

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – FEBRUARY 19, 2013

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

Chairman, Patricia D. Carlino, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** The public minutes of January 22, 2013 and February 5, 2013 were unanimously approved by the Board (Patricia Carlino excused herself from the vote of the February 5, 2013 minutes as she was absent from that meeting).
2. **Public Hearings:** None.
3. **General Business:** Emergency Legislation Authorizing Rescheduling of Certain Municipal Elections - Due to a family emergency, Suzanne Scarpa was unable to present the information she put together. In her absence, Mr. Nason reported that the governor had signed a bill allowing local elections to be held on the same day as the special primary on April 30, 2013. The members reviewed Ms. Scarpa's analysis of the advantages of combining the two elections which would be convenience for the voters as they will only have to come to the polling place and/or complete absentee ballot applications once for the two elections. There would be a cost savings of \$2,075.00 for the town. There would only be one set up and break down of the election and the cost of mailing out absentee ballots would be cut in half with a combined mailing. There would only be one voter registration session. The LYA would only be inconvenienced for two days as opposed to canceling the use of the gym for four days within three weeks. The problem of the parking strain for the residents of Crossway Village would be an inconvenience once instead of twice in a three week span.

The challenges would be maintaining two separate voting lists, two check-in and check-out tables, two ballots and remembering that some voters who are registered in a political party will not be eligible to vote in the Primary. There would also be the need for separate boxes to carry the ballot to Town Hall after being voted. The ballot box may need to be emptied a couple of times and the ballots will need to be kept separate for the Primary and Town Election.

Board member, Gordon Bailey stated that he was concerned that some people might be confused by the change. He also noted that the State would benefit as more people would vote at the primary. Mr. Nason stated that Dalton, Lenox and Williamstown are on board with combining the two elections.

The Board members voted unanimously to change the date of our local election from May 13, to April 30, 2013. The Board members were all in agreement that we should advertise this change in the rescheduling well, including but not limited to our town website, press releases, the public library, etc.

Laurel Lake Drawdown Report - Harold Sherman presented the 2012 Laurel Lake Drawdown Report prepared by Water Resource Services (WRS) to the Board members. The following

recommendations were offered by WRS which remain the same as offered in 2011, which are: (1) Repeat the drawdown to minimize zebra mussels and Eurasian water milfoil in shallow water. (2) Expand the drawdown to the greatest depth that can be supported based on technical feasibility and non-target impacts. (3) Consider alternative control means for Eurasian water milfoil; a drawdown of 15 feet would be needed to minimize growths and is not feasible. Spot treatment with an applicable herbicide or careful mechanical harvesting with attention to fragment collection would be appropriate measures in deeper water. (4) Town government should take the lead in addressing watershed management concerns. (5) Consider in-lake monitoring needs going forward.

The Chair placed on file the 2012 Laurel Lake Drawdown Report prepared by Water Resource Services, and ask Mr. Nason to work with Lenox Town Manager, Greg Federspiel to promote cooperation between the respective Town Conservation Commissions and Laurel Lake Association.

Solarize Mass Program Application – Roger Scheurer, along with Bill Enser & Tom Wickham, all members of the Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee came before the Board to present the 2013 Solarize Massachusetts: Round 1 Community Proposal Checklist and Application Template. Mr. Scheurer thanked the Berkshire Eagle for making public knowledge of the Solarize program which will promote private residential and commercial photo voltaic installations. The application must be submitted by tomorrow (2/20/13). *The Board members voted unanimously to approve the application and authorize the Chair to sign it.*

2013 Pedestrian, Bicycle and/or Moped-Type Traffic Safety Grant - Mr. Nason, on behalf of Chief Buffis, presented to the Board members an Application for 2013 Pedestrian, Bicycle and/or Moped-Type Traffic Safety Grant. The grant award amount of \$3,000.00 will allow the enforcement program to operate on an overtime basis for about 75 hours. The enforcement efforts would begin as soon as the grant funds were awarded and conduct 30 hours of enforcement efforts until June 31, 2013 and then conduct 45 hours of enforcement efforts from July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013. *Gordon Bailey recused himself from the discussion and vote and subsequently the remaining Board members voted unanimously to approve the application and authorize the Chair to sign it.*

One Day Beer & Wine License - *The Board members voted unanimously to grant a one-day beer & wine license to the G. Marconi Lodge #1620, Sons of Italy, for a scholarship fundraiser to be held at St. Mary's School gymnasium on April 13, 2013 from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM.*

Capital Outlay Committee Appointments: Mr. Nason presented to the Board the list of appointments for the 2013 Capital Outlay Committee as follows: Elizabeth Leahey, District 1, Margaret Biron, District 2, Kathleen Bort, District 3, Arthur Mack, District 4, Deidre Consolati, District 5, Dorothy Fraser, District 6, Edward Finnegan, Finance Committee, David Durante, Planning Board and Anthony Caropreso, Board of Assessors. *The Board members voted unanimously to appoint the slate of members as read.*

4. **Pending Business:** The Planning Board is holding a public hearing on Monday, March 11, 2013 at 6:15 PM regarding the addition to Section 199-9 (Supplemental Use Regulations), 9.10 Outdoor Recreational Uses and the addition to Section 199-14 (Definitions) Recreational Uses, Outdoor and the modification of Section 199-3 (C) (1) (f) Floodplain District.
5. **Town Administrator:** February 8th & 9th Snowstorm - Mr. Nason expressed the great job done by our DPW, Dennis Kelly and his team, during the recent snowstorm of February 8th and February 9th and he presented to the Board members two unsolicited e-mails that he received commending the

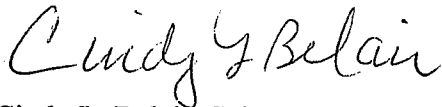
DPW of their clean-up of our streets during and after the recent snowstorm; one from Trish Ross and one from Bob Wolk.

Undesignated fund balances - Mr. Nason presented to the Board members the Freecash Approval Notification. He commended Town Accountant, Lynn Browne, with the help of former Accountant, Kathy Borden, for obtaining these certified fund balance a month ahead of last year.

Intermediate EMT/Custodian, Kevin Palmer's resignation - Mr. Nason presented the Board members with Kevin Palmer's resignation letter effective March 31st and stated that they are looking to fill the position within the squad. *The members accepted with regret, Kevin's resignation.*

6. **Public Comments:** None.
7. **Next Regular Meeting:** The next regular meeting will be March 5, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Courtroom.
8. **Motion to Adjourn:** *The Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,



Cindy L. Belair, Selectmen's Secretary

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