

APPROVED ON 10/16/18

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – October 2, 2018

Present: David Consolati, Chairman, Thomas P. Wickham and Patricia D. Carlino, Board of Selectmen and Christopher Ketchen, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

Patty Carlino called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to approve the Open Session Minutes of September 18, 2018.*
2. **Public Hearings:** None.
3. **General Business:** Jeff Cohen – Eagle Mill Redevelopment Update – Jeff Cohen came before the Board to update the Board on the Eagle Mill Redevelopment Project. He stated that a lot has happened in the last 35 – 40 days and a lot more to happen in the next 90 days. They are under contract or have purchased 9 properties adjacent to the Mill. They have also purchased the Ingegna Building and the property formerly “The Pumpkin Patch”. Dick Shields has also sold them 2 lots behind the Ingegna Building. The plans have changed significantly since he last spoke with the Board. They have begun the Site Plan Review process. They have also included a traffic study which was completed last week, though they are still waiting for the results. There is a new Part I and Part II and should have approval to begin construction soon and are hoping to hear soon about the Mass Works grant in order to have the water to the property. They are working with the Conservation Commission in order to get a Notice of Intent (NOI) and are hopeful to get on the Conservation Commission agenda in December and to get Conservation Commission Site Plan and Historic Commission approval. The 4th quarter of 2019 they hope to start the demolition and remediation.

Leigh Davis, Project Director of Development, spoke about the project and the components of the develop which consist of 8,000 square feet of office space on the river front, the anchor tenant (Eagle Mill 60,000 square foot Mill Market Place), restaurants, brewery, Eagle Mill Apartments. She explained that they will utilize the river front with access to the town. They hope to make the project “a village” not just a new development.

They have ordered a traffic study and it will be completed and back to the developers next week. The anchor will consist of four restaurants and there will not be any “chain” restaurants. Their hope is that the project will be “homey” and “historic”.

Jeff Cohen commented that they need two things to happen to commence with the project; namely, new water lines and housing financing. He also commented that everyone in town has been supportive of the project.

Selectmen Appointments - Lee Cultural Council - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously to appoint Wren Bernstein and Valerie Bluhm as members of the Lee Cultural Council for the customary three-year term.*

Agreement for Town & School – Dept. of Education - *The Board members voted unanimously to execute the agreement between the Town and School for the Department of Education’s Reporting Requirements and authorized the Chair to sign the Agreement.* This is the same agreement that has been in effect for the past 10 years. The only change is “Employees Benefit Administration” will read change the wording from the Treasurer to the Assistant CAO.

Taxpayer Assistance Programs - The Town of Lee has two programs to assist taxpayers to pay their real estate taxes. One is the Elderly and Disabled Taxation Fund, which is funded by contributions from taxpayers which helps elderly and disabled persons of low income to pay their real estate taxes when they are experiencing financial hardship. The other is the Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Abatement Program. As many as 15 residents per year may earn a property tax reduction of up to \$1,500 performing general office work or light manual labor for the Town. Applications for these programs are through the Director of the Council on Aging. Program guidelines and applications for this program may also be obtained from the Assessor’s office. *The Board members voted unanimously to accept the two Taxpayer Assistance Programs as presented.*

One Day Beer & Wine License / Entertainment License - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to grant a One Day Beer & License and an Entertainment License to Ingegri Salon (nunc pro tunc – Sept. 25, 2018) (for the Kiwanis Club of Lee) for a fundraiser to be held on Saturday, September 29, 2018 from noon – midnight.*

4. Pending Business:

- a. 2018 – Mini-Site Collection – Saturday, October 13th – 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM - Great Barrington Recycling Center

5. Chief Administrative Officer:

None.

6. Public Comments:

None.

7. Next Regular Meeting: Our next regular meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

8. Motion to Adjourn: *By a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy L. Bigelow,
Administrative Assistant

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