

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – JANUARY 6, 2009

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

1. Approval of Minutes: None

2. Public Hearing: None

3. General Business:

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a permit for emergency repairs on Old Pleasant St. to Berk. Gas. Co.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve three one day wine and malt license to Lee Sportsmens Association for fundraising dinners on Jan. 25, 2009, Feb. 8, 2009 and March 29, 2009.

Elton Ogden, Berkshire Housing Corp., came before the Board to up-date them on the renovation of the Consolati Building, 57 Main Street. Ch. Frank Colsinato recused himself from this discussion and turned the meeting over to Selectman Carlino. Mr. Ogden gave each member a copy of preliminary plans for renovations to the exterior and interior of the building. He said the exterior would not be changed significantly, mostly painting, window treatments and a new cornice along the top of the building. A new interior stairwell and elevator will be installed. Parking configurations have been discussed with abutting property owners and Mr. Ogden said that there may be a need for additional parking that could involve asking for spaces in the municipal parking lot. This will be discussed at a future date. The Board thanked him for his time and efforts.

Ch. Consolati returned to the meeting. Selectman Bailey left the meeting at 7:15 PM to attend the Stockbridge Selectmen's meeting where the Berk. Regional Planning Commission's MBRPW study of Lee traffic was being discussed.

Deidre Consolati, Chairman of the Sandy Beach Committee, came before the Board to discuss the Laurel Lake dam and the access road to Sandy Beach. She started by reading excerpts from two letters she received in favor of the town taking control of the dam. She also had a petition signed by seven Lee residents. She made a comparison of the size of the Leahey dam, owned by the town, and the Laurel Lake dam. She asked if the DPW could break out the costs of maintaining the Leahey dam. She also had documentation as to what the Goose Pond Association had to do to acquire the dam at Goose Pond. Roger Scheurer, Manager of the Schweitzer-Mauduit Lee mills, spoke about there being three parties involved with the beach and its use, the town, Highlawn Farm and the owner of the dam. He felt the Sandy Beach Committee has been detrimental to the cause of the Beach. He would like to work with the town. Selectman Carlino asked Ms. Consolati what would happen if Highlawn Farm no longer allowed the town the use of the beach. She also asked if the Sandy Beach Committee would be willing to discuss any options with an individual owner. Denise Scheurer, wife of Roger, asked Ms. Consolati if at any time did the Scheurers express any desire to close off the beach road if they did purchase the property the dam was on. The Selectmen advised the Beach Committee to make efforts to sit down with the perspective buyers of the dam and discuss what can be done to reach an amicable agreement. Margaret Biron, District 2 representative, came before the Board with questions from some of her constituents including continued access to the beach and water and sewer accessibility to the proposed property in question.

4. Pending Business:

Lee Area Traffic Study meeting – 01/21/09 @ 6:30 PM – Lee Elementary School

Upper Housatonic River Area of Critical Environmental concern public meeting – 01/29/09 @ 7PM – Lenox High School

5. Town Administrator:

Mr. Nason he was working on the Federal Economic Stimulus Package involving projects that can be ready in 180 days. He outlined that he was asking for funding for the improvement of Tyringham Rd., design of a water line up Washington Mt. Rd., bridge repair projects to be designed by Chris Pompei, DPW Supt., cleaning and painting of the S. Lee water tane, paving Quarry Hill Rd. and other paving projects in general. These requests for funding are due for submittal on Jan. 8th at 2:30 PM.

6. Public Comments:

Deidre Consolati announced there would be a peace vigil at Park Square in Pittsfield on Fruday, Jan. 9th from 5 PM to 6 PM.

7. Motion to adjourn:

The next regular meeting of the Selectmen will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009 at 7 PM. Depending upon Selectman Bailey's assessment of the Berk. Regional Planning Commission meeting in Stockbridge, the members planned to invite the

BRPC's Executive Director, Kate Karns, to present the Lee traffic study working group's preliminary recommendations at a special Selectmen's meeting to be held at 7 PM on January 13th. The Board adjourned their meeting at 8:05 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