



## TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

December 21, 2020 Regular Selectboard Meeting via Zoom

### 1. CALL TO ORDER SELECTBOARD AND GB HOUSING AUTHORITY JOINT MEETING

Chairman Bannon opened the joint meeting of the Selectboard and the Great Barrington Housing Authority at 6:00 pm, those “present” via zoom: Ed Abrahams, Mary Pat Aker, Kate Burke, Leigh Davis, Bill Cooke, James Mercer, Eileen Mooney, Marie Ryan, and Town Manager, Mark Pruhenski.

#### a. Appointment of member to the GB Housing Authority.

A roll call vote was preformed to appoint a new member to the Great Barrington Housing Authority; M. P. Akers, “Koloski”; J. Mercer, “Koloski”; E. Mooney, “Goldberg”; M. Ryan, “Koloski”; E. Abrahams, “Goldberg”; S. Bannon, “Goldberg”; K. Burke, “Koloski”; B. Cooke, “Koloski”; L. Davis, “abstain”; All in Favor of Koloski, 5; All in Favor of Goldman, 3. The motion to appoint Marlene Koloski to the Great Barrington Housing Authority has passed, 5-3.

#### b. Citizen Speak

#### c. Adjournment of Joint Meeting

### 2. CALL TO ORDER SELECTBOARD REGUALR MEETING

Chairman Bannon opened the meeting at 6:14 pm, those “present” via zoom: Ed Abrahams, Kate Burke, Leigh Davis, Bill Cooke, and Town Manager, Mark Pruhenski.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### a. July 27, 2020

- i. B. Cooke made one correction—Part 5. Section E, the accessor should read “S. McHugh”, not “S. Hugh”.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2020 meeting as amended; L. Davis seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, “aye”; S. Bannon, “aye”; K. Burke, “aye”; B. Cooke, “aye”; and L. Davis, “aye”; All in Favor, 5-0.

### 4. SELECTBOARD’S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS

#### a. Chief Walsh- Retirement

- i. On behalf of the Selectboard, employees, and citizens of Great Barrington, S. Bannon congratulated Chief Walsh on his impending retirement. S. Bannon read statements from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts House of Representatives and Governor Charles Baker/Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito.
- ii. Chief William Walsh spoke to thank his family, the Town of Great Barrington, and his fellow officers.

#### b. L. Davis asked if there was a way to put cones on Lake Mansfield when the ice is dangerous. S. Bannon thinks that caution signs should be put up.

#### c. K. Burke thanked the Rotary, Town DPW, and the businesses for decorating the town this holiday season. K. Burke also thanked the town employees for the snow removal and salting.

## 5. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. HWW Updates
  - i. HWW replied to the letter dated November 24<sup>th</sup> from the Department of Public Utilities. This response can be found on the Selectboard's page on the Town of GB's website.
- b. Police Chief Search updates and Transition Plans
  - i. The town is looking to fill the upcoming Chief of Police vacancy; seven-member committee has presented a list of finalists. M. Pruhenski is working to notify applicants and schedule interviews for January. Paul Storti will be interim chief, effective Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Community Impact Funding updates
  - i. Five-member committee has been reviewing applications, 5 awards totaling \$185,000 will be granted to local non-profit organizations.
    1. Berkshire Hills Regional School District - \$80,000
    2. Railroad Street Youth project - \$50,000
    3. Berkshire South - \$25,000
    4. Volunteers in Medicine - \$20,000
    5. Construct - \$10,000
- d. Town-wide municipal phone system updates
  - i. This upgrade will enhance current municipal phone system that currently experiences many technical difficulties.

## 6. LICENSES AND PERMITS

- a. Ruby Chang & Ron Wojcik for a driveway permit for 251-253 Long Pond Road.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the driveway permit for 251-253 Long Pond Road; B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.
- b. Jane Bronson for a driveway permit for 305 North Plain Road.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the driveway permit for 305 North Plain Road; B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.
- c. Selectboard License Fees
  - i. On December 15<sup>th</sup>, the Finance Committee reviewed the recommendation of discounting 14 categories of permits by 50%, or approximately \$21,000 in revenue. The Finance Committee unanimously supported this recommendation.
  - ii. K. Burke feels that the board should consider discounting the licenses by 100% due to the pandemic. S. Bannon stated that that may a good idea, but that the citizens of GB may not be able to take on the addition tax burden. Anne O'Dwyer of the Finance Committee stated that the committee believed that a 50% discount was a reasonable compromise.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the recommendation of the discounted Selectboard License Fees; L. Davis seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "no"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; Motion Passes, 4-1.
- d. 2021 License Renewals (as per attached list)

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following on premise, all alcoholic licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

  - The Barrington
  - 20 Railroad Public House

- Aegean Breeze
- Agave Mexican Grill
- Aroma Bar & Grill
- Baba Louie's
- Bizen
- Brick House
- Café Adam
- Cove Bowling & Entertainment
- Crissey Farm
- The East
- Fiddleheads Grille
- Fiesta Bar & Grill
- Four Brothers Pizza Inn
- \*Fuel\*
- GB Eats
- Butternut
- Koi
- \*Manhattan Pizza\*
- Market Place Kitchen Table
- Miller's Pub
- \*Mooncloud\*
- Number Ten
- Prairie Whale
- Rubiner's Café
- Tangier Café
- Thornewood Inn
- Triplex Cinema
- \*VFW, James Modolo Post #8348\*
- The Well
- Xicohtencatl

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following on premise, beer and wine licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- Barrington Brewery
- Bizational's
- Great Barrington Pizza House
- Naji's
- Siam Square
- Mahaiwe

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following off premise, all alcoholic licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- Aberdale's
- Big Y/Table and Vine
- Domaney's
- Gorham & Norton
- Guido's
- Plaza Package
- Trotta's

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following off premise, beer and wine licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- Berkshire Coop Market
- Rubiner's Cheese Mongers

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following common victualler licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- 20 Railroad Public House
- Aberdale's
- Aegean Breeze
- Agave
- Aroma Bar & Grill
- Baba Louie's
- Bard College at Simon's Rock
- Barrington Brewery
- The Barrington
- Berkshire Coop Market
- Big Y
- Bistro Box

- Bizalion's
- Bizen
- Bogies
- Brick House
- Butternut
- Café Adam
- Cove
- Crissey Farm
- \*Cumberland Farms\*
- Dunkin Donuts
- The East
- \*Elixir\*
- Extra Special Teas
- \*Fairfield Inn & Suites\*
- \*Fairview Hospital\*
- Farm Country Soup
- Fiddleheads Grille
- Fiesta Bar and Grill
- Four Brothers
- \*Fuel\*
- GB Eats
- Gorham & Norton
- Granville House
- \*Great Barrington Bagel\*
- Great Barrington Pizza House
- Great Barrington Sunoco
- Great Wall
- Guido's
- Holiday Inn Express
- Koi
- Lipton Mart #606
- Mahaiwe

- \*Manhattan Pizza\*
- \*Marjoram & Roux\*
- Market Place Kitchen Table
- McDonald's
- Miller's Pub
- \*Mooncloud\*
- Naji's
- Number Ten
- \*Patisserie\*
- Pleasant & Main
- Prairie Whale
- Price Chopper
- Rio Café
- Rubiner's Café
- Shiro
- Siam Square
- \*Soco Creamery\*
- South Main Xtra Mart
- Steam Noodle
- Subway/B&G Restaurant
- Sweetish Baker
- Taft Farms
- Tangier M-S
- Taqueria Azteca
- Thornewood Inn
- Triplex Cinema
- \*VFW, James Modolo Post #8348\*
- \*Vivaldi's\*
- The Well
- Windflower Inn
- Wyantenuck
- Xicohtencatl

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "recused"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; Motion Passed, 4-1.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following weekday entertainment licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *Bard College at Simon's Rock*</li> <li>• Berkshire Coop Market</li> <li>• *Berkshire South*</li> <li>• Bogies Restaurant</li> <li>• Brick House Pub</li> <li>• Crissey Farm</li> <li>• Fiesta Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>• *Guthrie Center*</li> <li>• Mahaiwe</li> <li>• Naji's</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number Ten</li> <li>• Saint James Place</li> <li>• Tangier Café</li> <li>• Thornewood Inn</li> <li>• Triplex Cinema</li> <li>• Unitarian Universalist</li> <li>• *VFW, James Modolo Post #8348*</li> <li>• Wyantenuck Country Club</li> <li>• Xicohtencatl</li> </ul> |
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B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following Sunday entertainment licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- \*Bard College at Simon's Rock\*
- \*Berkshire South Regional Community Center\*
- Bogies Restaurant
- Fiesta Bar & Grill
- Guthrie Center
- Mahaiwe Performing Arts
- Thornewood Inn
- Triplex Cinema
- \*VFW, James Modolo Post #8348\*

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following innholder licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- The Barrington
- Briarcliff Motel
- \*Days Inn\*
- Fairfield Inn & Suites
- Holiday Inn Express
- Lantern House Motel
- Mountain View Motel
- Monument Mountain Motel
- Thornewood Inn
- Travelodge
- Wind in the Pines
- Windflower Inn.

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following lodging licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- Wainwright Inn

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following coin operated amusement licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- Bogies
- Cove
- Barrington Brewery

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following class II auto licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- AllStar Auto Salvage
- 7&23 Auto Moto Sales
- David Dempsey
- Decker's Auto Body
- Fastback Motors
- JD Automotive Inc.
- JW Auto
- Johnny's Garage
- Larkin LTD

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, "aye"; S. Bannon, "aye"; K. Burke, "aye"; B. Cooke, "aye"; and L. Davis, "aye"; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following class III auto licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- AllStar Auto Salvage
- Decker's Auto Body
- John's Auto

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, “aye”; S. Bannon, “aye”; K. Burke, “aye”; B. Cooke, “aye”; and L. Davis, “aye”; All in Favor, 5-0.

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the following motion picture licenses, assuming that their hours of operation remain the same and subject to the submission of all documentation;

- Mahaiwe Performing Arts
- Triplex Cinema

B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, “aye”; S. Bannon, “aye”; K. Burke, “aye”; B. Cooke, “aye”; and L. Davis, “aye”; All in Favor, 5-0.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### a. Building Permit Fee Schedule- fee adjustment-Ed May

E. Abrahams made a motion to strike the Penalty Clause from the Building Permit Fee Schedule; B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, “aye”; S. Bannon, “aye”; K. Burke, “aye”; B. Cooke, “aye”; and L. Davis, “aye”; All in Favor, 5-0.

### b. Selectboard Special Permit Fee Schedule

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the recommendation to increase the Special Permit Fee from \$150 to \$300, effective immediately; B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, “aye”; S. Bannon, “aye”; K. Burke, “aye”; B. Cooke, “aye”; and L. Davis, “aye”; All in Favor, 5-0.

### c. Acceptance of donation of park/playground equipment at Lake Mansfield from Susan and Judd Shoval.

E. Abrahams made a motion to accept the Lake Mansfield park/playground equipment donation from Susan and Judd Shoval; B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, “aye”; S. Bannon, “aye”; K. Burke, “aye”; B. Cooke, “aye”; and L. Davis, “aye”; All in Favor, 5-0.

### d. David Gasser, Program Manager, Citizens Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA):

#### i. Request for a Waiver of the Town’s Right of First Refusal on property at 6 Emily Court (part of Blue Hill Commons Chapter 40B/Affordable Housing), allowing seller and CHAPA to work to find an eligible buyer.

E. Abrahams made a motion to waive the Town’s Right of First Refusal on property located at 6 Emily Court; B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, “aye”; S. Bannon, “aye”; K. Burke, “aye”; B. Cooke, “aye”; and L. Davis, “aye”; All in Favor, 5-0.

#### ii. Request to apply a new Universal Deed Rider to all the 40B/Affordable Housing Units at Blue Hill Commons.

E. Abrahams made a motion to authorize CHAPA to apply new Universal Deed Rider to all the 40B/Affordable Housing Units at Blue Hill Commons; B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, “aye”; S. Bannon, “aye”; K. Burke, “aye”; B. Cooke, “aye”; and L. Davis, “aye”; All in Favor, 5-0.

### e. Economic Development Committee – Recommendation from the EDC to disband the committee.

E. Abrahams made a motion to disband the Economic Development Committee per EDC’s recommendation; B. Cooke seconded; Roll Call Vote; E. Abrahams, “aye”; S. Bannon, “aye”; K. Burke, “aye”; B. Cooke, “aye”; and L. Davis, “aye”; All in Favor, 5-0.

### f. Proposed meeting schedule for FY22 budget season

#### i. The proposed meeting schedule is acceptable for the Selectboard, but a 6:00 PM meeting time is preferred.

8. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME

9. SELECTBOARD'S TIME

a. The meeting had 31 attendees and 6 panelists present.

10. MEDIA TIME

11. ADJOURNMENT Chairman Bannon adjourned meeting by unanimous consent at 7:08 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Brooke M. Morehouse*  
*Recording Clerk*