

APPROVED ON 9/16/14

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – August 19, 2014

Present: David Consolati, Chairman and Patricia D. Carlino , Board of Selectmen and Robert Nason, Town Administrator.

Absent: Tom Wickham

Chairman, David Consolati, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the Public Minutes of August 5, 2014.*
2. **Public Hearing:** None.
3. **General Business:** Drainage Issues – St. James Avenue - Katherine Lockridge came before the Board to discuss the ongoing drainage issues on St. James Avenue. In the past she has called the DPW who would come and snake out the culvert, but with the severity of the recent storms on June 26th and July 28th, the flooding has been more severe and now the soil is eroding. David Consolati stated that we would have Superintendant of Public Works, Chris Pompei, P.E. check out the situation and do some research to identify the cause or causes of the severe flooding.

Blanche Barlow Acres/Goose Pond Recreational Access Project – Linda Cysz, (Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway) and Erica Johnson, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (P.V.P.C.) came before the Board to present an overview of the Blanche Barlow Acres/Goose Pond Recreational Access Project. This project will provide Byway travelers direct access to an extensive hiking trail system throughout 147 acres of conservation land providing access to both Goose Pond and the Appalachian Trail. It will open both properties and the trail system to the traveling public by providing a paved access road from the Byway (State Rt. 20) to a new parking area. The parking area site will be located where a long-vacant and condemned home is now located. This structure will be removed as part of this project. This parking area will provide space for seven cars inclusive of one van accessible space with access aisle. The proposed project will include the use of existing boulders on the property and native plantings in the landscaping of the site. Finally, project funds will be used in the development of interpretive signage for the property highlighting its history and inhabitants, the broader Berkshire region and the collaboration between the Scenic Byway, the Trustees of the Reservation and the Lee Land Trust.

Patty Carlino commented that this would be a wonderful asset to the community. David Consolati thanked Linda for her hard work. Patty asked if the Town would have any liability and Linda replied that the Land Trust carries the insurance.

MassWorks Infrastructure Program 2014 Application - After recalling the scope of the subject MassWorks application and reviewing the "Certification of Public Entity Authorization" form, *the Board members voted unanimously to authorize Chairman Consolati to sign the certification.*

Brownfield Area Wide Planning Grant - Mr. Nason announced a picnic event at Greenock Country Club/Fiddleheads Grille on August 21, 2014 from 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM. This event will include public input of what is envisioned for the use of the mills.

Mr. Nason also presented a draft amendment from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) which amends the contract by \$1,500.00 for the event at Greenock in the amount of \$968.50 and including additional meeting expenses which include items such as notepads, pens, drinking glasses, napkins and decorations. BRPC's estimate for the expenses is \$1,320.00. The agreement is drafted for \$1,500.00 to provide some contingency and consistency with the grant budget. *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the agreement in an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00 and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement.*

Three-One Day Beer & Wine Licenses – Baja Charlie's – *The Board members voted unanimously to grant three – one-day beer & wine licenses to Baja Charlie's for Founder's Weekend, to serve beer & wine on their lawn from 11:00 AM – midnight, during the three day event taking place on September 19th, 20th & 21st, 2014.*

Warrant for 2014 State Primary - *The Board members voted unanimously to sign the Warrant for the 2014 State Primary to be held in Lee on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at the Crossway Village Gym, 21 Crossway St., Lee, MA from 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM.*

Berkshire Gas Permits - *The Board members voted unanimously to grant an Installation of New Gas Service to 95 Devon Road and to retire gas services for demolition purposes on 215 High Street.*

Entertainment License – Lee Chamber of Commerce – Founder's Weekend - *The Board members voted unanimously to grant an entertainment license to the Chamber of Commerce for their activities to take place on Friday, Sept. 19th from 4:00 PM - midnight, Saturday, Sept. 20th from 9:00 AM – midnight and Sunday, Sept. 21st from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM.*

Memorandum of Agreement – Southern Berkshire Shared Services Project (SBSSP) – Susan Harding presented to the Board the SBSSP's Memorandum of Agreement with Berkshire Hills Regional School District, Farmington River Regional School District, Lenox Public Schools, Richmond Consolidated School and Southern Berkshire Regional School District, to work in collaboration with each other to a) explore opportunities to share services, b) examine opportunities to reduce costs and/or head off future higher costs through sharing services, c) identify specific shared services for initial focus and others for longer range collaboration, d) apply for grant funds to support shared services project endeavors, e) share services with member districts as appropriate, f) share as equitably as possible any funds secured through grants and /or any other funding sources, g) work with a facilitator(s) to gain a better understanding of possible roadblocks, implications, procedure, outcomes, etc of sharing services across district, and h) work the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to secure compliance with state laws and regulations.

Susan Harding explained that everyone is motivated and they will proceed diligently. David Consolati stated that this is a great way to start and Patty Carlino responded that this is timely and she's glad to see it is proceeding. *The Board members voted unanimously to sign the Memorandum of Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign the Memorandum.*

4. Pending Business:

- a. 2014 Mini-Site Collections – Tuesday, September 9, 2014 – 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM – Lenox Dept. of Public Works
- b. Farmers Market – Every Thursday through September – 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM in the Park.


5. Town Administrator: a. Conservation Commission Administrative Assistant Appointment - Mr. Nason announced his appointment, subject to the Board's approval, of Kathleen Vsetecka, of Becket, MA as the new Conservation Commission Administrative Assistant, upon the resignation of Deborah Garry. *The Board members voted unanimously to support Mr. Nason's appointment of Kathleen Vsetecka as the Conservation Commission Administrative Assistant.* The Board members extended their thanks to Deborah Garry and wished her well.

b. 25 School Street Abatement & Demolition Project Schedule Update - Mr. Nason updated the Board regarding the 25 School Street Abatement & Demolition Project Schedule. The project will go out to bid the week of September 4th and the contract will be awarded on September 16th. The project should take approximately 21 days to complete and by the end of October, the site should be cleared.

Mr. Nason also commented that Tyringham Road is closed to thru traffic in order for the culvert work to be completed.

- 6. **Public Comments:** Ellen Mary Dagostino from Crossway Village, came before the Board to discuss her traffic concerns. She also stated that there is too much signage on Housatonic Street. She discussed the speed limit coming off the turnpike. The Board members and Mr. Nason suggested she contact Mass DOT as Housatonic Street is a State Road, not Town owned. Patty Carlino extended thanks to the people in charge of the hanging flowers on Main Street. She stated that she get comments from all over the county on how great they look.
- 7. **Next Regular Meeting:** Our next regular meeting will be September 2, 2014 at 7:00 PM in the Courtroom.
- 8. **Motion to Adjourn:** *The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the public session of the meeting at 8:00 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy L. Belair,
Selectmen's Secretary

Notice of Website Posting Sent to:

Board of Selectmen
Town Administrator
Town Clerk
Town Collector
Planning Board

Board of Assessors
Board of Health
Conservation Commission
Police Chief
Building Inspector

Dept. of Public Works
Town Treasurer
Town Reps. District Chairmen
Superintendent of Schools
Town Accountant