

APPROVED ON 5/5/2020

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – April 23, 2020

Present: Thomas Wickham, Chairman, Patty Carlino and David Consolati, Chairman, 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 April 6, 2020.*
2. **Public Hearings:** None.
3. **General Business:**
 - a) Toll Stop Discussion - Due to the Covid-19 virus and health and safety protocols, and after a brief discussion regarding the yearly toll stop, *and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to cancel this year's toll stops. Those entities chosen will be the automatic recipients of next year's drawing with the same schedule. Recipients will be notified by mail of this decision. Letters will go out to those chosen.*
 - b) Postpone Annual Town Meeting to June 18th - *After a brief discussion, upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously, under Chapter 39, Section 9, to postpone the annual Town Meeting to Thursday, June 18, 2020 at 7:00 PM to be held at the Zukowski Auditorium at the Lee Middle & High School. (This date is subject to change Chief Administrative Officer, Christopher Ketchen, will prepare the work documents.*
4. **Pending Business:** None.
5. **Chief Administrative Officer:**
 - a) Appointment - Michael Sullivan, ACO - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to support CAO, Christopher Ketchen's appointment of Michael Sullivan to the position of Animal Control Officer.*
 - b) Appointment - Hunter Roosa - Reserve Officer - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to support CAO, Christopher Ketchen's appointment (at the recommendation of Acting Police Chief, Craig Desantis) to the position of Reserve Officer.*
 - c) Current Fiscal Year FY20 Actions:

i) Defer Interest - *After a brief discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously under Chapter 53, §11, to extend the time for payments due to June 30, 2020 without additional interest or penalties.*

ii) Hiring Freeze - *After a brief discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously under Chapter 53, § 11, to freeze the hiring of any new employees until further notice.*

iii) Expenditure Controls - CAO Christopher Ketchen announced a newly established Emergency Fiscal Control Board (EFCB) to oversee any expenditures during the immediate future during this pandemic, which consists of the following persons: CAO, Christopher Ketchen, Town Account, Lynn Browne and Town Treasurer, Donna Toomey, who will evaluate and approve any expenditures in advance. *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to approve the creation of the Emergency Fiscal Control Board.*

d) Schedule for Amending FY20 Budget - *After discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to approve the amended Schedule for the FY20 Budget.*

e) Preparation of Amendments to form of Government - Janet Warner, Chair of the Charter Review Committee came before the Board to go over their review of the Town Charter. For the most part the changes were to clean up language. Janet explained and read from a memo she prepared regarding the topics of discussion which will be attached to these minutes and made a part of said minutes.

6. Public Comments: Kathy Hall came before the Board to extend her “thank you” for the appropriations for the Lee Parks. She informed the Board that pavers were put in at the Shields-Garrity Pavilion. And they have received delivery of the fitness equipment for the Lee Athletic Field.

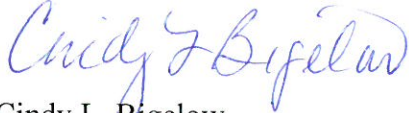
Sean Regnier came before the Board just to get clarification on the toll stops and was informed that there would not be a new drawing next year, that the recipients at this year’s drawing will be extended out to next year. He commended the Board on their dedication during this time that we’re in and that the virus has changed the way we all view the world. He also commented on the “Rest of River” going forward with the remediation and the importance to understand that “we” still have the ability to impact the agreement; to be aware of what’s going on with a targeted approach.

Janet Warner came before the Board wanting to know what is happening with the “Rest of River” group and how will they know when things are progressing. Patty informed that it would be advertised in the “Berkshire Eagle” and on the website. Janet asked if there would be a “Watchdog Group” and Patty stated that there would be.

7. Next Regular Meeting: Our next regular meeting is scheduled for May 5, 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 8:05 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 Chair
Superintendent of Schools
Town Accountant