

APPROVED ON 8/17/21

Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING – August 3, 2021

The Chair, Patty Carlino called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Chair Patty Carlino, Sean Regnier and Bob Jones, Board of Selectmen.

Absent: Christopher Ketchen, CAO

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

2. **Public Hearings:** None.

Patty made a statement regarding the order of the meeting. She informed the public, that we are going to try something new and start with the Public Comments and limit each person to approximately 3 minutes, in order to limit the public comment section to one-half hour.

3. **Public Comments:** DeeDee Consolati came before the Board to discuss the Lee Sandy Beach. She has concerns about the limits set (shorter hours/shorter season). She reached out to Board member, Bob Jones and asked if he would agree to negotiate with Mr. Scheurer to see if he would be interested in a financial settlement and agreement. She would like to see more access to the beach and would like to see it go back to the way it was years ago.

Gordon Bailey came before the Board with a statement regarding a potential financial arrangement with Mr. Scheurer. He agreed that trying to negotiate with Mr. Scheurer is a good idea. Though he wanted to say that finances could be a problem. According to Mass General Law, any agreement without compensation renders the Scheurers not liable if someone were to get injured, so this could cause an issue and should be a topic of conversation.

Bill Mathews came before the Board stating that there would be 4 Lee Cultural Council signs on a foam overlay that will be placed over the Farmer's Market signs. His question is do they need a separate permit to do that. The Board members briefly discussed this with him and came to the conclusion that since it is an entirely different organization that he should apply for a Temporary Sign Permit for those overlay signs.

4. General Business:

- a) Temporary Signs - i. Lee Farmers Market (Michael P. & Kathleen H. DeVarennnes) – *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to grant (3) 10-day temporary sign permits for the Lee Farmers Market and if more time is needed for them to come back before the Board for another temporary permit.*
- ii) First Congregational Church (Craft Fair & Festival in the Park) - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to grant the temporary sign permit for the Craft Fair & Festival in the Park.*
- iii) Chamber of Commerce – Lee Founder’s Weekend - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to grant a temporary sign permit to Colleen Henry (Chamber of Commerce)*
- iv) Lucia’s Latin Kitchen (Lucia Corina Sandoval) – *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to grant a temporary sign permit to Lucia Corina Sandoval for Lucia’s Latin Kitchen.*
- b) Entertainment License - Lee Chamber of Commerce (Colleen Henry) - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously to grant a temporary sign permit to Lee Chamber of Commerce (Colleen Henry) for all activities associated with Founder’s Weekend.*
- c) Lucia Corina Sandoval – Lucia’s Latin Kitchen – Dance Classes - Lucia’s son came in her stead and as the Select Board asked him questions, he was unsure of some of the answers, so the Board informed him that we would put this off until the next meeting (August 17th) and to make sure that Lucia was present to answer any questions the Board may have.
- d) Lee Youth Commission – Kathy Hall came before the Board with an update from the LYC - All playground equipment has been ordered and some will be received by August 11th and others by early November. The bocce court will be repaired as soon as the weather permits and plans are being made to have tennis equipment and bocce sets available at the athletic field.

Contracts for market analysis and a financial feasibility study for a community center between the Town of Lee and BarryDunn have been signed and a schedule to begin this work is underway. Anyone interested in helping with this endeavor is welcome.

The Open Space and Recreation Plan update for 2022, members of each board and commission in the town should start to revisit the Open Space and Recreation Plan of 2015 to add new information to this document once a date has been set by the Select Board to begin this process with Berkshire Regional Planning as has been done in the past.

- e) Berkshire Gas Permit – 20 Joseph Avenue – install new gas service - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Board members voted unanimously to grant (nunc pro tunc) a permit to Berkshire Gas for the installation of new gas service at 20 Joseph Avenue.*
- f) St. Mary's Parish – Waiver of annual inspection fee - *Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to waive the annual inspection fee for St. Mary's Parish as they have done in the past.*
- g) Discussion of intermunicipal agreement for shared Chief Administrative Officer and h) Discussion of Town Administrator Search Process - The Chair, Patty Carlino informed everyone that our CAO Christopher Ketchen is leaving the shared services Administrator position. He has given his 30-day notice and his last day will be September 26th. Patty offered that because Lee is a fairly big town, it just didn't work anymore. We will surely miss Chris and his financial skills. We are working on a strategic plan.

Board member, Bob Jones stated that he was and has been opposed to a shared Administration; though the loss of Chris will definitely be felt.

Board member, Sean Regnier commented that Chris did an admirable job as a shared administrator for the last four years and exceeded our expectations. He admitted, though, that he questioned the shared role and its plusses and minuses. Now we have to figure out how to go forward with the probability of bringing someone in on an interim basis until we find a more permanent person. Sean agreed with Patty, "we will certainly miss his "financial brain". There is a lot going on in Lee and we need to find someone solely committed. There is a lot of work ahead and we need to explore all possibilities. Chris has agreed to help in the transition process.

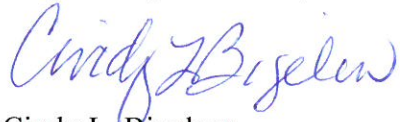
- i) Appointment to DPW Board - At the recommendation of DPW Superintendent, Alan Zerbato, *upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to support the recommendation of Gary O'Brien to be appointed to the Board of Public Works.*
Gary brings experience and knowledge of highway equipment, road maintenance, along with day-to-day activities. Welcome aboard, Gary!

Patty wanted to inform everyone that there may be another mask mandate in the near future so if you are coming to a meeting, please be prepared and come with a mask in hand. At some point we may have to revert back to ZOOM meetings. We'll have to wait and see how it all plays out.

5. **Next Regular Meeting:** – Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

6. **Motion to adjourn:** Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 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