

Selectboard Regular Meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, June 14, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING - Chairman Bannon opened the meeting at 6:00pm; those present via zoom: Ed Abrahams, Eric Gabriel, Garfield Reed. Town Manager Mark Pruhenski; Town Accountant Sue Carmel.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3. SELECTBOARD'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS

4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. Housatonic Water Works – M. Pruhenski provided a status update stating that the two engineering companies are assessing current and future capital needs and operational costs for HWW. The assessment is being conducted to gather comprehensive information and recommendations to allow the Selectboard to make informed decisions. He expects a presentation of findings in the June/July timeframe.
- b. Community Compact Grant–Shared HR – M. Pruhenski reported that the state has approved a grant for salary/benefits for a shared full-time Human Resources Director for Great Barrington and several neighboring towns. Job to be posted ASAP.
- c. Welcome new Treasurer/Collector – Alicia Dulin was not able to attend – item moved to next meeting agenda.
- d. Board/Committee Meetings (Resume in-person meetings/Hybrid model/etc.) – M. Pruhenski stated there was no final status update as the state legislature has not reached consensus on extending relief provisions. When the state of emergency expires, technically, in-person meetings are to resume. He stated there should be an update soon, but the Selectboard should prepare for in-person/hybrid meetings to resume on June 21.
 - i. S. Bannon recommended the hybrid format continue with Selectboard members meeting in person and the public participating virtually since the format has improved resident attendance. He stated a quorum of the Selectboard must meet in the Selectboard meeting room and use the Owl conference camera. He asked if the Selectboard was ok with that proposal and to meet at 6pm go forward – all were in agreement. S. Bannon also noted that if the old law goes into effect, Selectboard members will need to state a reason to participate virtually.
- e. Add on item: M. Pruhenski stated Main Street, Housatonic would be paved next week where there had been a water main break. Exact timing for the work will be announced on CodeRED.
- f. M. Pruhenski recognized and thanked by name those individuals who helped on Memorial Day set-up and enhancements for outside dining. He expressed appreciation for their efforts and responsiveness in addition to their daily responsibilities.
 - i. The Selectboard thanked M. Pruhenski for his great work in the planning and coordination of these efforts.

5. LICENSES AND PERMITS

- a. Marie Langway for a Driveway Permit at 84 Christian Hill Road.
- E. Abrahams made a motion to approve; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

Approved on January 31st, 2022

- b. Terry Chamberland/Great Barrington Fire Fighters Association for a Temporary Weekday Entertainment License for the 2021 Annual Car Show on Thursday August 5 from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

- c. George Laye/Guthrie Center for an Annual Weekday Entertainment License at the Guthrie Center, 2 Van Deusenville Road

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

- d. George Laye/ George Laye/Guthrie Center for an Annual Sunday Entertainment License at the Guthrie Center, 2 Van Deusenville Road

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

- e. George Laye/Guthrie Center for 6-one day Beer and Wine Licenses for July 16; July 24; July 25; August 20; September 2; and September 3 at the Guthrie Center, 2 Van Deusenville Road

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

- f. Joanna & Richard Rothbard/American Art Marketing for a Temporary Weekday Entertainment License for Friday July 2, and Saturday July 3rd from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

- g. Joanna & Richard Rothbard/American Art Marketing for a Temporary Sunday Entertainment License for Sunday July 4 from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

- h. Jackie Harvey/Butternut Basin Inc. for 3-one day Beer & Wine License for July 2, 3 and July 4 from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

- i. Michael Wainwright/Michael Wainwright for a one day Entertainment License for July 3, 2021 at 964 Main Street from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

E. Abrahams made a motion to open the Public Hearing; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

a. Jeff Caminiti/20 Public House for change of Manager

i. S. Bannon asked if the applicant was in attendance, there was no reply. S. Bannon stated the applicant should be here.

E. Abrahams made a motion to table the application until June 21; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Housatonic Improvement Committee Updates – M. Pruhenski stated this should be moved to the next meeting.

b. Approve the sale of Bond Anticipation Note – S. Bannon stated:

I, the Chair of the Selectboard of the Town of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, certify that at a meeting of the board held June 14, 2021, of which meeting all members of the board were duly notified and at which a quorum was present, the following votes were unanimously passed, all of which appear upon the official record of the board:

Voted: to approve the sale of \$3,184,550 2.00 percent General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (the “Notes”) of the Town dated June 22, 2021, and payable November 18, 2021, to Piper Sandler & Co. at par and accrued interest, if any, plus a premium of \$22,387.39.

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Notes, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated June 2, 2021, and a final Official Statement dated June 9, 2021, each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the Town Treasurer and the Selectboard be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a significant events disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the Town, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Notes for the benefit of the holders of the Notes from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the Town Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures and continuing disclosure procedures in such forms as the Town Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Notes and to comply with relevant securities laws.

Further Voted: that each member of the Selectboard, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

I further certify that the votes were taken at a meeting open to the public, that no vote was taken by secret ballot, that a notice stating the place, date, time and agenda for the meeting (which agenda included the adoption of the above votes) was filed with the Town Clerk and a copy thereof posted in a manner conspicuously visible to the public at all hours in or on the municipal building that the office of the Town Clerk is located or, if applicable, in accordance with an alternative method of notice prescribed or approved by the Attorney General as set forth in 940 CMR 29.03(2)(b) at least 48 hours, not including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, prior to the time of the meeting and remained so posted at the time of the meeting, that no deliberations or decision in connection with the sale of the Notes were taken in executive session, all in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §§18-25 as amended, further amended, suspended, supplemented, or modified by the Executive Order of the Governor of The Commonwealth of

Massachusetts Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 30A, §20 dated March 12, 2020. Dated: June 14, 2021

E. Abrahams made a motion to approve the note sale as read by the Chair; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

c. Lift State of Emergency Declaration from March 23, 2020

E. Abrahams made a motion that the Selectboard vote to end the State of Emergency declared on March 23, 2020 related to COVID-19, effective at 12:01am on June 15, 2021, the time at which the State of Emergency declared by the Governor on March 10, 2020 will end, as set forth in the Governor’s Order of May 28, 2021, COVID-19 order #69; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: E. Abrahams, “aye,” S. Bannon, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor, 4-0.

ii. S. Bannon stated at least three board members would now need to sign warrants in person.

8. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME

9. SELECTBOARD’S TIME

- a. E. Abrahams acknowledged and thanked M. Pruhenski for convening an emergency group key leaders to meet regularly and collaboratively respond to COVID-19 challenges. S. Bannon agreed and added this is no playbook in GB for doing this. Town staff did an excellent job.
- b. G Reed stated that Housatonic residents raised concern about mowing at the Ramsdell Library and flower boxes at the Bridge in Housatonic – though boxes were maintained in GB. S. Bannon responded that the Town was a bit behind on mowing as staff was diverted to other pressing projects – it would be tended to next week. The flower boxes in GB were a private effort not the Town’s. G. Reed further stated that residents had asked about why there were tar sidewalks in Housatonic. S. Bannon replied that Sean VanDeusen would be asked for information. G. Reed asked about filling an open spot on BRTA/Transportation Committee. M. Pruhenski replied it does not have to be filled by a Selectboard member.

10. MEDIA TIME

11. ADJOURNMENT - Chairman Bannon adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 6:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow
Recording Clerk