

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF MEETING – FEBRUARY 7, 2012

Present: David J. Consolati, Chairman, Gordon D. Bailey, Patricia D. Carlino, Board of Selectmen.
Robert L. Nason, Town Administrator

Selectman, David J. Consolati, Chairman, opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes: October 19, 2010, September 20, 2011 & January 17, 2012

1. **Public Hearing :** None

General Business: Mark Volpe came before the Board to request a banner to be hung on Main Street for the period of July 1 – July 14th (July 7 – July 21st) to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Tanglewood. Selectman, Gordon Bailey suggested that they would have to look into it a bit more as to how to attach a banner, where to attach it, etc. He commented that they would have to check with Chief Buffis and check with business owners that would be directly affected. Mr. Volpe said he would personally check with abutting business owners to get their opinions on the banner.

Chris Collins, from the Lee Cultural Council, on behalf of Danielle Mullens from the Lee Chamber, spoke about the upcoming Lee Cabin Fever Festival. The Chamber wanted to have some events to bookend with the Founders Weekend so that there would be activities to enjoy in the winter as well as in the fall. The Chamber requested a temporary sign permit to hang a banner in the Church park between 2 trees along Park Street. The Board voted unanimously to approve the sign permit. A calendar of events which runs from Friday, February 17th through Friday, February 24th, 2012, was presented which can be viewed on the web at www.cabinfeverfest.com.

Chris Collins also spoke to the Board for the Cultural Council regarding the Lee, MA Twitter Page, an on-line social service using 140 characters or less, which can be accessed at [twitter.com\lee_ma](https://twitter.com/lee_ma) or by e-mail at TownofLee@g.mail.com. He spoke of the advantages of the Twitter page in getting the word out to a great number of people and businesses. They are collaborating with the Town in a tribute to Mardi Gras with a New Orleans type jazz band on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 7:30 PM at the Spectrum Playhouse on Franklin Street.

John Philpott and Richard Vinette spoke to the Board regarding the Lee Community Development Corporation's intent to ask the finance committee to approve a FY 2013 request of \$15,000.00, an amount significantly larger than their traditional request of \$500.00. This request is due to the current economic conditions and the lack of adequate funding. These funds will be used for basic operations, maintaining reporting requirements, etc. These funds will not be used for salaries.

Chris Pompei came before the Board in regard to the Mill Street Bridge over Washington Mountain Brook. Per the Mass DOT some beams are failing and in order to avoid the closing of the bridge to vehicular traffic a three-beam rail 2.5 feet way from the W-beam guardrail along the length of the west side of the bridge must be installed. Chris submitted to the Board a Proposal from Bartlett Consolidated LLC for the installation with a cost of \$9,610.00. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Proposal from Bartlett Consolidated LLC, and authorized the Chair to sign the Agreement.

Next Chris Pompei explained that two, 12" gate valves were required to replace the water main on the West Park Street bridge over the Housatonic River. As the members reviewed the Project Engineer's (Foresight land Services/Steven Mack, PE) January 17, 2012 letter and therein referenced L. B Corp. invoices for the water main

replacement (\$48,305) and valve installation (\$31,967.38) work, Chris noted that the valves and related parts cost about \$15,000 and the work was done on a holiday while the neighboring banks were closed. At the recommendation of the Project Engineer and the Superintendent of Public Works, the members voted unanimously to approve as Change Order No. 1 the additional valve work costing \$31, 967.38.

Thomas Wickham, the Energy Commission Chairman, came forward to speak on the Electricity Supply Purchase. The Town's contract terminates on June 1, 2012. Tom presented information from Constellation New Energy regarding electricity usage and spoke about this being a prime time to enter into a new contract because prices are very low. The Committee suggested that entering into a 3 year contract would be advantageous. The process of entering into a new contract is fast. We would need to agree to a price before the end of a day, and two signatories will be required. Mr. Nason stated that he spoke with Jeremia Pollard, Town Counsel, and that the proposed e-mail polling of the Energy Efficiency Committee members regarding price, would not be in any violation of the Open Meeting Law. The Board voted unanimously to authorize the Chair and Town Administrator to sign the Massachusetts Municipal Association approved electricity supply agreement with Constellation Energy when the Energy Efficiency Committee determines that the price is advantageous.

Next, Thomas Wickham discussed a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Wind Power Feasibility Study, (January 24, 2012 Draft) which resembles the RFP that Lenox used. The Board voted unanimously to approve the RFP. Tom also mentioned that on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM at the Lee Middle/High School on Greylock Street, Lee, MA, there will be a seminar regarding the health effects of wind turbines.

The Town Administrator presented a Draft Agreement by and between the Town of Lee and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to administer a grant of \$481,277.00 to renovate 57 Main Street. The Board voted unanimously to approve a \$21,277 agreement with Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, subject to the Town Counsel's approval as to form.

The 2012 Toll Stops slots were chosen by pulling names from a jar. The first five slots were already filled by last year's participants not chosen. The toll stops are as follows: Lee High School Baseball Team – April 21st / Lee High Girls' Volleyball – May 5th / VFW – May 26th / Lee Elementary School PTO – June 2nd / Lee Youth Soccer – June 16th / Tri-Town Rotary – Sept. 15th / Lee Babe Ruth Baseball – Oct. 20th. Entries not chosen will automatically get a slot in next year's selection.

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve a one day wine and malt license from the Tri-Town Rotary for a Cajun dinner to be held at St. Mary's School Cafeteria in conjunction with the Cabin Fever Fest, to be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 from 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM. This approval is contingent upon the final approval of the school. The proceeds of this dinner will go back to the chamber to profit the beautification of the Town. Tickets for this event will be \$12.00 per person in advance and \$15.00 per person at the door.

Pending Business: Per the Town Clerk, Sue Scarpa, the nomination papers for the Annual Town election on May 14th are available in the Clerk's Office on Monday – Friday from 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM. March 23, 2012 will be the last day to pick up the nomination papers and all papers must be returned to the Clerk's Office no later than March 26, 2012 to register.

Town Administrator: Interviews were conducted for the Truck Driver/Laborer position vacated by Matt Larson's promotion to Equipment Operator upon Paul Porrini's retirement. The town received 27 applications and interviewed 14 potential candidates. At the recommendation of the Hiring Committee led by the Superintendent of Public Works, Christopher Pompei, the Town Administrator appointed Robert Zerbato to fill the position. The Board voted to approve the appointment.

Public Comments: Dr. Philip Pryjma, came forward regarding the St. Francis Chapel requesting a fee waiver from the Board regarding a storage trailer to be on the premises. The Board suggested he speak directly with

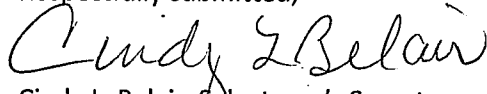
the Building Inspector, Don Torrico, prior to coming before the Board, as he may not even have to come before the Board.

Kevin Bartini from Stockbridge Road read to the Board his neighbor's letter of protest concerning the location of the soccer fields on Stockbridge Road. Concerns were raised and hopefully alleviated in regard to bleachers, lights, busses, etc. , on the property. He also voiced concerns about the proposed dog park. The Board reassured him that there would be continued communication with neighbors who had provided their e-mail addresses.

Next Regular Meeting: The next regular Selectmen's meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 7:00 PM.

Motion to Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy L. Belair, Selectmen's Secretary

cc: 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