

APPROVED ON 9/5/17

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING – August 1, 2017

Present: David Consolati, Chairman and Patricia D. Carlino Board of Selectmen (Tom Wickham absent until approximately 7:20 PM) and Christopher Ketchen, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

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

1. **Approval of Minutes:** None.
2. **Public Hearings:** None.
3. **General Business:** Discussion of Senior Transportation Option - Patty Carlino stated that she and Christopher Ketchen attended a meeting facilitated by the Lee Congregational Church regarding the senior transportation. This was an informal discussion with people stating their needs and what they want. At the end it was agreed to meet again in two weeks. Christopher Ketchen stated that the town wants to be helpful to our senior population who are used to having a grocery store within walking distance. Big Y had a couple of representatives at the meeting who stated that they have transportation going to the outlets and could modify that with a phone call ahead of time. We also have our contract with Abbotts Limousine & Taxi Service through the Council on Aging. Lenox COA has stated for a small compensation of \$84.00 their driver will give up its Thursday shuttle service to the Town of Lee. Patty Carlino stated that there will be two runs to Big Y. Chris Ketchen added that they will have a Wal-Mart run once a week. We are still in the process of working on a long term solution with Berkshire Regional Transit Authority. Both Patty and David were okay with this short term solution and agreed to allow Christopher Ketchen to okay this and to look into other options.

Berkshire Eagle reporter, Dick Lindsay asked about the funding for the transportation through the Lenox COA. Christopher Ketchen replied that it is \$84.00 per week which will come from a donation fund. The vehicle is a ten seater van leased from BRTA

Bev Trembley came before the Board. First to wish a Happy Retirement to Bob Nason and to thank him publicly for all he's done. She stated that this is a major loss for the community. She also voiced her concerns regarding the senior transportation issue.

Selectmen Meeting – August 1, 2017

Dick also asked about persons with physical handicaps under age of 62 being able to access the transportation. Patty replied that anyone living at Hyde Place, Crossway Village and Brown Memorial Court are eligible for the transportation.

**4. Pending Business:**

- a. 2017 Mini-Site Collection – Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 – 11:00 AM – Great Barrington Recycling Center.
- b. Planning Board – Public Hearing on Monday, August 28, 2017 at 6:00 PM in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General laws, Chapter 40A, Section 5 regarding n adoption of a Smart Growth Overlay District (SGOD)

**5. Chief Administrative Officer:**

- a. FY 2018 Draft Goals/Objectives: Christopher Ketchen addressed the Board with some of his goals. The number one goal being financial planning and personnel management. He stated that he needs guidance from the Board on business, economic revitalization, etc. and we need to hit the ground running in September. Goal planning in accordance with Triple A Bond rating standards. Patty stated that we did get an upgrade within the last 10 years. Mr. Ketchen is looking at 5 year revenue and expenditure forecasts, comprehensive reserve policies and agreements based on appropriate use of revenues so as not to use savings to pay loans. Greater focus on personnel management to create a robust Human Resource institution, stating that we are off to a roaring start with Lyndsay. To avoid problems moving forward we need a competitive classification schedule more reformed, updated and competitive. We need to update and promote skills development with ongoing training. The big project every year is economic development and we need broader board input. We need to be prepared with a professional focus as best we can as things come up. Patty asked if he was finished meeting with department heads and he replied that he is and now needs to meet with a couple of boards. He will need input over the next few weeks and right after Labor Day we need to hit the ground running.
- b. FY 2018 Revenue and Expense Reports for the period ended July 31, 2017 - The – Revenue and expense reports for the period ended July 21, 2017 are on the Selectmen's table for their review.

6. **Public Comments:** Board member Tom Wickham just entered the room and spoke about an Eversource rate increase meeting that he just attended, along with Smitty Pignatelli, Senator Hinds, Mayor Tyler and Tricia Farley-Bouvier. He stated that people from Onyx were also there. He learned at the meeting that Onyx will see a \$186,000 increase in their electric bills, which they are adamantly against. Eversource is asking for

a 10.5% increase for their stockholders, million dollar raises and another 96 million. The Attorney General wants the rates lowered and Eversource is against that.

Tom also wished a Happy Birthday to David.

7. **Next Regular Meeting:** Our next regular meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2017.
8. **Motion to Adjourn:** *By a motion duly made by Patty Carlino and seconded by Tom Wickham, the Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy L. Bigelow,  
Administrative Assistant

Notice of Website Posting Sent to:

Board of Selectmen	Board of Assessors	Dept. of Public Works
Town Administrator	Board of Health	Town Treasurer
Town Clerk	Conservation Commission	Town Reps. District Chairmen
Town Collector	Police Chief	Superintendent of Schools
Planning Board	Building Inspector	Town Accountant