

APPROVED ON 12/18/18

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – November 20, 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 6:00 PM.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to approve the Open Session Minutes of November 6, 2018.*
2. **Public Hearings:** None.
3. **General Business:** Town of Lee – Welcoming Policy - Rev. Neil came before the Board for Valerie Bluhm who was not available to attend the meeting. Rev. Neil spoke on behalf of Multicultural Bridge, County Interfaith and the Lee Congregational Church. He commented that he is in favor of a Welcoming Policy and commented that Great Barrington has adopted a Welcoming Resolution and Becket developed a Trust Policy in collaboration with their Police Dept., Board of Selectmen and Board of Health. Gwendolyn VanSant also spoke in favor of a Welcoming Policy, stating that several towns have already done so. David Consolati stated that we, as a town, are already very welcoming of all people from all walks of life. He also stated that he doesn't want to initiate something that could "tie up the police chief's hands" He said, "my gut says something else is coming down the road. What is it?" Patty Carlino said that she's willing to work on it with our Police chief. David commented that it seems to be more of a political statement than anything else and agrees with 90% of it, but there is a gray area. He also stated that the way it is written is somewhat offensive as it assumes we are not welcoming. Tom Wickham stated that we already do this as a small town. He is not opposed to a Welcoming Policy; it just needs more work on the wording. Reinholt Van Wagtendonk who lives on Devon Road came before the Board and spoke favorably about the Town instituting a Welcoming Policy. The Board members suggested that they would need more time to think about it and to discuss this and any possible ramifications with our Police Chief Roosa. Patty Carlino stated that they will follow up after the 1st of the year with the Police Dept., Board of Selectmen, Board of Health and the School.

Barb Mahoney, a Lee resident who ran a Bed & Breakfast for 11 years and who is a member of the Lee Congregational Church spoke in favor of a Welcoming Policy.

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Temporary Sign Permit - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously to grant two (2) Temporary Sign Permits to Zabians (clothing and jewelers) for their yearly Christmas Sales signed from November 23rd through December 30th.*

Berkshire Gas Permits - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously to grant (nunc pro tunc) Berkshire Gas Permits for the installation of new gas service to the following properties:*

*40 St. Mary's Avenue – November 16, 2018
850 Summer St., Lot M-12 – November 13, 2018
50 Highfield Drive – November 13, 2018
141 Fox Run – November 13, 2018.*

Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway – Donation Request - Linda Cysz came before the Board to request a donation request from the Town in order to provide financial help for the maintenance of their post office box, fee filings, postage and printings. They are asking the representatives of five towns to each consider a donation of \$100.00 which would keep them stable for years. *Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously in favor of a \$100.00 contribution to the Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic Byway.*

4. Pending Business:

- a. Zoning Board of Appeals – Public Hearing on the application of David Forest for a variance from Section 199-8.9 Common Driveways of the Town of Lee Zoning Bylaws – Hearing on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

5. Chief Administrative Officer:

CAO, Christopher Ketchen stated that he would like to congratulate Chief Ryan Brown and Firefighter/EMT Justin Bona for a Citation for Meritorious Conduct which they received at Mechanics Hall in Worcester from the Governor, Lt. Governor and State Fire Marshall. Congratulations!!

6. Public Comments:

Patty Carlino asked CAO, Christopher Ketchen when we could again meet with Jim Barry, regarding the stretch code. Mr. Ketchen answered that we would try to set something up in December.

Patty also asked if there was anything new regarding the post office to which Mr. Ketchen replied that he would check in with Town Counsel, Jeremiah Pollard.

David Consolati wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Tom Wickham gave a shout out to all the Lee Sports Teams for doing very well this season. The town is proud of all participants.

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7. **Next Regular Meeting:** Our next regular meeting is scheduled for December 4, 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 7:45 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