

TOWN OF LEE
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday December 5, 2023 @ 7:00PM
Town Hall • 38 Main Street • Former Courtroom

Minutes

Members Present: Bob Jones, Gordon Bailey, Sean Regnier

Members Absent: None.

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

1. Minutes: Open Session Minutes of 11/21/2023 & 11/28/2023

Mr. Regnier made a motion to approve the 11/21/2023 and 11/28/2023 open session minutes as submitted which Mr. Bailey seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

2. Public Hearing

- a. A public hearing on an application for a new License to Store Flammables from Superior Plus Propane, 1160 Pleasant Street. Jason Wild, the regional manager for Superior Plus Propane, was present representing the business.

Mr. Wild began by stating that Superior Plus Propane submitted an application to ultimately store three delivery trucks at 1160 Pleasant Street. He stated that the property owner is a customer of Superior Plus Propane. Superior Plus Propane is looking for some new areas to centralize their drivers. Mr. Wild stated that Meadow Farm Equipment does already have a 1,000-gallon tank stored on property for personal use, so he'd like to amend his original application to include that. Mr. Wild stated that this application will need to be approved again in April.

Chief Ryan Brown, Lee Fire Department, stated that he supports this application.

Chairman Jones opened the meeting up to the public. No one came forward.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to grant a License to Store Flammables for up to 12,000 gallons at 1160 Pleasants Street until April 2024 which Mr. Regnier seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

3. Public Comment

Chairman Jones stated that he was asked to make an announcement for the Lee Youth Commission (LYC), stating that the 2nd Saturday Kids Obstacle Course Racing will be held Saturday December 9th from 5:30pm-7:00pm at the Crossway Tower Gym. He added that the LYC is also postponing the setup of the ice-skating rink because of the warmer weather.

4. General Business

- a. RoR Attorney Client Privilege Records release

Chairman Jones stated that these records are minutes that have not been released to the public. Now that there is no litigation going on, it's time for the public to understand how we got here. Mr. Bailey stated that that this is a vote all Select Boards of all five towns need to make, and they strongly encourage all five Select Boards to do so.

Mr. Regnier made a motion to release all attorney client privileged records from Housatonic Rest of River Municipal Committee which Mr. Bailey seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

b. Follow up discussion on PCB Transport meeting

Chairman Jones stated that he thought the meeting was very enlightening. He stated that there is a clamoring now and the other Towns are also looking at the railroad vs truck scenario. If this goes through, it's all coming down main streets of all five towns. Chairman Jones asked to have this Select Board send a letter to the EPA stating that they want to know the negotiations with Housatonic Railroad and GE.

Admin Brittain stated that he would draft a letter and have it ready for the Board to approve at the next meeting.

Mr. Bailey stated that if they do use trucks for transport, he would suggest the PCB trucks be clearly labeled that they are just that. If they come down Main Street, they should have GE pay for police detail and have a cruiser in front and in back of the truck to clear people away.

Admin Brittain added that all five town managers are looking to create a letter from all five towns to be signed by the Select Boards asking the EPA to emphasize the use of rail transportation.

5. Any topic the Chairman could not reasonably anticipate.

No business was presented.

6. Town Administrator – Special Town Meeting

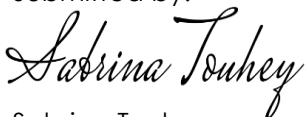
Admin Brittain stated that the Towns of Lee and Egremont were awarded a community development fund grant for \$1.5 million for housing rehabilitation for residents in the towns. Those pre applications are available on the Berkshire Community Development website now. They will be 0% interest, deferred, forgivable loans for critical repairs with some eligibility requirements. He stated that there are about 150 pre applications already submitted from the Town of Lee.

Admin Brittain reminded the public that a Special Town Meeting will be held tomorrow at 7:00pm in the Lee Middle High School Auditorium. He ran through the process of an Open Town Meeting.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2023.

Mr. Regnier made a motion to adjourn at 7:30pm which Mr. Bailey seconded and was approved, 3-0.

Submitted by:



Sabrina Touhey
Exec Asst TA/BOS

Approved on: 12/19/2023