

APPROVED ON 3/17/20

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – February 18, 2020

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

Thomas Wickham 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 February 4, 2020.*
2. **Public Hearings:** 1) D Spoon – d/b/a Post Eatery – Application for Change of LLC Managers, Ownership Interest in LLC a Liquor License Manager of the All Alcohol License to Lance Dragonetti, for D Spoon, LLC, d/b/a Post Eatery & Bar at 5 Railroad Street, Lee, MA. – Shaun Mahoney, representing Lance Dragonetti, came before the Board to present his application for the change of Ownership Interest in the All Alcohol License currently in the name of Danielle Dragonetti. Mr. Dragonetti has been running the establishment as Personal Representative of the Estate of Ms. Dragonetti since her passing this past summer. After a brief discussion about Mr. Dragonetti taking the TIPS course and his plan for the future of the Restaurant, *upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to approve the application for the transfer of the All Alcohol Liquor License to Lance Dragonetti.*
3. **General Business:** a) Lee Historical Society, Inc. – Update to the Board - Mal Eckert came before the board to update them on developments in the past year; namely, Cemetery tour, obtaining a \$2,000.00 grant to organize and catalogue their growing historical collections, upgrading their website, the collaboration with Lee Gateway/Garth Story for fundraising to restore the Kilbon Fountain, the exhibit of history at the Lee Library and the issuance of a monthly newsletter. He stated that the long-term goal of the Lee Historical Society is to create permanent exhibits of the Town's history. On behalf of the board he is requesting the Board to help them find a space for their exhibits which could be as small as 400 square feet.

- b) Lee Congregational Church – Request for Waiver of Annual Building Department Inspection Fee – After a brief discussion, *the Board members voted unanimously to waive the annual Building Department Inspection Fee.*
- c) Reminder – Toll Stop Application - The Chair, Tom Wickham announced that the Toll Stop Applications are available in the Selectmen's Office with a drawing to be held in March.

4. **Pending Business:**

None.

5. **Chief Administrative Officer:**

None.

6. **Public Comments:** Kathy Hall came before the Board to announce that there is ice at the Lee Athletic Field rink. She explained that they look at it every day and put signs up if they feel it is not safe. With February vacation coming up she is hoping for cold weather. She stated that seeing everyone enjoy the parks and skating rink is a pleasure to see.

Kathy also read an advice piece from Kate (Bort) Edwards a graduate of Lee High School, and an environmental engineer who works on several state and national Committees as follows: *"There is a public process in place which includes meetings and a comment period on the permit. I would urge folks with concerns to attend the public meetings and to keep an eye out for the permit when it is issued. It will be issued for public comment with likely a 30-45 day comment period. The best way to comment on the plan and permit requirements is to **SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS**. I have seen EPA permit requirements changed due to overwhelming written public comment.*

Lining/capping of the landfill and groundwater monitoring are important controls. It will be important to pay attention to the monitoring and reporting requirements set forth in the permit that comes out for public comment. The warning signs of failure and potential for impact to humans and the environment can be seen through monitoring. The monitoring frequency and locations, reporting requirements and transparency of the reporting, as well as the consequences of non-compliance / enforcement/ remedy clauses will be important. Your engagement and comments on the permit can change the plan, even if they don't change the ultimate fate."

Dale Hebert came before the Board and stated that he came to Lee in the 60's & 70's. We don't need this in our town.

Jim Castegnaro (District 1 rep) stated that he has lived in Lee all his life, worked in the paper mill. The Lee dump closed in 77 but now he claims his property will be worth nothing. He is tired of Lee getting dumped on and this is going to poison his family.

Janice Braim came before the Board stating that she totally agrees with Jim Castegnaro (her brother) and as a realtor people are not going to buy property here. Say “No” to the dump.

Tim Gray came before the Board, stating that he is a businessman in Lee for the last 41 years. He has donated plants to the town and has takes civic pride in doing so. He was “horrificed” when it was voted on to bring the PCB’s to a dump site in Lee. He stated that PCB’s are right up there with plutonium and will ruin property values.

Sean Regnier of South Lee stated he has coached soccer and lacrosse in Lee. He has studied horticulture and thinks it is important for G.E. to clean up the river. He commutes every day from Lee to Williamstown and will not be buying property in Lee if there is a toxic PCB dump in this town.

Karen Shaefer stated that the proposed dump site is right next to her property. She is owner of Maple Glade Campground and she only just heard about this Friday night. She has a well and septic and is worried that if the ground shifts, the liner will rip. Patty Carlino encouraged her to go to the presentation tomorrow (Wednesday) night at the school. To come to the meeting and ask questions. Karen stated that the “way this was handled is so wrong”.

Chairman Wickham stated that he does not foresee a problem and that we can build a safe dump.

Kathy Daoust (District 4 rep) stated that she grew up in the Morningside section of Pittsfield, her mother worked in the PCB unit at G.E and her mother has since died of metastatic cancer. She herself has had cancer and is currently in her 3rd battle. She wanted to put “a face” to the problem.

Clare Lahey worked for many years on our “open space” with her husband and she is so angry. The carcinogens cause cancer as it evaporates out of the soil. They are worried about the future sale of their house and what this effect this dump will have on their retirement.

Everyone was very concerned and Patty commented that we should be more concerned about leaving the stuff in the river.

Mary Theresa Valleri stated that she “has no confidence in the government in Lee” and she questioned the qualifications of the Select Board.

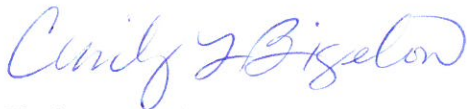
David Consolati stated that it was in the town’s best interest to negotiate an agreement and stated to the crowd, that when you don’t have all the information you can know all the answers.

Bill Matthews came before the Board stating that he believes there is a lack of information on all sides and that Japan and Europe are far ahead of us. He wants to see all the options.

After more discussion, Patty stated that she had been on the Rest of River committee for 8 years with the last ½ year talking about remediation. In 2016 the talk was of all PCB's being taken out of the state. G.E. appealed and won the 1st time. The EPA asked that they go back and re-look at the situation. Lane Construction made the most sense to the EPA. If we lost, we would have received nothing and still got a dump. When asked about how this would be monitored, Patty responded that those were questions for the EPA.

7. **Next Regular Meeting:** Our next regular meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2020 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 8:45PM.*

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