

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – MAY 29, 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.

The first order of business was to name a new chairman of the Board. This is done annually and the next Selectman up for election is named. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted, unanimously, to appoint Gordon D. Bailey as the Chairman of the Board for the coming year. After discussion, the Board voted, unanimously, to reappoint Selectman Consolati as the Board's Clerk. Next, Selectman Carlino agreed to continue signing documents for the new wastewater treatment plant project.

1. Approval of Minutes: May 8, 2007; Executive Session May 8, 2007

2. Public Hearings: None

3. General Business:

Amy Carey, Berkshire County Boards of Health Association (BCBOHA), came before the Board to address the need for the town to implement a public health emergency preparedness plan. Peter Kolodziej, Tri-Town Health, and Police Chief Glidden were also present. Mr. Carey explained that there are several issues that need to be addressed including an emergency dispensing site plan for medication; a continuity of operations plan to delegate authority. She said that Tri-Town Health already has a continuity plan in place. Also needed is a all hazards plan for public health and a pandemic flu plan. The BCBOHA is working with both Tri-Town Health and the police chief to complete these plans. There is, however, discussion on whether there should be one site for all these activities for the three towns serviced by Tri-Town Health or if there should be one site in each town with auxiliary sites placed in outlying areas. This is still being looked at. The Selectmen thanked her for their efforts on behalf of the town.

While the police chief was still present, the Mr. Nason asked the Board to deviate from their agenda to discuss two items with him. The first is the appointment of two seasonal officers. Chief Glidden has recommended Charlene Auger and Matthew Griffin pending their successful completion of the reserve police academy on June 8, 2007. Chief Glidden told the Board that the focus of the seasonal officers will be traffic control in the downtown area and crosswalk and parking violations. The chief also stated he is working with the Sandy Beach Committee on a proposal to have one seasonal officer at the beach access on weekends to address non-resident vehicle restrictions. After a brief discussion, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve Mr. Nason's appointment of the seasonal police officers.

The next five items on the agenda pertain to the Dept. of Public Works and Chris Pompei, DPW Supt., was present to answer any questions the Selectmen may have. The first item was a recommendation to award the water treatment plant safety showers/eye wash station modifications to Charles Cardillo Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$22,466.00. They were the lowest of five bidders. The Board voted, unanimously, to award the bid and sign a contract with Charles Cardillo Plumbing and Heating.

The next item was an easement granted to Verizon New England, Inc. to install lines to the new wastewater treatment plant. When asked, Mr. Pompei said these lines would be placed underground. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the easement with Verizon New England, Inc.

The Board next reviewed Amendment #1 to the town's contract with Mass. Consulting Services for masonry testing. This amendment would increase the original contract by \$4,297.00. Mr. Pompei explained that the cost of the testing exceeded their original estimate and the amendment amount did not cover the overall cost because of the limits of MGL Chapter 30B. He would now have to go out for more quotes for the overage. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the amendment.

The Board received a letter from the governor stating that for FY08 Chapter 90 money would increase by 25%. The Town of Lee will receive \$227,336. The Board asked Mr. Pompei how this money was going to be used and he said it would all be used for road improvement. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the State Standard Contract for Chapter 90 funds.

The last item involved the purchase of two vehicles from M-H-Q Municipal Vehicles, a 2007 Ford F650 dump truck in the amount of \$84,123 and a 2008 Ford Ranger pickup truck in the amount of \$22,955. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the purchase.

Selectman Carlino told Mr. Pompei she has had many compliments on the red crosswalks. They are highly visible at night. The Board also received a letter from Sheriff Carmen Massimiano regarding the community service work done by inmates from the County jail. The Selectmen will respond with a letter of thanks.

The Board voted, unanimously, to sign a lease agreement with the Berkshire Regional Transit Authority for FY08 trolley use.

The Board voted, unanimously, to sign service agreement with the Stockbridge Chamber of Commerce for trolley service for the 2007 season.

The Board voted, unanimously to sign a service contract to Abbott's Limousine & Livery Service, Inc., which, at the recommendation of Norma Maroney, Director, Council on Aging, they awarded on April 10, 2007,

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a formula grant application submitted by Norma Maroney to provide funding for various activities at the Senior Center.

The Board voted, unanimously, to extend by one year the town's agreement with the Center for Ecological Technology to provide hazardous waste collection through the multi-town collaborative. The agreement will expire June 30, 2008.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a permit from Berkshire Gas Company to make emergency repairs on Greylock Street.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a permit from Berkshire Gas Company to install service at 134 Center Street.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the Conservation Commission's fee budget for FY08 in the amount of \$4,752.00.

The Board accepted a letter of resignation from Jeremia Pollard as a member of the School Committee. In correspondence to Mr. Nason from Town Counsel, MGL Ch. 41, Sec. 11 states that the Selectmen and School Committee jointly approve a vacancy appointment. The Selectmen's office will put an advertisement in the Penny Saver paper.

At the recommendation of the Board of Assessors, the Selectmen voted, unanimously, to award contracts to Real Estate Research Consultants for the FY08 revaluation of both personal property and commercial/industrial properties.

4. Pending Business:

The Board received an announcement from the Center for Ecological Technology regarding an environmental workshop to be held at Hancock Shaker Village on June 6, 2007.

ZBA hearing – 5/30/07 @ 7 PM – Matthew & Lisa Callahan

ZBA hearing – 6/06/07 @ 7 PM – B Safe Storage

5. Town Administrator:

Mr. Nason received policy language from Town Counsel regarding the payment of stipends to volunteers in the Fire Department and on the Ambulance Squad. Each department has designed their own criteria as to how payment will be determined. The funding for these stipends was approved at the annual town meeting on May 11, 2007. The question was whether or not the payment of this stipend makes the volunteers town employees because it has to be reported on a W-2. The proposed policy, if adopted by the Selectmen, would state that anyone receiving a stipend of \$5,000 or less will not be considered an employee of the town and will, therefore, not be affected by the limitations placed on town employees to serve on certain boards or committees. The Selectmen were in favor of this policy and voted, unanimously, to adopt it.

Mr. Nason received a recommendation from the Sandy Beach Committee for the hiring of seasonal beach personnel. They are as follows: Senior Lifeguard (full time) Kurt Vaughn, Kaila Buffis, Michael Gregory; Senior Lifeguard (part time) Jesse Briggs, Scott Gregory; Swim Instructor, Abby Tierney; Substitute Senior Lifeguards Steven Laurin, Katie Keenan, Jeanne Schnackenberg; Maintenance and Operations Manager Ed Handberg. Mr. Nason will make the appointments subject to the Board's approval. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the appointments.

Chief Ronald Driscoll has recommended that Mr. Nason appoint William Wellspeak to replace Mike Ford as the janitor at the South Lee Fire Station. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the appointment.

Mr. Nason received a copy of an e-mail from Malcolm Chisholm, Lee's representative on the Five Town Cable Advisory Committee. The committee consists of a maximum of three members from each town. At present, Lee only has one member

and each town has one vote. The Lee Cable Advisory Committee is urging that the voting portion of Section 3 of the proposed rules be changed from “each town have one vote” to “each member have one vote”. Atty. Chisholm is asking the Selectmen if they have any objection to his request to maintain “one town, one vote”. After a brief discussion, the Board supported Mr. Chisholm’s position.

6. Public Comments:

Selectman Carlino commented on the fact that the town election received no media coverage. She had no idea why because every other town in Berkshire County was covered. She also noticed that there no pedestrian symbols at some of the crosswalks. She also wanted to thank Aldo Pascucci for a wonderful Memorial Day parade and ceremony.

Ch. Bailey asked the other members to think about goals and asked that they be specific. He also commented on the lengthy discussion at town meeting about how the wastewater treatment plant project was being funded. He felt a public meeting should be scheduled one the cost of the new plant was determined.

The Selectmen will not be meeting on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Because the next meeting would be June 5th, they felt it was too soon to have another meeting and agreed to meet on June 19th.

The Board voted, unanimously, to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy and not return to public session. Roll call: Carlino, yes; Bailey, yes; Consolati, yes.

7. Motion to adjourn:

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, June 19, 2007 at 7 PM. The meeting adjourned in executive session at 8:45 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