Eddy will then send the documentation to DEP to request an authorization to award the contract. Mr. Nason noted that Nicherson & Company constructed the present plant.

Mr. Nason explained that for FY07 the Senate Ways and Means Committee has proposed a budget that would increase the town's state aid for education by \$136,689. He said that while the local share of the state Chapter 70 appropriation would be increased, state aid for local school transportation would not be restored. He stated that a call should be made to Senator Nuciforo and Rep. Pignatelli to thank them for supporting the Senate Ways and Means Committee proposal.

Mr. Nason received a list of seasonal employees for Sandy Beach recommended by Deidre Consolati, Chairman, Sandy Beach Committee. They are Abby Tierney, Sr. Guard/Swim Instructor; Michael Gregory and Kaila Buffis, Sr. Guards; Scott Gregory, Guard Step 2; Ed Handberg, Maintenance/Operations; Sam Weiskotten, Substitute Guard. Mr. Nason made the appointments, subject to the Boards approval. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the appointments.

Ch. Carlino stated she had been to Stockbridge and spoke with a member of their Board of Selectmen about the traffic situation in Lee during the construction of the intersection near Cranwell. That person said they would look into the situation.

Ch. Carlino said she would like to once again have the Board set goals for the new fiscal year. She would like to discuss this at the Board's June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting and the other members agreed.

**6. Public Comments:**

Jim Nolan, District 6 Representative, came before the Board to once again plead for something to be done with the congestion on Laurel Street due to the construction on Route 20 by Cranwell Resort. With the tourist season almost here, it is only going to get worse. Ch. Carlino said she would speak with Chief Glidden and Ross Dindio, MassHighway, to see what they can come up with. He also asked if there could be stop signs and speed limit signs posted on Golden Hill Road. The Board recommended he contact the Traffic Commission with these concerns. The Board voted, unanimously, to allow stop signs to be installed on Golden Hill Road if it is the recommendation of the Traffic Commission.

Selectman Consolati brought up the matter of the bus stops on Main Street. The one in front of the former McClellands Drug Store is taking up valuable parking spaces. This should also be discussed with the Traffic Commission.

Ch. Carlino reminded everyone of the Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM.

Mr. Nason announced that Scott Rockefeller, EMT, was awarded “EMT of the Year” by Emergency Medical Services of Berkshire County. The Board congratulated him for his efforts.

**7. Motion to adjourn:**

The Board voted, unanimously, to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Their next regular meeting will be Tuesday, June 13, 2006 at 7 PM.

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