

APPROVED ON 7/5/16

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING – June 7, 2016

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

The Chair, Thomas Wickham, 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 May 17, 2016 and May 24, 2016 and the Executive Session Minutes of May 24, 2016.*
2. **Public Hearing: 7:00 PM - All Alcohol Liquor License** - Vern Kennedy, the new owner of the Morgan House, came before the Board with his application for an All Alcohol License. He stated that he is Training For Intervention Procedures (TIP) certified. When asked how many hours he would be at the place of business, Mr. Kennedy stated that as he is living there, he would be there approximately 80 ± hours per week. *The Board members voted unanimously to grant an All Alcohol Liquor License to Berkshire Restaurant Group, II., Inc., d/b/a The Morgan House.*

The Board member skipped ahead and reviewed Mr. Kennedy's applications for a Common Victualer's License, an Innholder's License and an Entertainment License and *the Board members voted unanimously to grant to Mr. Kennedy (The Morgan House) a Common Victualer's License, an Innholder's License and an Entertainment License.*

**Public Hearing: 7:15 PM - All Alcohol Liquor License** - Attorney Darren Lee came before the Board for the "re-hearing" on the All Alcohol License for Shree Ganesh Restaurants, LLC, d/b/a Mint Indian Lakeside Dining. This Hearing was merely a formality to clear up the abutter notification glitch in their prior application; therefore the

*Board members voted unanimously to grant (as they had previously) an All Alcohol Liquor License to Shree Ganesh Restaurants, LLC, d/b/a Mint Indian Lakeside Dining.*

3. **General Business:** Weight Limitations on Valley Street and West Park Street Bridges – Superintendent of Public Works, Chris Pompei, P.E., came before the Board to update where we stand on both bridges. Valley Street Bridge – Chris stated that all the repairs have been done and we are awaiting word from the State to approve the removal of the postings on the bridge. Mr. Nason stated that he heard from Francesca Heming, Mass DOT District Highway Director, that the approval is imminent. West Park Street Bridge – Chris stated that everything seems to be favorable and we are waiting to hear from the State.

Eagle Mill Re-Use – Jeff Cohen came before the Board to report progress on his planned re-use of the Eagle Mill. He recalled that he revised his Part 1 application for state and federal historic tax credits after the National Park Service (NPS) concurred with the Massachusetts Historical Commission's (MHC) determination that all of the structures should be included in the period of historic significance. Subsequently, he submitted to NPS via MHC a Part 2 application seeking to demolish newer (post 1936) structures to make way for housing units that firefighting equipment could access. NPS approved that application, subject to the provision of detailed plans which his team is preparing. Noting South County hotels in planning or construction, Mr. Cohen cautioned that at this time regional hotel occupancy rates are at less than 60%. He stated that the Red Lion is still enthusiastic and he is waiting for Red Lion to step up. In the event that a hotel proves to be infeasible, he stated he might look into affordable housing instead of a hotel. Patty Carlino asked him if he had another thoughts and Mr. Cohen replied that he did not. Mr. Cohen indicated that with 50,000 square feet of space, retailers seem to have a strong interest. He stated that he is working with Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) to obtain assistance for the hazardous material remediation which will cost approximately one million dollars. Mr. Cohen also stated that through the efforts of BRPC he hoped the Council of Development Finance Agencies will identify other sources of financial assistance.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Grants – Area Wide Planning Grant - Melissa Provencher, Senior Planner/Brownfields Program Coordinator came before the Board with Berkshire Regional Planning Commission's (BRPC) Contract Amendment #3 of an \$8,217.62 increase from \$166,872.38 to \$175,000.00. This will reprogram unencumbered administrative funds to hire a Licensed Site Professional. *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the amendment Number 3 to the Brownfields Area-wide Planning agreement with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and to authorize the Chair to sign the amendment.*

Assessment Grant - Melissa also presented the Board with the \$300,000.00 grant for Northern Mills Brownfields Area-wide Planning Project area, which includes 4 former paper mills; the Eagle, Columbia, Greylock and Niagara.

Be Well Berkshire Fitness Challenge - Tri-Town Health Dept. has introduced the “Be Well Berkshire Fitness 12 Week Challenge. The more healthy foods you eat and the more you exercise, the more points you earn for your term. Everyone is encouraged to compete and earn fun prizes. You can participate as an individual or as a team. Register online at [www.bewellberkshires.org](http://www.bewellberkshires.org) or pick up registration forms at the Tri-Town Health Department; Lee, Lenox or Stockbridge Town Halls, or register on Kick-Off Day. The challenge kicks off on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at the Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary’s Wild Thing Trail Race/Walk from 7:30 am to 8:30 am.

Copy Machine Purchase - *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the purchase of a Konica Minolta BizHub 654e copy machine for the price of \$9,842.33 from the state contract through MacFarlane Office Products; and to authorize the Chair to sign the purchase agreement.*

Council on Aging Formula Grant Revision - The Council on Aging would like to reprogram the \$5,300 unencumbered, grant balance to purchase computer hardware/software and a copy/fax machine. *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the formula grant budget revision as presented and authorize the Chair to sign the budget revision.*

BNRC Conservation Restriction – Stevenson Family Nominee Trust – Mr. Narain Schroeder came before the Board to present a proposal from the Trustees of the Stevenson Family Nominee Trust to place their land on Fernside Road under a conservation restriction. The conservation restriction would permanently prohibit development on approximately 92 acres in Lee and an additional 28 in Great Barrington. The 120 acre parcel is accessed off Fernside Road and is adjacent to Beartown State Forest. *The Board members voted unanimously to grant the conservation restriction in Lee as presented*

Porchlight VNA Home Care Contract - *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the annual Porchlight VNA Home Care Contract in the amount of \$22,942.50, which is identical to last year’s agreement and is managed by the Tri-Town Health Dept. and to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement.*

Sustainable Materials Recovery Program – Small Scale Initiatives Grant Application - This grant is in the amount of \$750.00 to be used to purchase reusable bags. *The Board members voted unanimously to authorize our recycling and household hazardous waste consult Jamie Cahillane, CET Green Business Services, to apply to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for a Small Scale Initiative Grant on behalf of the Town of Lee.*

Full-time Fire Chief Study Committee – The Board discussed the appointment of a Committee to study whether or not the town needs to budget for a full-time Fire Chief to lead the Fire Department and Ambulance Service. The Committee would consist of one Select Board member, Jeffrey Roosa (town rep/police chief), members of the Fire Dept.;

namely, Ed North, Bill Brunell (rep), Peter Sorrentino (rep), Personnel Board, Chair, Neil Clarke, Gordon Bailey, Matt Tyer and Robert Nason. We will process all of the contact information for an e-mail list to coordinate meeting times.

Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA) Advisory Board Delegate - Noting the resignation of Ron Giancola, we are asking for anyone who would like to be our Town of Lee Delegate to the BRTA Board to contact the Selectmen's office at (413) 243-5500.

One Day Beer & Wine License - *The Board members voted unanimously to grant to the Masonic Evening Star Lodge a one day Beer & Wine License for their annual get together on Sunday, July 31, 2016 from 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM.*

4. Pending Business:

- a. Announcement – Meet & Greet – COA Director, Patricia DiGrigoli – Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Town Senior Center – Crossway Street
- b. Berkshire Gateway Jazz Festival 2016 – Downtown Lee – June 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>
- c. 2016 Mini-site Collection – Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 AM – 11:00 AM – Great Barrington Recycling Center

5. **Town Administrator:** a. Employment Opportunities - Mr. Nason announced that we are in the process of accepting application for the Town Clerk position. At this time we have 48 applicants. Initial Interest will be assessed on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.

We are also looking for a Custodian/EMT and initial interest will be assessed on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Nason also announced that we are still looking for volunteer drivers for the Council on Aging.

- b. Mr. Nason also announced that the FY 2016 Revenue and Expenses Reports through May 31, 2016 are available on the Select Board's work table.

6. **Public Comments:** None.

7. **Next Regular Meeting:** Our next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

8. **Motion to Adjourn:** At 8:10 PM, the *Board members voted unanimously by roll call, to adjourn to EXECUTIVE SESSION for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy, because having the discussion in open session may be detrimental.*

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

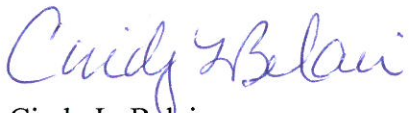
AYE

NAY

Thomas Wickham  
David Consolati  
Patricia Carlino

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