

**SELECTBOARD'S MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2018
7:00 PM – REGULAR SESSION
TOWN HALL, 334 MAIN STREET**

PRESENT:

**Sean Stanton
Steve Bannon
Dan Bailly
Ed Abrahams
Bill Cooke**

Town Manager- Jennifer Tabakin

7:00 PM - OPEN MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Sean Stanton called the meeting to order at 7:10PM

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 12, 2018 Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Steve Bannon motioned to approve the February 12, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

3. SELECTBOARD'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:

A. General Comments by the Board

Bill Cooke said that the Great Barrington Housing Trust has establishment a down payment program and residents are encouraged to take advantage of the service. Mr. Cooke asked the Town Manager to send out a public announcement regarding the new program. Ed Abrahams announced that Academy Award winner, Bobby Houston, also a resident of Great Barrington is hosting a free screening of his film "The Children's March" at the Mahaiwe Theater on March 14, 2018. The Great Barrington Land Conservancy has organized a march for science on April 14, 2018 from 1:00PM- 3:00PM. Christine Ward thanked the Town for the opportunity to host the 2nd annual March for Science downtown.

Motion: Steve Bannon moved to proclaim April 14, 2018 as the date Great Barrington will recognize and participate in the International March for Science.

Second: Dan Bailly

Vote: 5-0

Ed Abrahams announced that the Complete Streets Task force has developed a survey to gain a better understanding of the critical areas around Town that would benefit from Department of Transportation funds, facilitating through Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. Mr.

Abrahams said that Town Manager evaluation worksheets will be distributed to all Selectboard members by mid April. Mr. Abrahams said his ideal timeline would be to have the evaluation finalized in May while Sean Stanton (and possibly Bill Cooke) is still on the Selectboard. Dan Bailly asked to keep goal setting in mind for a June 2018 meeting.

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

A. Department Updates.

Jennifer Tabakin said that the FY19 Budget Books have been printed. The budget books are up on the Town's website and there will be hard copies in the Town Hall and Libraries.

B. Project Updates.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Selectboard sitting as Sewer Commissioners to set Wastewater Impact Fees (Facility Connection Charge) based on: \$15/gallon per day (GPD) of Stated Title-5 flow rates for all construction to be connected to the Town sewer system: a Charge of \$7.50/GPD for any redevelopment and/or change in use of any properties, that result in an increase of flow to Title-5 flow rates, which were previously connected to the Town sewer system; and an increase the septic disposal fee of ten (10%) per cent from \$100 per thousand gallons to \$110 per thousand gallons. A copy of the fee schedule is on file in the office and Town Clerk. (Discussion/Vote)

MOTION: Steve Bannon motioned to convene as the Sewer Commissioner

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

a. Open Public Hearing

MOTION: Steve Bannon motioned to open the Public Hearing

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

b. Explanation of Project

Department of Public Works Superintendent, Sean Van Deusen said Great Barrington is an outlier in Southern Berkshire County, stating "we are the only one of our neighbors that does not charge any sewer hook-up fees." Mr. Van Deusen said that any home owner or business wishing to upgrade the gallons per day flow rate or add onto an existing structure will only be charged half of what a new business or home would be charged. Mr. Van Deusen said the proposed rate changes will take effect January 1, 2019, with the Selectboard's endorsement. Mr. Van Deusen suggested that the Selectboard might want to consider a "sunset clause," this would allow projects that are already permitted to be grandfathered in after the January 1, 2019 effective date. Mr. Van Deusen said this will save those permitted projects from getting charged an expensive and unexpected fee. Sean Stanton said a concern of his was to not discourage residents from hooking up to the public sewer system if they have the capability to do so. Mr. Van Deusen said that the average cost of a new septic system installation is still less expensive than what the hook up charge will be for new construction.

c. Speak in Favor/Opposition

d. Motion to Close Public Hearing

MOTION: Steve Bannon motioned to close the public hearing.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

e. Motion re: Findings

f. Motion re: Approval/Denial/Table

MOTION: Steve Bannon motioned that as of April 1, 2018 to increase the septic disposal fees 10%, \$110.00 per every thousand gallons.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION: Steve Bannon motioned to set the Wastewater Impact Fees, effective January 1, 2019, to \$15/gallon per day (GPD), Title-5 flow rates for all construction to be connected to the Town sewer system: a Charge of \$7.50/GPD for any redevelopment and/or change in use of any properties, that result in an increase of flow to Title-5 flow rates, which were previously connected

to the Town sewer system. Any Buildings Permit or Special Permit that has been approved prior to January 1, 2019 for future growth will not be charged the hook-up fees.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

6. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

- A. Pat Hollenbeck/Board of Library Trustees for One Day Beer and Wine Liquor License for May 5, 2018 from 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm at Mason Library, 231 Main Street
(Discussion/Vote)

Ed Abrahams said that Library Trustees would like to continue film viewing series into May, 2018.

MOTION: Steve Bannon moved to approve.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Randy Weinstein/WEB DuBois Center – Update on the 150 celebration.

Mr. Weinstein said he would like to keep the conversation of WEB DuBois going and would like opinions from the Selectboard on how to continue the recognition of Great Barrington's Native Son. Gwendolyn Van Sant said she would also like the celebration of WEB DuBois to continue and asked the Selectboard for their blessing in celebrating DuBois annually.

Ms. Van Sant said they are looking into the possibility of renaming the Middle School after DuBois and incorporating education about DuBois into the Berkshire Hills curriculum. Ms. Van Sant asked for the Selectboard to endorse the WEB DuBois Committee remaining an active community committee. Ed Abrahams said they would like need to comply with open meeting laws if endorsed or appointed by the Selectboard and they, as a board should look into that. Sean Stanton suggested renaming Bridge Street after DuBois.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. SB – Recommendation to the ZBA on the appeal of Marc Fasteau, Anne Fredericks and Joe Krummel of the Zoning Enforcement Officer's response to a request to enforce the Great Barrington Zoning Bylaw regarding the Great Barrington Airport at 70 Egremont Plain Road, specifically regarding installation of a new underground fuel storage tank.
(Discussion/Vote)

MOTION: Steve Bannon moved to support the Zoning Officer's response to enforce the Great Barrington Zoning Bylaws.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

Ed Abrahams said that the temporary fueling trucks are still outside the Airport's building. Mr. Abrahams said this has been going on temporarily since October without the Airport coming before the Selectboard to address a plan for the trucks or installing the underground tanks. Mr. Abrahams said he would like to know what the Selectboard's plan is for enforcing our bylaw that requires the Airport to come before the Selectboard.

- B. SB – to support Berkshire Regional Planning Commission in seeking the designation of Berkshire County as an Economic Development District (EDD). (Discussion/Vote)

Chris Rembold, Town Planner said that Berkshire County is one of the only regions in the State to not have an EDD designation. Mr. Rembold said this designation would allow the Town of Great Barrington the opportunity to receive certain federal grant funds.

MOTION: Steve Bannon moved to support BRPC in seeking the designation of an Economic Development District.

SECOND: Dan Bailly

VOTE: 5-0

C. SB – Review of the 2018 Warrant Articles. (Discussion)
The Selectboard agreed to have an additional meeting on April 2nd, 2018 to address the Marijuana Retail Sales Moratorium.

9. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:

Eddy Sporn, a West Stockbridge resident. Mr. Sporn said that over the last year he has been working closely with Senator Adam Hinds in getting a new commuter railway into Berkshire County. The railroad would be a direct passage to and from New York City. Mr. Sporn said that Massachusetts published the recommendation that a pilot program begin in the summer of 2019 to assess what kinds of resources are needed to establish this commuter rail connection. Mr. Sporn said according to Amtrak's projections 65 people will need to book round trip tickets per weekend to make this commuter rail economically viable. An estimated cost will be about \$45.00 for a one way ticket. The trip will be about 3hours one way. Mr. Sporn said that this rail will utilize all exiting rail roads.

Donna Norman, is considering moving through the application process for a recreational marijuana retail location in Great Barrington. Ms. Norman's proposed business is called Calyx Berkshire Dispensary. Ms. Norman said that municipalities can expect annual revenue of \$150,000 from marijuana retail sales. Ms. Norman requested that the Selectboard include her application on a future agenda to discuss her proposal in greater detail.

David Magadini, 334 Main Street, asked the Selectboard if they amended Article 24 and Article 25. The Selectboard said the articles were going on the Town Meeting Warrant as written in the petition.

10. SELECTBOARD'S TIME:

Dan Bailly asked for an update on the progress of the Housatonic School project at an upcoming meeting.

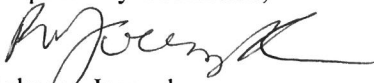
11. MEDIA TIME:

Eileen Mooney, The Newsletter. Ms. Mooney asked for an update on the Fire Department's Study RFP. Jennifer Tabakin said that she can prepare an update for the next Selectboard meeting, April 9, 2018.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Steve Bannon moved to adjourn the Selectboard regular meeting at 8:45PM, seconded by Dan Bailly, with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,


Rebecca Jurczyk
Recording Secretary