

APPROVED ON 7/2/19

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING – June 18, 2019

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

Absent: Patricia D. Carlino

Chairman, Thomas Wickham called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

1. **Approval of Minutes:** None.

2. **Public Hearings:** None.

3. **General Business:** a. Commendations for Meritorious Conduct – Chairman Thomas Wickham read a Commendation for Meritorious Conduct which was presented to Officer Jason Hopkins and Officer Michael Snyder by Chief of Police Jeffrey D. Roosa for outstanding conduct and self-action while in the line of duty that exhibits dedication, honor, courage and integrity to the department in an event. “On June 5, 2019 at 0202 hours, Officers Hopkins and Snyder were dispatched to a residence for a report of a woman going into labor. Upon arrival you were both directed into the residence bathroom where you located the female patient in the later state of labor where the infants head was already fully visible. You rendered care delivering the infant baby girl, clearing her airway and taking all medical steps necessary to care for the newborn until EMS arrived, and transported the mother and newborn infant to the hospital for further care. For this action you have received a Department Meritorious Conduct Award. I want to take this opportunity to commend you on a job well done. A copy of this letter of commendation shall remain a permanent part of your personnel file.”

b. Temporary Sign Permits – Carr Hardware - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to grant three continuous 10-day temporary sign permits (vinyl banner) starting June 12th through July 12th, 2019.*

220 Housatonic Street - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to grant two continuous 10-day temporary sign permits (vinyl banner) starting June 18<sup>th</sup> through July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.*

c. Potential Approval of Labor Agreement: Police Officers - The Board members reviewed the 3-Year Labor Agreement as presented which depicts the changes as follows: Wages – The agreement provides an increase up 3% for FY 2020, FY 2021 and FY 2022

with a pay differential to 10%. The detail rates will go up \$1.00 progressively for each year (FY 20 - \$45.00, FY 21 - \$46.00 & FY 22 - \$47.00). Christopher Ketchen commented that the Town should be proud of the respect shown during the negotiation process. *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to approve the new three (3) year contract for FY 20, 21 & 22 between the Town of Lee and the Lee Police Association Local No. 396, Massachusetts Coalition of Police.*

d. Berkshire Gas Permits - None

e. Selectmen Appointments – *Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously to the following one-year appointments:*

<i>Town Counsel</i>	-	<i>Jeremia Pollard</i>
<i>School Building Commission</i>	-	<i>Donna Toomey</i>
<i>Jacob's Ladder Trail Scenic By-Way Commission</i>	-	<i>Linda Cysz</i>
<i>Lee Greener Gateway Committee</i>	-	<i>Ann Sterlin</i>
<i>Energy Efficiency Advisory Com.</i>	-	<i>Gerald Leprevost, Robert Turtz &amp; Roger Scheurer</i>
<i>Agricultural Commission</i>	-	<i>Mary Brittain</i>

*Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board member voted unanimously to the following three-year appointments:*

<i>Conservation Commission</i>	-	<i>John Coty, Jr. &amp; John Philpott</i>
<i>Board of Registrars</i>	-	<i>Rita Perry</i>
<i>Bikeway Committee (Ad hoc)</i>	-	<i>John Toole</i>

#### 4. **Pending Business:**

- a. Zoning Board of Appeals – 51 Park Street – Montra II., Inc. – special Permit Hearing - for work in the floodplain district for proposed building renovations temporary parking area and related site work – Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

#### 5. **Public Comments:** Tom Wickham extended congratulations to the Ladies Tennis Team and to the Boys Tennis Team.

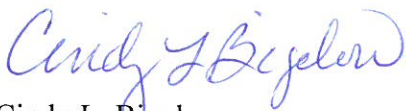
Kathy Hall extended her thanks to all the volunteers on Saturday that helped with spreading the 10 yards of mulch at the South Lee Playground.

Jeff Cohen, the developer of the Eagle Mill property came before the Board with updates. He states, that in May the National Park Service approved 6 million dollars in historic tax credits, with conditions that Mr. Cohen shared are quite manageable. They are working on a current application

for an equal amount of credits from Massachusetts Historic Society and are hopeful that they will get that with credits over multi years. The next stage is to apply for financing. He is hopeful that they have assembled together all the property across the street where the proposed hotel would be located and he is hoping to re-locate the hotel on that property across the street from the original location. A hotel study has been done and the consultants recommended a larger hotel than the 72- room hotel that was approved, with a hotel with approximately 100 – 120 rooms is the range of feasibility. A hotel of this size must be across the street and at this time he believes most of the properties are under contract. The hotel would be four stories of 100+ rooms and this would enable a parking lot, required for a flag hotel (brand name, Hilton, Marriot, etc.) which requires one parking space per room. Mr. Cohen is suggesting that the town apply for a Mass Works grant which opens in August for economic develop for funds to acquire the land from Cohen at his cost, and to construct a 162-space parking lot adjacent to the hotel. If that were to happen the Town employees would take care of half of the lot and the hotel would take care of the other half. Mr. Cohen added that this would help the town of Lee with jobs and would encourage people to come here. Mr. Cohen stated that we need to be prepared. Tom agreed adding that it can't hurt to try. Mr. Cohen said that the reason he is here is to open the conversation with the town as this will enhance the town with additional public parking. This all begins with a Mass Works Grant. After more discussion, *and a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to authorize Richard Vinette to start the process of applying for a Mass Works grant to finance the parking lot for the proposed hotel on West Center Street, Lee, MA.*

6. **Next Regular Meeting:** The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 7:00 PM.
7. **Motion to Adjourn:** *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy L. Bigelow,  
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen

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