

APPROVED ON 4/19/16

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING – April 5, 2016

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

Chair, Patricia Carlino, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM .

1. **Approval of Minutes:** *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the Public Session Minutes of March 15, 2016 and March 29, 2016.*
2. **Public Hearings:** None.
3. **General Business:** Tyringham Road Reconstruction – Superintendent of Public Works, Chris Pompei, P.E., came before the Board to thank Francisca Hemming, District One Highway Director, for recommending to MassDOT Headquarters in Boston that the Town not be responsible for the large temporary barrier overrun, the main reason the 10% contingency was exceeded. Also thank you to Mark Ringie, District One Construction Engineer, for supporting our position. A special thanks was also extended to State Representative Smitty Pignatelli, who once again advocated for the people of Lee.

West Park Street Bridge Weight Limits Posting - Superintendent of Public Works, Chris Pompei, P.E., came before the Board to discuss posting of weight limits on the West Park Street Bridge. The bridge has been downgraded because of two beams. The fix of one of the beams is not a simple fix. We are waiting for a report from Gill Engineering as to the section loss on the beams. Chris stated that we have 45 days ( by early May) to have the bridge posted. Patty Carlino asked what it would cost to replace the bridge and Chris replied that the cost to replace the bridge is 6.6 million dollars.

Main Street Reconstruction – Tom Matuszko, Asst. Director, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) came before the Board to announce that they would be willing to assist the town with an application for a Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant. He explained that this is an extremely competitive

grant and one application from Massachusetts would be accepted. He noted that the grant must be submitted by April 29, 2016. Patty Carlino asked about the time frame to hear back, to which Mr. Matuszko replied that he didn't know, but that it isn't quick. *The Board members voted unanimously to authorize BRPC to submit a T.I.G.E.R grant application on behalf of the Town.*

May 12, 2016 Town Meeting Warrant - The Board members reviewed an outline of the draft for the Baby Town Meeting Mailing. Mr. Nason stated that a draft will be reviewed by Town Counsel, Jeremia Pollard and he will then put the warrant together and proceed with the 48 Articles.

Peter Hofman came before the Board and stated that he hoped the Board would approve the Thin-Film Shopping Bag Reduction Bylaw and the Polystyrene Reduction Bylaw. He stated that he sent an e-mail to David to respond to his questions.

FY 2017 Health Insurance - The Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC) recommends to the Board of Selectmen to accept MIIA Blue Cross and Blue Shields health insurance rates with a 9.3% increase from FY 16 rates on our HMO and Blue Care Elect Insurance for Active Employees. There is no change in the plan design on these products this year. The IAC also recommends a change in our Medex and Managed Blue for Seniors Insurance. They are recommending switching from Medex 3 to Medex 2 with a 3-tier prescription drug benefit and Managed Blue for Seniors which will have the same benefit. There is no change to the medical benefits. There is a significant cost savings both the Town and the retirees by making this change. The town will have an estimated savings of \$298,000.00. *The Board members voted unanimously to accept the health insurance renewal rates as recommended by the Insurance Advisory Committee and authorize the Chair to sign the MIIA Health Benefits Renewal Proposal.*

Flags on Streetlight Poles - Patty Carlino, Chair, talked about the flags to be installed on streetlight poles on Main Street. She stated that she was contacted by the VFW asking the town to offset the cost of brackets on 20 poles in the amount of \$3,000.00 (represents ½ of the cost). She stated that she would also like the pole outlets to be fixed by Christmas so that the Chamber could decorate appropriately. *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the amount of \$3,000.00 to cover one-half of the cost of 20 brackets for 20 streetlight poles.*

Common Victualer License – Mint Indian Lakeside Dining former Bombay Restaurant – *The Board members voted unanimously to grant a Common Victualer's License to Shree Ganesh Restaurants LLC, d/b/a Mint Indian Lakeside Dining at 435 Laurel Street, Lee.*

Temporary Sign Permit – Lee Ambulance Association Toll Stop - *The Board members voted unanimously to grant a Temporary Sign Permit to the Lee Ambulance Assoc., with the understanding that they would add the word "Association" after the words Lee Ambulance on their sign.*

Berkshire Gas Permit – *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the installation of new gas service at 151 East Center Street.*

**4. Pending Business:**

- a. Planning Board – Public Hearing – Monday, April 25, 2016 at 6:15 PM in the Planning Board Office.
- b. 2016 Mini-site Collection – Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM at the Great Barrington Recycling Center.
- c. Community Shred Day- Saturday, April 23, 2016 – Toole Insurance Parking Lot, 195 Main Street from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

- 5. Town Administrator:** a. Personnel - Appointments: At the recommendation of Chris Pompei, Mr. Nason appointed Austin Liebenow, a Lee High School Graduate to the position of Truck Driver/Laborer. Mr. Liebenow has been working for the City of Pittsfield Highway Dept. since 2010. *The Board members voted unanimously to support Mr. Nason's appointment of Austin Liebenow to the position of Truck Driver/Laborer.*

At the recommendation of Police Chief Roosa, Mr. Nason appointed Dakota Schaefer to the position of Special Officer for the purpose of performing third party details and to fill open shifts on an as needed basis. *The Board members voted unanimously to support Mr. Nason's appoint of Dakota Schaefer to the position of Special Officer.*

Employment Opportunity: Mr. Nason announced the opening of the Treasurer/Collector's Clerk position, due to Heather Ketchen's promotion from Treasurer/Collector's Clerk to Assistant Treasurer/Collector. Letters of interest and resumes may be submitted to Donna Toomey, Treasurer/Collector. Initial interest will be assessed on April 15<sup>th</sup> and resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

- b. Mr. Nason informed the Board members that the FY 2016 Revenue and Expense Reports through March 31, 2016 are on their worktable.

**6. Public Comments:** None

- 7. Next Regular Meeting:** The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

- 8. Motion to Adjourn:** *At 8:45 PM, the Board members, by roll call, voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining strategy, because deliberating in open session may have a detrimental effect on the Town's bargaining position.*

*The Chair announced that the members will not be returning to open session.*

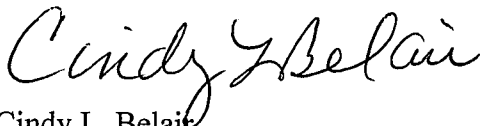
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NAY

Patricia Carlino  
David Consolati  
Thomas Wickham

None

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