

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING – JANUARY 23, 2007

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

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

1. **Approval of Minutes:** January 9, 2007

2. **Public Hearings:** None

3. **General Business:**

Chris Pompei, DPW Supt., came before the Board to address several items on the agenda. The first item was Change Order #1 from C.H. Nickerson & Co., Inc. for additional work at the new wastewater treatment. Mr. Pompei informed the Board that the project is 30% complete. The change order consisted of furnishing and installing a prefabricated trench drain in the Effluent Disk Filter area in the Operations Building in the amount of \$8,796.42. Mr. Pompei explained that the state is mandating a second bathroom at the plant. That change amounted to an additional \$2,817.10. The Board voted, unanimously, to amend the contract with C.H. Nickerson & Co., Inc. in the amount of \$11,613.52.

The next item was an invoice from Klammer Plumbing & Heating for finalizing the residential water meter installations. Mr. Pompei told the Board there are still a few commercial meters that need to be installed and these are the most difficult ones. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the \$2,062.50 amendment to the Klammer contract and sign the amended contract. The Board and Mr. Pompei discussed the usage of some of the multiple dwellings in town. Some are extraordinarily high. Mr. Pompei and the water department are working with building managers and landlords, when available, to search for the causes of the high usage.

Mr. Pompei explained the proposed change in the DPW office hours from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM to the new hours of 8 AM to 3:30 PM. The new hours would be more in line with the hours the other staff members work and would eliminate his secretary from being in the building by herself from 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM. The Board had no objection to the change.

Norma Maroney, Council on Aging Director, came before the Board to ask for an increase in the number of participants in the Senior Tax Work-off Abatement Program from ten to 15. She currently has ten members but because of the amount of hours they have worked, she will be losing a badly needed driver. This would increase the amount of funding needed from \$7,500 to \$11,250, which is derived from the Assessors' overlay account. After discussion, the Board agreed to speak with the Assessors to see if they would agree to the increase. The Board will take this up again at their next meeting.

Stephanie Talanian, a consultant for Elder Services of Berkshire County, came before the Board with a proposal to seek funding from HUD to convert the Hyde wing of the Central School building into 11 to 16 housing units. This proposal would include a larger than normal number of handicapped units. Ms. Talanian explained that projects with a smaller number of units are more likely to be funded. Elder Services is willing to invest \$15,000 to hire a consultant to assist them in securing the funding. Mr. Nason explained that the Lee Youth Association and the Lee Regional VNA, the largest of the organizations interested in the space, were not in a position to use space in the Hyde wing at this time. The Board discussed whether or not this project would have to be brought before the town representatives at the annual town meeting and they will consult with Town Counsel. The Board voted, unanimously, to give permission to go forward with the project, pending the outcome of Town Counsel's decision.

The Board received a letter from the Secretary of State's office asking them to designate someone as a liaison to work with the Commonwealth on the 2010 Federal Census. The Selectmen's secretary contacted the Town Clerk, Suzanne Scarpa, and she agreed to be the designee. The Board voted, unanimously, to designate Suzanne Scarpa as the town's liaison for the 2010 Federal census.

The Board received two letters from Stuart Dalheim, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, stating that Guy Crawford has resigned, effective immediately. The other letter asked the Board to appoint John Philpott as a permanent member. The Board voted, unanimously, to approved the appointment of John Philpott and accept Mr. Crawford's resignation, with regret.

The Board received a Grant Agreement Form from the Springfield Municipal Recycling Facility for \$1,500 to purchase Main Street recycling containers and blue recycling bins. At their last meeting, the Board announced the receipt of this grant funding. The Board voted, unanimously, to accept the grant funding.

The Board received a notification from the Lee Cultural Council recommending the appointment of Colleen Jones to the council for a three year term. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the appointment.

**4. Pending Business:**

Planning Board meeting – Feb. 5, 2007 @ 6:15 PM – Frank Bonnevie  
 Planning Board meeting – Feb. 5, 2007 @ 7:15 PM – Michael Kruse  
 Planning Board meeting – Feb. 26, 2007 @ 6:15 PM – Maureen Sweeney

**5. Town Administrator:**

Mr. Nason received a letter from Lisa Breault, Ambulance Director, recommending three new volunteer members. They are Joseph Dondey, Tracie Weller and Matthew Tyer. Mr. Nason will appoint them subject to the Board's approval. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the appointments. When asked, Mr. Nason responded that these are new recruits.

Mr. Nason announced that on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to noon the Town Hall will be closed for an all staff meeting. The primary topic will be presentations from two group purchasers of health insurance. The same presentation will be held for school employees on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

**6. Public Comments:**

Peter Scolforo came before the Board to state that this year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the town library. He is asking for a temporary sign permit to put up a banner proclaiming this landmark occasion. He would like to keep the banner up from April 2007 to April 2008. The Board explained that because the library is a municipal building, they can give permission. Mr. Scolforo showed the Board a draft sketch of what would be hung in front of the library which consisted of two narrow vertical banners on either side of the front door. The Board gave their permission, but asked Mr. Scolforo to show them the final design when it's completed.

Mr. Scolforo also addressed the issue of street lights. He said a light on Fairview Street has been out since November and is a safety issue. He has called the electric company several times but nothing has been done. He also asked why the street lights on Main Street are on so late at night. Mr. Nason explained that every other light on Main Street is set to go off at midnight. There was a discussion on when the lights should go out. Selectman Bailey stated he felt lights at crosswalks should never be turned off.

Selectman Consolati commended the police department for their efforts to slow traffic on Main Street. For two weeks an officer has been in the Lee Hardware Store parking lot with radar and it has slowed traffic down considerably. He also asked Mr. Nason about progress on the golf course project. Mr. Nason said that a request for proposals needs to be prepared in order to hire a design engineer. Selectman Consolati felt the need to keep the public informed as there is a renewed interest in this project. Mr. Nason asked Ch. Carlino if she would sit down with him to review the status of and timeline for the project.

**7. Motion to adjourn:**

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 13, 2007 at 7 PM. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 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