

TOWN OF LEE
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday April 2, 2024 @ 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 7:05PM.

1. Minutes: Open Session Minutes of 03/19/2024 & 03/21/2024

Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve the 03/19/2024 meeting minutes as submitted which Mr. Regnier seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve the 03/21/2024 meeting minutes as submitted which Chairman Jones seconded and was approved, 2-0. Mr. Regnier recused himself and abstained from the vote because he was not present at the 03/21/2024 meeting.

2. Public Comment

Kathy Hall, Chair of the Lee Youth Commission (LYC), began by thanking the DPW for preparing the softball field for use at the Marble Street Playground. She stated that use of the fields has already begun to be reserved. Ms. Hall continued, stating that Lee residents who are interested in the LYC's free Spring Break Pool Party on Monday April 15th at the Berkshire South Regional Community Center in Great Barrington will need to pre-register at youthcommission@lee.ma.us by April 6th. Ms. Hall added that the tennis and pickleball courts will be opened this weekend (weather permitting). Any reservations for use of the pavilion for events can be made by contacting Samantha in the DPW office at (413) 243-5520.

3. General Business

a. Wildcat Sports Group – Simon Borrett

Simon Borrett, founder of the Wildcat Sports Group, began by stating that he was present today to give the Select Board a synopsis of the group's program.

Mr. Borrett stated that he has spent over twenty years in sports all over the world. He has been a resident of Berkshire County since 2005. He founded the Wildcat Sports Group, a nonprofit organization, at the end of 2023. Mr. Borrett and the Board of Directors have created four subcommittees in the group; Youth Softball Subcommittee, Youth Soccer Subcommittee, Fundraising Subcommittee, and Legacy Group Subcommittee.

Mr. Borrett stated that one of his goals is to help the youth develop in the sports that they love, while having fun. He stated that the group's website is www.wildcatsportsgroup.com. They can be reached at wildcatsportsgroup@gmail.com or (413) 297-6901.

b. Fire Department: Inspection Fee Increase - Chief Ryan Brown

Chairman Jones shared the proposed fee increases below from the Lee Fire Department's Chief Ryan Brown:

<u>Types of Fees</u>	<u>Current Fee</u>	<u>Proposed Fee</u>
26F Inspections	\$25.00	\$30.00
Basic Commercial Inspections	\$25.00	\$30.00
Quarterly Inspections	\$25.00	\$30.00
Health Care Facility Annual Inspections	\$50.00	\$60.00

Mr. Regnier made a motion to approve the proposed fee increases for the Fire Department's inspections effective July 1, 2024 which Mr. Bailey seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

c. Berkshire Gas Permits

- 156 Summer Street (replace gas service from sidewalk to house)
- 179 Center Street (replace gas service from sidewalk to house)
- 30 Debra Avenue (install new gas service)

Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve all of the above Berkshire Gas Permits which Mr. Regnier seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

d. Appointment: Lee Greener Gateway Committee - Patricia Simpson

Mr. Regnier made a motion to appoint Patricia Simpson to the Greener Gateway Committee which Mr. Bailey seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

e. Temporary Sign Permit – Greener Gateway Committee

Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve Greener Gateway Committee's Temporary Sign Permit and waive the fee which Mr. Regnier seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

f. Temporary Sign Permit – Lee Softball Booster Club

The Lee Softball Booster Club withdrew their Temporary Sign Permit Application on 04/02/2024.

g. Sign Charter Communications/Spectrum Cable Television License Renewal

Mr. Bailey made a motion to have the Select Board sign off on the Charter Communications/Spectrum Cable Television License Renewal which Mr. Regnier seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

h. Sign Amended Administrative Consent Order 00012108 (ACO) - MassDEP Certified Water Operator Noncompliance

Admin Brittain stated that the Town has several people with certification on call when needed, and they are listed in our staffing plan, although they are not fulltime employees. He stated that the Town has some new hires that are still working on level 2 certification. MassDEP is extending the ACO for another year while the current staff obtains their licenses.

Mr. Regnier made a motion to have the Select Board sign off on the Amended Administrative Consent Order 00012108 which Mr. Bailey seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

i. Sign Paving Contract

Admin Brittain stated that this is for the FY24 paving which was approved at Town Meeting in May 2023. LB Corporation was the lowest bidder.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to have the Chair sign off on the paving contract which Mr. Regnier seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

4. Any topic the Chairman could not reasonably anticipate.

Mr. Regnier announced that the Master Plan Committee will be holding their final public forum on Saturday April 6th at 1:00pm in the LMHS auditorium. A copy of the Master Plan can be found on the Town's website and hardcopies are available at Town Hall.

Admin Brittain stated that they also have a Proclamation to be approved *nunc pro tunc*. The Proclamation is to name April 1, 2024 Ed North Day in Lee, MA. Ed North is the Town's Assistant Fire Chief and retiring with over 52 years of service in the department.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to approve the proclamation nunc pro tunc and have the Chair sign the Proclamation which Mr. Regnier seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

5. Town Administrator Report - Warrant/Election Updates

Admin Brittain stated that each Board member should have a copy of the draft of the upcoming Town Meeting Warrant, and they are scheduled to sign off on the Warrant at the next meeting, April 16th. It is also the Election Warrant. Caucuses will be held this week and wrap up by April 5th, the last date to register to vote is April 29th, Town Meeting will be held May 9th and the Town Election will be held May 13th.

Admin Brittain also stated that the Town received an outreach grant from MassSave about a year ago, and he got some numbers on it. Their goals were to have 145 weatherization projects (fully achieved), 50 HVAC upgrades (fully achieved), and 25 small business (75% was met). This was a total increase of over 60% more than the previous year; the outreach was very helpful.

Admin Brittain also announced that the meeting with the EPA scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed due to weather. The new date will be announced once the EPA provides it.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2024.

Mr. Regnier made a motion to adjourn at 7:46pm which Mr. Bailey seconded and was unanimously approved, 3-0.

Submitted by:


Sabrina Touhey
Exec Asst TA/BOS

Approved on: 04/16/2024