

APPROVED ON 11/17/20

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – November 3, 2020

Present: David Consolati, Chairman and Patty Carlino and Sean Regnier, Board of Selectmen and Christopher Ketchen, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

David Consolati 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 October 20, 2020 and October 29, 2020.*

2. **Public Hearings:** FY 2021 Classification Hearing - Board of Assessors member, Dayton Delorme came before the Board to present the information regarding the Tax Classification. He explained that the Board recommends a single rate. We have had no new construction; no new growth and our excess levy capacity is sufficient. The job of the Selectmen is to vote for one tax rate or two tax rates. The current tax rate is \$14.68, the same as last year. The recommendation of the Board of Assessors is for a single tax rate for FY 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.) After a brief discussion based on the Assessor's information, and *upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously for a single tax rate for FY 2021, with the current rate being \$14.68 (same as last year).*

3. **General Business:** a) Berkshire Gas Permit – 180 Fairview Street- install gas main test station - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously to grant a permit to Berkshire Gas – to install a gas main test station at 180 Fairview Street.*

b) Lee Youth Commission Update – Kathy Hall came before the Board with an update of the proposed Community Center development. She stated that we need the project manager to figure out the next steps. The scope of the project has changed as the cost came in at over 1.5 million dollars. They will start with a project manager which is part of the feasibility study budget. The Lee Youth Commission has a sub-committee to work with the community to move forward to Phase II.

c) Judith Knight – Discussion – Rest of River – Citizens to stop the PCB dump - As Ms. Knight did not show this article was tabled until our next meeting.

4. **Pending Business:** None.

5. **Town Administrator:** a) FY 2021 Revenue and Expense Reports for the period ended October 31, 2020 - Christopher Ketchen informed the Board members that the FY 2021 Revenue and Expense Reports for the period ended October 31, 2020 are on their worktable for their review.

b) Police Appointments – 2 Reserve Officers - CAO, Christopher Ketchen presented the Board with two Reserve Police Appointments – Michael Jezek and Jonathan Boehm. These appointments are at the recommendation of Acting Police Chief Craig Desantis. Mr. Ketchen stated that he is in full support of the Chief's recommendation. After a brief discussion, *and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to approve and support the recommendation from Acting Chief Desantis and CAO Christopher Ketchen to appoint Michael Jezek and Jonathan Boehm as Reserve Police Officers.*

6. Public Comments: Berkshire Eagle Reporter, Dick Lindsay came before the Board and extended his "thank you" to the LB Corporation, DPW Superintendent Alan Zerbato and CAO Christopher Ketchen for the work done on the upper side of Franklin Street. He said that they did a tremendous job on the sidewalks which was long overdue.

David Consolati gave a short statement regarding the "Rest of River". He stated that they (the Board) have been accused of a lot of untrue things and he wanted to set the record straight. (See copy of David's re-typed notes attached and made a part of these minutes).

Patty Carlino thanked the police and fire department for their contributions to "Trunk or Treat". She stated that approximately 300 kids came through. It was a great success, was done safely and the kids had fun. Officers Pleu and Hopkins dressed up which the kids thoroughly enjoyed.

7. Next Regular Meeting - The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

8. 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,
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

CHAIRMAN DAVID CONSOLATI'S NOTES FROM DECEMBER 3, 2020
TYPED BY CINDY BIGELOW FOR CLARITY

(ORIGINAL HANDWRITTEN NOTES IN MEETING FILE
OF NOVEMBER 3RD, 2020)

In 2016 – There was an open permit by EPA to clean the Housatonic River and portions of the floodplain. GE fought the decision about removal offsite. EAB agreed with GE about not removing materials off site.

In wake of decision, EPA granted “Rest of River” Towns to enter into confidential mediations because candid formal discussions were the only way to come to Agreement. Select Boards were told to keep mediation in non-public forums.

The removal of high intensity PCB's from Woods Pond to an offsite facility was only to if an upland facility to lesser concentration was agreed to.

GE required to remove sediment from 28 residential property – in Lenox

“Rest of River” Committee

Markey
Warren
Neal
Baker
Hinds
Bouvier