

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING – JUNE 19, 2007

Present: Ch. Gordon D. Bailey, Frank A. Consolati, Patricia D. Carlino, Board of Selectmen.  
Robert L. Nason, Town Administrator  
Ch. Bailey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** May 29, 2007; Executive Session May 29, 2007

2. **Public Hearings:** None

3. **General Business:**

James Scalise, SK Design Group, came before the Board with a revised plan of the amenities phase at Oak N' Spruce Resort. A proposed basketball court near the office has been removed. He said their concept is now to create a passive recreation area. It will include landscaping with flowers, a waterfall and a putting green. There will be patio to accommodate park benches and umbrella tables. There will be bocce and shuffleboard courts as well as tetherball and a hop scotch area. Mr. Scalise felt these were minor modifications to the original design and it would not be necessary to open the special permit. When asked, he said nothing across the street would change. After discussion, the Board voted, unanimously, to accept the revised plan dated June 2007 as submitted and determined it included only minor modifications and no special permit hearing was necessary.

SK Design Group also submitted an application for six temporary trailers. Mr. Scalise explained that five would be used for storage and one would be used as an office during the construction of three new buildings. He said the trailers would be anchored. After a brief discussion, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the temporary trailer permits.

Police Chief Ronald Glidden and Sandy Beach Committee Chairman Deidre Consolati came before the Board to discuss parking at Sandy Beach. Chief Glidden explained that parking would be restricted to Lee residents only, their guests and guests staying at motels, Inns and B & B's. Residents will receive season passes. Guests will receive one day passes. Access to the beach itself will not be restricted. Pedestrian, bicycle and boat traffic will not be restricted. These passes can be obtained at the Dispatch Center or from the parking attendant at the beach. There will no charge for either pass. The Chief stated that he will have one of the seasonal officers at the beach on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 AM to 4 PM unless it rains. The passes are different colors and the car's registration number will be put on it. A master list will be kept for both types of passes. The Chief explained that this procedure is a trial run for this season to see how it works out. The Chief will send out a press release announcing the new procedures. Ms. Consolati told the Board that the signs announcing the ban of alcohol have been posted. Selectman Carlino reiterated the fact that she did not want beach committee members policing the area for signs of alcohol use. The Board voted, unanimously, to support the new beach parking permit rules.

Chief Glidden told the Board he would like to increase parking violation fines. They have not been up-dated for many years. The fine for handicapped parking would be \$100, impeding snow removal \$50 and all other violations \$20. The \$20 fine could include Sandy Beach. He said the seasonal officers would be concentrating on parking violations in the downtown area. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the increase in parking violation fines.

Mr. Nason asked the Board, at this time, to consider his appointment of a Traffic Officer for third party details. The Chief has recommended Thomas Martin of Lee. He has completed the basic reserve police academy in Springfield. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the appointment.

The Chief also told the Board he received a letter from a residence on West Park Street complaining about the amount of truck traffic they have seen. The Chief explained that although there is a heavy truck traffic ban on that street, a number of smaller trucks, less than 2 ½ tons, use it to get to different destinations. Officers have been monitoring the situation and the Chief wrote back to the residents explaining the situation.

Rich Vinette, Executive Director, Lee Community Development Corp., came before the Board to up-date them on a number of downtown issues. Mr. Vinette reported that work under the Mass. Downtown Initiative Grant (MDI) is proceeding well in look at feasibility of constructing additional parking at the rear of 40-50 Main Street. A future report including conceptual plans will be available in the next few weeks. Mr. Vinette also reported that the CDC, in May of this year, had hired Mr. Wayne Feiden as a consultant to review significant issues identified by the Downtown Task Force and to offer initial impressions and a variety of possible approaches. Mr. Feiden's report has been sent to the Selectmen. Mr. Vinette asked the Selectmen to forward any comments to the CDC. A draft downtown strategic plan will hopefully incorporate some of Mr. Feiden's suggestions. The draft strategic report from the Downtown Task Force should be available in the next few weeks. Mr. Vinette noted that there are a number of actions that should be taken in order to prepare the grant application from the

federal and state level. 1. Commonwealth Capital application (CommCap). Lee's CommCap should be up-dated. 2. Application for technical assistance from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Vinette stated that all of these actions together will help us a great deal in bringing downtown development forward. The Board voted, unanimously, for Mr. Vinette to go ahead with his plan.

The Board received a letter from Gerald and Colleen Blache regarding a sewer abatement granted to them by the Board of Public Works. They are not satisfied with the outcome. Atty. Nicholas Parsenios came before the Board to state that he will be working with the Board of Public Works to try to resolve this matter. Atty. Jeremia Pollard was in the audience to represent the town. Atty. Parsenios will bring this matter back to the Selectmen at their July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Board received letters from Dennis Kelly, Asst. DPW Supt., recommending awards for crack sealing and chip sealing. Both recommendations come from the Berkshire Regional Group Purchasing Program. Mr. Kelly recommended Crack Sealing of Rayham, MA in the amount of \$25,000.00 and for chip sealing All States Asphalt, Inc. of Sunderland, MA in the amount of \$29,311.65. Both have a 10% contingency, if needed. The Board voted, unanimously, to award the projects as recommended.

The Board received a cost estimate from Metcalf & Eddy to evaluate the stability of slope on the side of the road to the water treatment plant. It has moved. MassHighway has also been involved in the evaluation. Metcalf & Eddy have given a price of \$3,000.00. The Board felt this was reasonable and voted, unanimously, to approve the cost.

The Board received a communication from Chris Pompei, DPW Supt., regarding refuse removal and recycling at town facilities. Daley and Sons Trucking of Lee was the low bidder of three at \$6,048.00. The Board voted, unanimously, to award the bid to Daley and Sons Trucking.

The Board was informed that Hill Engineers Architects Planners will require additional funds to continue their design review for the town for the F.L. Roberts Travel Plaza project. They will require an additional \$4,042.00. This funding will be contingent upon the approval by F.L. Roberts. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the extension of the agreement.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a service agreement with the Lee Regional VNA for FY06 in the amount of \$21,850.00.

The Selectmen have received letters of interest from applicants to serve on the School Committee. There is one vacancy. The Selectmen and members of the School Committee will review the letters jointly.

The Board received a letter from the Mass. Municipal Association asking the town to support the Municipal Partnership Act that will allow communities to raise meals taxes and tax Verizon utility poles. This will dramatically increase revenue to the town. The Board voted, unanimously, to write letters to our state legislators in support of this act.

Jamie Cahillane, Center for Ecological Technology, came before the Board to list some of the accomplishments CET and the town's Recycling Committee have made. They were increased revenue to the town for recycling, household hazardous waste collections, grants for recycling materials, an award from the Springfield MRF Advisory Board to the town's Recycling Committee members for their dedication and hard work and educational opportunities. The Board voted, unanimously, to renew the town's agreement with CET for recycling consulting services. Chris McDermott, Recycling Committee Co-Chairman, came before the Board to thank CET and the DPW for their help and cooperation. The committee will strive for more education on recycling. Linda Cysz, from the audience, asked about biorecycling. She asked if such a facility could be located in Lee. The Selectmen said that this was tried in the past but because there is no control, garbage and appliances were left at the site. Lenox has a very good facility and Mr. Nason will look into how they run it.

The Board voted, unanimously, to reappoint Arthur Snide to the Berk. Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a permit from Berkshire Gas Co. to repair service at 84 Columbia Street.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a temporary sign permit for the First Congregational Church to promote their movies in the park nights. The Board waived the fee.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a temporary sign permit for the Lee Youth Association for their annual picnic and waived the fee.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a temporary sign permit for Rite Aid Pharmacy. Brooks Drug Store soon be a Rite Aid.

The Board received an application for a one day wine and malt license from the Evening Star Lodge. Ch. Bailey recused himself as he is a member. The event will be held on July 29, 2007. The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the permit.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve an entertainment license for Sullivan Station Restaurant.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve their FY08 reappointments to various committees, boards and commissions with the exception of the Zoning Board of Appeals members. (See copy attached)

At the recommendation of the Town Clerk, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the purchase of a Konica copy machine from MacFarlane Office Products in the amount of \$5,192.50. The funds to purchase this machine were appropriated at the May town meeting.

The Board next discussed the contribution rate for retirees' health insurance. Selectman Carlino explained that current retirees under the age of 65 contribute 25% toward their health insurance and retirees over the age of 65 pay 50%. She is proposing that all current retirees make a 40% contribution toward their health insurance. She felt this change would not have a negative effect on the town's retirees and would save the town money. The Board has asked Town Counsel to make a ruling on this change.

**4. Pending Business:**

Ch. Bailey announced that Prime Outlets in Lee is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**5. Town Administrator:**

Mr. Nason announced that the Planning Board office will be open on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday for the summer. The Treasurer will not be available on Monday during regular office hours but will be working Monday evenings for the summer. The Board had no objection to these changes and voted, unanimously, to support them.

**6. Public Comments:**

Mr. Lincoln Holske of 54 High Street asked the Board about the status of the School Committee member search. The Board told him they had three replies and would be interviewing in the near future.

Ch. Bailey congratulated Lee High School girls' tennis on their Western Mass. Division 2 championship.

**7. Motion to adjourn:**

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, July 3, 2007 at 7 PM. The Board voted, unanimously, to go into executive session for the purpose of discussion collective bargaining strategy and not return to public session. Roll call: Carlino, yes; Consolati, yes; Bailey, yes. The meeting adjourned in executive session at 8:50 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