

Selectboard Meeting Minutes  
Monday, November 18, 2019  
Claire Teague Senior Center  
917 Main Street

1. Call to Order: S. Bannon called meeting to order at 6 pm. Those present where S. Bannon, Chairman, E. Abrahams, B. Cooke, K. Burke, L. Davis, and M. Pruhenski, Town Manager.
2. Approval of Minutes:
  - November 8, 2019: Special Meeting
  - E. Abrahams made a motion to approve, B. Cooke second; Vote B. Cooke , K. Burke, and S. Bannon approved; L. Davis and E. Abrahams were not present at the meeting, recused.
3. Selectboard Announcement /Statements:
  - A. General comments by the Board:
    - L. Davis, announcement her resignation from the Economic Development Committee (EDC) as a Selectboard member. Has appreciated the opportunity to work with S. Picheny, and learn about the village of Housatonic.
    - K. Burke, wants to know if it would be possible to meet with a DOT representative, to talk over the bridge closings/repairs, and the possible traffic complications.
    - S. Bannon, thanked L. Davis for her work on the EDC. Asked the Board if someone would be willing to take L. Davis' place on Committee as a Selectboard member.
    - E. Abrahams, volunteered to fill the vacancy on the EDC.
4. Town Manager Report:

Mr. Pruhenski had nothing to report.
5. Public Hearings:
  - A. Request to continue to January 13, 2020, the September 9, 2019, September 23, 2019, October 21, 2019, and November 18, 2019, Special Permit application from Fulcrum Enterprises, LLC, for a Marijuana Cultivation and Manufacturing Establishment in an Industrial Zone, at 22 Van Deusenville Road, Great Barrington, in accordance with Section 3.14 C (13), 7.18 and 10.4 of the Great Barrington Zoning Bylaws.
  - E. Abrahams made motion, to continue the public hearing on the special permit application of Fulcrum Enterprises LLC for a Marijuana Cultivation and Manufacturing Establishment in an industrial zone at 22 Van Deusenville Road to Meeting on January

13, 2020, to be held at Claire Teague Senior Center, 917 Main Street, Great Barrington, at 6 pm.; B. Cooke, second, All in Favor (5 - 0).

6. Licenses and Permits:

- A. K. Kanter and M. de St. Andre / Great Barrington Arts Market for a One Day Beer and Wine Liquor License for December 21, 2019 from 5 -7 pm., at the Saint James Place, for Delightful and Delectable Holiday Market.

E. Abrahams, made motion to approve, B. Cooke, second, (3 - 0); L. Davis recused self - on St. James Place Board, K. Burke, recused, Farmer's Market manager.

- B. Jason Smith / Elizabeth Collins, for Driveway Permit Application, at 50 West Plain Road.

E. Abrahams made motion to approve, B. Cooke, second, All in Favor.

7. Old Business:

B. Continuation of Selectboard Policies and Procedures:

- ~ E. Abrahams read, page 2, II., Selectboard Responsibilities:

- Discussion/vote:

- ~ L. Davis, wants to know why Selectboard is doing this? (documentation)
- ~ K. Burke sad to have one document to work from together.
- ~ S. Bannon said other towns in Commonwealth use.
- ~ L. Davis asked if the Board needs this now.
- ~ S. Bannon said this process started a long time ago.
- ~ L. Davis, feels like an overreach, should be all media, radio shows...
- ~ S. Bannon, not aimed at any one person.
- ~ E. Abrahams said it helps to know what is expected.
- ~ S. Bannon said can decide after May Meeting.

- E. Abrahams, made motion to accept (E), as it has been changed, B. Cooke second, (4-1), L. Davis, no.

- ~ E. Abrahams read page 2, II.,g.;

- L. Davis made motion to " or will be scheduled..." to be out, B. Cooke, second, All in Favor, (5 -0).

- ~ E. Abrahams read page 6;

- K. Burke made motion to take out second paragraph completely, L. Davis, second; 3 - 2, (S. Bannon and E. Abrahams, no.)

E. Abrahams read, 2nd paragraph, on page 7.

- ~ L. Davis, fees like a violation of free speech.
- ~ K. Burke, " discouraged", doesn't mean " can't do, not recommended....

~L. Davis made motion to " strike" whole paragraph, B. Cooke second, All in Favor, (5 - 0).

~S. Bannon, made recommendation for K. Burke and L. Davis to rework the paragraph.

~E. Abrahams, read page 8, XIV:

E. Abrahams made motion to take out "social media", B. Cooke, second, All in Favor. (5 - 0).

~ L. Davis, wants to "strike" B, page 9, XV. L. Davis made motion to "strike" B, B. Cooke, second, All in Favor, (5 - 0).

#### 8. New Business:

A. Selectboard - to Extend the Brownsfield Tax Abatement Agreement between the Town and Community Development Corporation (CDC) of South Berkshire for 100 Bridge Street. (Discussion / vote):

~ Assistant Town Manager, spoke on the CDC's project at 100 Bridge Street; that the property had fallen into arrears, in the amount of One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.), the town held property. In 2011, the Brownsfield Tax Abatement Agreement, pardoned the taxes in arrears. The property is currently undergoing remediation, and the agreement is about to expire. CDC would like to be extend more time to complete the project.

~ E. Abrahams made motion to extend the Brownsfield Tax Abatement Agreement, to CDC, to September 2020, B. Cooke, second, All in Favor, (5 - 0).

B. Housing Sub Committee - Community Preservation Act (CPA) grants for housing.

- Recommendation to Community Preservation Committee (CPC)
- Discussion / vote:

K. Burke made motion to accept the recommendation of the Housing Sub Committee to CPC, B. Cooke, second, 4 -0; 1 recused - L. Davis.

C. Selectboard Review CPA for Housatonic School Roof Project.

- Discussion / vote:
- S. Farina, spoke to using the 3 hundred thousand dollars, set aside for roof, to repair roof and use the money leftover for remediation of hazardous materials.
- D. Stevenson, repairs to roof are a priority, first step to seal building.
- B. Cooke asked if the building needs to be repaired now?
- K. Burke asked if the reserved money was for only roof and windows?
- K. Burke, yes, fix roof, if keeping the building.
- L. Davis wants to see overall strategy for building.
- M. Pruhenski, money is allocated and available. There isn't a contractor or carpenter to do the work to tarp roof.
- C. Rembold said it could wait until December 9, 2019 meeting to decide what to do with the roof. The building is a Town property, Town's responsible to take care of it.

D. Selectboard Discussion of Marijuana License Limits:

- K. Burke feels that Board has been avoiding this issue, on retail.
- E. Abrahams said we were asked by Town Meeting to consider limits. The discussion is needed.
- L. Davis, retail Marijuana needs to be out of the Downtown area.
- Planning Board on December 9th, is talking about the downtown area.

9. Citizen Speak:

~ S. Farina, 80 Railroad Street, do you know the actual cost of the plastic water bottle ban in Town? Does the Board listen to the citizens of the Town? What is the competency of Town's Attorney?

10. Selectboard Time: no comment.

11. Media Time: no comment

12. On a motion made by E. Abrahams, seconded by B. Cooke, the meeting adjourned at 7 pm.

Next meeting is November 25, 2019, Special Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Jamie Minacci  
Recording secretary