

Mark Pruhenski
Town Manager

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TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

SELECTBOARD'S MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

5:30 PM - REGULAR SESSION

917 MAIN STREET, CLAIRE TEAGUE SENIOR CENTER

ORDER OF AGENDA

5:30 PM - OPEN MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER:

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Continuation of September 16, 2019 **Fiscal 2020 Tax Classification Hearing**

- a. Explanation of Project by Assessor and Finance Director
- b. Speak in Favor/Opposition
- c. Motion to Close Public Hearing
- d. Motion re: Findings
- e. Motion re: Approval/Denial/Table

3. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Recommendation from W.E.B. DuBois Legacy Committee re: Indigenous Peoples' Day.
(Discussion/Vote)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- August 29, 2019 Selectboard and Planning Board Joint Meeting.
- September 4, 2019 Selectboard Special Meeting.
- September 9, 2019 Selectboard Regular Meeting.
- September 10, 2019 Selectboard Special Meeting.

5. SELECTBOARD'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS:

- A. General Comments by the Board.

6. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

- A. Department Updates

- B. Project Updates

7. OLD BUSINESS Continued:

- B. Continuation of August 26, 2019 and September 9, 2019 Fulcrum Enterprises LLC Host Community Agreement (HCA) for Marijuana Cultivation and Manufacturing establishment in an Industrial Zone at 22 Van Deusenville Road. (Discussion/Vote)

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS Continued:

- B. **Continuation** of September 9, 2019 Special Permit application from Fulcrum Enterprises, LLC, for a Marijuana Cultivation and Marijuana Manufacturing Establishment in an Industrial zone, at 22 Van Deusenville Road, Great Barrington, in accordance with Section 3.1.4 C (13), 7.18 and 10.4 of the Great Barrington Zoning Bylaw. (Discussion/Vote)
- a. Town Consultants Reports
 - b. Selectboard Questions
 - c. Speak in Favor/Opposition
 - d. Motion to Close Public Hearing
 - e. Motion re: Findings
 - f. Motion re: Approval/Denial/Table

9. LICENSES OR PERMITS:

- A. Ken Roht/Daniel's Art Party and Patrick Hollenbeck/Great Barrington Libraries at Mason Library parking lot for a Disco Party, as follows:

- for Permission to Close Dresser Avenue from Main Street to the 2nd parking lot next to 15 Dresser Avenue from 6:00 pm – 9:30 pm
- for One Day Weekday Entertainment License for Saturday, October 12, 2019 from 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
- for One Day Sunday Entertainment License (Rain Date) Sunday, October 13, 2019 from 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm

- B. Hayes Gilman/Wrenegade Sports for permission to use Town roads (Seekonk, Round Hill, Seekonk Cross, Locust Hill, Pumpkin Hollow, Seekonk Cross Long Pond and Division Street) on Sunday, September 29, 2019 for the Farm to Fork Fondo - Berkshires. (Discussion/Vote)

10. OLD BUSINESS Continued:

- C. SB – Lake Mansfield Road Paving – Recommendation from the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force (LMITF). (Discussion/Vote)


11. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME:

12. SELECTBOARD'S TIME:

13. MEDIA TIME:

14. ADJOURNMENT:

NEXT SELECTBOARD'S MEETINGS: **October 7, 2019 Regular Meeting**
October 10, 2019 6:00 pm – Joint Meeting SB and
Pl. Bd. @ Town Hall



Mark Pruhenski, Town Manager

Pursuant to MGL. 7c. 30A sec. 20 (f), after notifying the chair of the public body, any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting of a public body, or may transmit the meeting through any medium. At the beginning of the meeting, the chair shall inform other attendees of any such recordings. Any member of the public wishing to speak at the meeting must receive permission of the chair. The listings of agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.



TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TITLE: FY 2020 Tax Classification Hearing Held September 16th, 2019 ,Opened and Continued On September 23rd, 2019

BACKGROUND: At the Tax Classification Hearing the Selectboard is required to vote to implement one or a combination of four classification options for distributing the tax levy among property owners. The options are: **1) Open Space Discount, 2) Residential Exemption, 3) Small Commercial Exemption or, 4) Single or Split Tax Rate.**

The Town currently has a single tax rate with no exemptions or discounts given to specific classes of property. A vote to grant discounts or exemptions to specific property classes will result in a higher tax rate for non-qualifying property owners as the tax burden is shifted away from the exempted recipients. A vote in favor of more than one option will result in different tax rates for different property classes. **Regardless of the classification option(s) chosen the amount of the overall tax levy will not change.**

Historically and as part of their annual budget policy, the Selectboard and Finance Committee has endorsed the single tax rate option providing no exemption or discount to a particular property class or group. Voting a residential factor of 1.00 affirms a single tax rate and the proportionate sharing of the tax levy between all classes of property. Voting a residential factor of less than 1.00 would split the tax rate, thereby shifting the tax burden away from the residential class and onto commercial, industrial and personal property owners. Two separate tax rates would be created, a lower tax rate for residential and open space and another, higher tax rate, for commercial, industrial and personal property owners. Land enrolled in Ch. 61, 61A or 61B would be subject to the higher tax rate as it will be classified as commercial for taxation purposes.

Exemption & Discount Options

Open Space Discount

Open Space is defined as land maintained in an open or natural condition and must contribute significantly to the benefit and enjoyment of the public. It does not include lands taxable under the provisions of MGL Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B, lands with a permanent conservation restriction or lands held for the production of income. The Open Space discount is up to 25% of the selected residential factor. By discounting a certain percentage of value attributable to Open Space the tax levy burden is shifted onto residential rate payers thereby increasing their tax rate. Presently, no lands are classified as Open Space because those that might benefit receive a greater discount by enrollment in Chapter Land options.

Recommendation: The Board of Assessors does not recommend adoption of the Open Space Discount

Residential Exemption

The *Residential Exemption* grants an exemption to property that is the principal residence or domicile of a taxpayer. Under M.G.L c.59, § 5C the exemption amount may not exceed 35% (\$126,988) of the average assessed value (\$362,824) of all residential class properties. Granting the exemption increases the residential tax rate as it shifts the tax burden, within the entire residential class, away from lower valued owner occupied dwellings to dwellings valued at greater than the breakeven, multi-family properties, apartment buildings, vacant land and non-domiciled property owners. Properties of domiciled taxpayers valued below the breakeven will pay fewer taxes while those valued higher will pay more. Currently, only thirteen of 351 Massachusetts communities grant Residential Exemptions. These communities typically have a large number of apartment buildings (Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Somerville & Chelsea) or a disproportionately large number of second homes (Cape Cod & the Island communities).

Recommendation: The Board of Assessors does not recommend adoption of the Residential Exemption

Small Commercial Exemption

The *Small Commercial Exemption* may be applied to certain commercial properties whose assessment is less than \$1,000,000 and occupied by businesses certified by the Department of Employment & Training as having no more than an average of ten employees in the previous year. If adopted, up to 10% of the assessed value of an eligible property would be exempt. The property owner is the direct beneficiary of the tax savings and is not required to pass any savings onto the tenants. The total gross value of the Small Commercial Exemption is redistributed to the non-qualifying commercial property owners in the form of a higher tax rate.

Recommendation: The Board of Assessors does not recommend adoption of the Small Commercial Exemption

Single or Split Tax Rate

Adopting a *Single Tax Rate* requires the Selectboard to vote to maintain a residential factor of 1.00. A Single Tax Rate allows for all classes of property to pay only their share of the tax levy without shifting the tax burden to any particular property class. Voting to split the tax rate shifts the tax burden from the residential class to the commercial, industrial and personal property (CIP) classes and requires the Selectboard to vote for a residential factor of less than 1.00. The minimum residential factor for the Town as set by the Department of Revenue is .856539 which allows for a “CIP” shift of 1.50.

**Recommendation: The Board of Assessors recommends
adopting and maintaining a Single Tax Rate**

Notables for Fiscal Year 2020 Revaluation:

Levy \$23,993,431 for FY'20 is \$23,993,431 an increase of \$492,432 or 1.02% over the FY'19 levy of \$23,500,999.

FY	Levy	% Change From Prior
2020	\$ 23,993,431	1.02%
2019	\$ 23,500,999	8.90%
2018	\$ 21,574,492	3.56%
2017	\$ 20,832,972	4.92%
2016	\$ 19,808,863	5.07%

Total Taxable Value \$ 1,523,392,459

Property Class	FY 2020	FY 2019	Difference	% Change
Residential	\$1,187,159,704	\$1,161,667,251	+\$ 25,492,453	+ 2.2%
Commercial	\$ 226,651,310	\$ 259,837,987	-\$33,186,677	- 8.7%
Industrial	\$ 14,105,600	\$ 13,290,300	+\$ 815,300	+ 6.1%
Personal Property	\$ 55,475,845	\$ 60,178,925	-\$ 4,703,080	- 9.2%
Total	\$	\$ 1,523,392,459	\$ 28,417,996	+ 1.2%

Tax Rate \$15.75

The tax rate is calculated by dividing the tax levy (\$23,993,431) by the total value of all taxable property (\$1,523,392,459) x 1000. This yields a tax rate of \$15.75 per \$1,000 of valuation, an increase of ¢03 from last year's rate.

FY	Tax Rate	Change From Prior
2020	\$15.75	¢0.03
2019	\$15.72	¢0.38
2018	\$14.98	¢0.31
2017	\$14.60	¢0.57
2016	\$14.29	¢0.16

Excess Levy Capacity \$980,206

Excess levy capacity is the difference between the maximum allowable levy and the amount levied. It is also the amount of additional monies the Town is allowed to raise through taxation but chooses not to.

FY	Max Allowable Levy	Levy	Excess Levy Capacity
2020	\$24,973,637	\$23,993,431	\$980,206
2019	\$23,230,886	\$23,500,999	\$729,887
2018	\$23,073,074	\$21,574,492	\$1,498,582
2017	\$22,460,694	\$20,838,972	\$1,627,723
2016	\$21,252,287	\$19,808,863	\$1,443,424

New Growth \$12,358,418 /\$194,274

New growth is value created through the construction of new homes, additions, substantial remodels or the creation of condos. Lot splits, subdivisions, new personal property assets and an increase in non-domiciled property ownership also contributes to new growth. The impact new growth has on expanding the levy limit is calculated by multiplying new growth value (\$12,358,418) by the prior year tax rate (\$15.72). For FY'20 this yields \$195,274 in tax levy growth or new tax dollars to the Town.

FY	New Growth	Res	Comm	Ind	PP	New \$\$
2020	\$12,358,418	\$5,642,793	\$1,489,900	\$96,400	\$5,129,318	194,274
2019	\$ 36,207,737	\$ 18,293,500	\$ 7,991,300	\$352,300	\$ 9,570,637	\$ 542,392
2018	\$21,784,685	\$ 13,180,200	\$ 2,398,240	\$ 5,700	\$ 6,200,545	\$ 318,056
2017	\$ 37,368,282	\$ 23,105,900	\$ 1,873,700	\$481,500	\$11,907,185	\$ 566,933
2016	\$17,748,370	\$13,551,100	\$1,146,110	\$134,800	\$2,916,307	\$243,507

Median & Average Single Family Home Values \$310,550/ \$398,754,

Single family home value increases are the result of the ongoing cyclical inspection program. Analysis of 2018 single family arms-length sales indicated support for an upward adjustment to residential values when compared to assessments.

FY	Median Value	Median Tax	Change From Prior Yr.	Average Value	Average Tax	Change From Prior Yr.
2020	\$310,550	\$4,881	\$76	398,754	\$6,268	\$121
2019	\$305,650	\$4,805	\$296	\$391,055	\$6,147	\$409
2018	\$301,000	\$4,509	\$151	\$383,072	\$5,738	\$180
2017	\$298,500	\$4,358	\$124	\$380,703	\$5,558	\$168
2016	\$294,400	\$4,234	\$195	\$377,199	\$5,390	\$252

Median & Average Commercial Values \$436,550 / \$804,169

Commercial assessed values increased over the prior year by \$8.9M or 3.5% with new growth as the core driver. The median assessed value increased \$25,100 from \$411,400 to \$436,550.

FY	Median Value	Median Tax	Change From Prior Yr.	Average Value	Average Tax	Change From Prior Yr.
2019	\$441,050	\$6,933	\$70	804,169	\$12,642	\$565
2019	\$436,550	\$6,863	\$700	\$768,239	\$12,077	\$1,432
2018	\$411,400	\$6,163	\$ -76	\$710,615	\$10,645	\$ 264
2017	\$427,300	\$6,239	\$324	\$711,070	\$10,381	\$ 582
2016	\$413,900	\$5,915	\$253	\$685,777	\$ 9,800	\$ 435

CPA Revenue \$557,350

FY'20 is the sixth year a 3% surcharge will be levied against 3,882 eligible real property parcels. Estimated CPA revenue is \$557,340. For residential property owners, the first \$100,000 of assessed value is exempt from the surcharge. Commercial property owners receive no exemption benefit. The median single family home valued at \$398,800 will pay a surcharge of \$140.91. The median commercial property valued at \$436,550 will pay \$206.


FISCAL IMPACT: Not applicable beyond the FY'20 property tax levy that be maintained at \$23,993,431.

NEXT STEPS/TIME FRAME: Vote the tax classification at the Classification Hearing held Monday September 16, 2018 which will allow the first half FY'20 tax bills to be mailed on or before October 7, 2019.

RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of a single tax rate of \$15.75 per \$1,000 of valuation for all classes of property for FY'20.

PREPARED & PRESENTED BY: 
Shaun P. McHugh
Principal Assessor

Date: 9/20/19

REVIEWED AND APPROVED: 
Mark Pruhenski
Town Manager

Date: 9/20/19

Mark Pruhenski
Town Manager

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www.townofgb.org



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TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Indigenous Peoples' Day Proclamation

Town of Great Barrington, Massachusetts

Mission: To preserve and promote Great Barrington native W.E.B. Du Bois's legacy as a scholar and activist for freedom, civil rights, progressive education, economic justice, and racial equality.

Whereas, the Town of Great Barrington recognizes that the Indigenous Peoples of the land that would later become known as the Americas have occupied these lands since time immemorial,

Now therefore be it resolved by the Selectboard that the Town of Great Barrington, starting on the second Monday in October, shall recognize the indigenous people on this land on Indigenous Peoples' Day specifically honoring the nation and the tribes of the Berkshires (*) A.I. American Indigenous Peoples.

Be it further resolved that the Town of Great Barrington shall honor Indigenous People and celebrate Indigenous history, tradition and culture throughout its intentions and actions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hands this 23rd day of September, 2019.

Steve Bannon, Chair

Edward Abrahams

William Cooke

Kate Burke

Leigh Davis

Mark Pruhenski
Town Manager

E-mail: mpruhenski@townofgb.org
www.townofgb.org



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**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS**

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

PRESS RELEASE

September 20, 2019

**RE: Fulcrum Enterprises, LLC applications to be continued to the October 21, 2019
Selectboard Meeting**

The Great Barrington Selectboard will continue the public hearing scheduled for Monday September 23rd for the special permit application submitted by Fulcrum Enterprises, LLC. at the request of the applicant. The Host Community Agreement (HCA) for the applicant will also be continued. It is expected that the date of these continuations will be Monday October 21, 2019 at a time and location to be determined. Questions can be directed to the office of the Selectboard and Town Manager at 413.528.1619 x. 2

Amy Pulver

From: Ken Roht <opcircus@mac.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 11:23 AM
To: Amy Pulver
Subject: Oct 12, Close Dresser Ave.

Hello Amy,

Per your request, I am sending this email requesting the closure of Dresser Ave, from 6pm to ^{9:30}~~8~~pm on Saturday Oct 12.

Daniel's Art Party, in conjunction with the GB Cultural Arts District Steering Committee, Great Barrington Libraries and radio station WBCR, is hoping to host a disco dance party in the smallish parking lot of Mason Library. We are hoping to spread out into the street, adding 1970's vintage cars and seating in the street.

Warm regards,

Ken

Ken Roht
Daniel's Art Party, Artistic Director
Bard College at Simon's Rock
danielsartparty.org

opcircus@mac.com
OrpheanCircus.com
323-308-9493

*DPW requests applicant
coordinate at least one
week in advance. (CR)*

My Mission

To engage the mechanics and components of holistic community building in order to create a compelling physical and psychic space for all to make and experience performing arts.



fee waiver requested



TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
Temporary Weekday Entertainment License Application
\$25.00 per day

The undersigned hereby applies for a license in accordance with the provisions of MA General Laws, Ch.140 Sec.183A amended, Ch.351, Sec.85 of Acts of 1981 and Ch.140 Sec.181.

Name: DAWNY'S DISCO DANCE PARTY *Sponsored by the GB Libraries*

Business/Organization: GREAT BARRINGTON LIBRARY

D/B/A (if applicable): Patrick Hollenbeck chair Library Trustee

Address: 231 MAIN STREET, GB 01230

Mailing Address: SAME

Phone Number: (413) 528-2403

Email: patarch@msn.com

TYPE: (Check all that apply) Concert Dance Exhibition Cabaret DJ

Live band with up to ___ pieces, including singers Public Show

Other (please explain) _____

INCLUDES: Live music Recorded music Dancing by entertainers/ performers

Dancing by patrons Amplification system Theatrical exhibition

Floorshow Play Moving picture show Light show Jukebox

Other (please explain) _____

As part of the entertainment, will any person be permitted to appear on the premises in any manner or attire as to expose to public view any portion of the pubic area, anus, or genitals, or any simulation thereof, or whether any person will be permitted to appear on the premises in any manner or attire as to expose to public view a portion of the breast below the top of the areola, or any simulation thereof? (M.G.L.Chp.140 Sec.183A)

___ YES

X NO

Please circle: INDOOR or **OUTDOOR** Entertainment

Exact Location of Entertainment (include sketch): MASON Library parking lot
+ if possible Dresser St. from Main St. to the 2ND parking Lot

Date(s) of Entertainment*: October 12 (Saturday)
*Does not include SUNDAY possible RAIN DATE on Sunday Oct 13

next to
15 Dresser

Start & End Times of Entertainment: 7:30 - 9:30

Does your event involve any of the following? (Check all that apply)

- Food Temporary Bathrooms Tents Stages Temporary Signs
 Electrical Permits Building Permits Police Traffic Details Street Closures

ALL entertainment licenses will be reviewed by the Design Review Team (DRT), which is comprised of several Town departments, for comments/concerns on this application.

Pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 62C, Sec. 49A, I certify under the penalties of perjury that I, to my best knowledge and belief, have filed all state tax returns and paid all state taxes required under law.

Patricia Hill, Chair ^{GB} Librarians 8/30/19 _____
Signature of Individual or Date SS# or FID#
Corporate Officer

TOWN USE ONLY:

DRT Review with Conditions: DRT has no issues. Road closure to
be coordinated 1 week in advance with DPW (CP)

APPROVAL DATE: _____ LICENSE # _____

September 3, 2019

Select Board Members
Town of Great Barrington
334 Main Street
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Dear Members of Great Barrington Select Board,

Based in Burlington, VT, Wrenegade Sports was formed in late 2013 and operates in the domestic facility-free athletic event organization industry, producing, and developing innovative sporting events. Our primary product is the Farm to Fork Fondo, a series of non-competitive bicycling rides around the greater northeastern US. Our festive and welcoming community events are designed to highlight and support the symbiotic relationship between cyclists, local farmers, and beautiful farming landscapes. Our Berkshires event took place in Berkshire county for the first-time two years ago and we are looking to hold another successful event in this area.



Hancock Shaker Village will be the event venue again for the Farm to Fork Fondo – Berkshires on Sunday, September 29th. Riders will be passing through Great Barrington on this date following the rules of the road. Two of the routes will be traveling through Great Barrington. The Gran route will enter Great Barrington via Seekonk Rd, turn right onto Round Hill Rd, turn left onto Seekonk Cross Rd, turn right onto Locust Hill Rd and then continue onto Pumpkin Hollow Rd until it is out of Great Barrington. Our Medio route will turn left off Seekonk Rd onto Division St, turn left onto Long Pond Rd and then continue until it is out of Great Barrington. I will also include a map below that highlights our routes through Great Barrington.

Because of the non-competitive nature of the event and the varied skill levels of its participants, following their departure from the Hancock Shaker Village participants will be spread out and riding in small groups that will constitute normal use of the roadways. As with the prior years' Farm to Fork Fondo events in all locations, we anticipate having law enforcement officers assisting over the course of the day.

The event is fully insured, including liability coverage while riders are out on course. Our insurance also covers our venue (Hancock Shaker Village) and our farm-based aid stations. The Certificate of Insurance for Great Barrington will be included with this letter.

In advance of our event, we spend Thursday/Friday and part of Saturday marking our routes with course marking signs and with temporary spray chalk arrows on the pavement. We aim to have our course signs removed by the end of the day on Sunday, and following completion of the ride, and assure that signage will be removed by midday Monday at the latest. Spray chalk washes away after normal exposure to the elements – more quickly with prolonged rain.

All of the cash sponsorship funds and donations we raise for our Farm to Fork Fondo Volunteer Competition will be donated local Western Massachusetts (Berkshire county preferred) farms and community organizations on behalf of the volunteer teams that staff our event.

Thank you for your time and attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

Hayes Gilman
Course manager



Chris Rembold

From: Chris Rembold
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2019 8:47 AM
To: 'Hayes Gilman'
Subject: RE: Bicycle Event Notification for September 29th 2019 (Sent by Hayes Gilman, hayes@wrenegadesports.com)

Hi Hayes, staff does not have any concerns, so no issues to discuss. At this point I think the Selectboard could vote at their next meeting, which is September 23. Are you able to attend that meeting, at 7:00 PM? If it's a long distance drive, or otherwise not possible, it's not absolutely necessary for you to attend. Please let me know.

Chris

Christopher Rembold, AICP
Assistant Town Manager / Director of Planning and Community Development Town of Great Barrington
(413) 528-1619, ext. 7

From: Chris Rembold
Sent: Thursday, May 2, 2019 4:37 PM
To: 'Hayes Gilman' <hayes@wrenegadesports.com>
Subject: RE: Bicycle Event Notification for September 29th 2019 (Sent by Hayes Gilman, hayes@wrenegadesports.com)

Ok, that is all great. No, I don't think you need a permit for the directional signs. I will review the rest of this with my colleagues and see if they have other concerns. I'll let you know if anything comes up.

In the meantime, please send a letter, addressed to the Great Barrington Selectboard, requesting use of Town roads, including which roads, and a clear map. You can send it to me.

Chris

Christopher Rembold, AICP
Town Planner
Town of Great Barrington
(413) 528-1619, ext. 7

From: Hayes Gilman <hayes@wrenegadesports.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 2, 2019 3:40 PM
To: Chris Rembold <crembold@Townofgb.org>
Subject: RE: Bicycle Event Notification for September 29th 2019 (Sent by Hayes Gilman, hayes@wrenegadesports.com)

Hello Christopher,

Thank you so much for getting back to me so quickly!

We coordinate with local law enforcement for all of our events to create Law Enforcement and Course Marshaling safety plans and contract with officers where their presence will enhance our riders' safety. The Farm to Fork Fondo is bike ride and not a race, and as such our riders are required to follow rules of the road and all traffic laws, constituting regular use of public roadways. We do not request or require any road closures on our routes. Typically, most of our law enforcement focus is toward the beginning of our routes, as the riders are less spread out at that point. As the rider pack thins out over the four courses, there is usually less need for law enforcement presence, though we are always grateful to have support from any local municipality.

The signs that we use on our routes are purely directional and are not used for any kind of promotion. The directional signs go up two days before the event and are brought down over the course of the event day and day after. We also use some signage as a warning to vehicles on the road, informing them that a bike ride will be happening during that weekend in the area. I wanted to ask if that temporary sign permit is required if our roadside signs do not promote the event.

If you have any questions about these details please let me know!

Best,
Hayes Gilman

-----Original Message-----

From: Chris Rembold <crembold@Townofgb.org>

Sent: Thursday, May 2, 2019 2:25 PM

To: Hayes Gilman <hayes@wrenegadesports.com>

Subject: Bicycle Event Notification for September 29th 2019 (Sent by Hayes Gilman, hayes@wrenegadesports.com)

Hello Hayes,

Yes, we do have permitting requirements here, but they aren't anything new beyond what this event has had to do here in the past. We require you to have permission to use Town roads (granted by the Selectboard) and coordination with local police, EMS, and fire services. We also require sign permits for any temporary event signs promoting the event (up to 14 signs are allowed 14 days in advance, with permission of the the property owner). Please feel free to call me to discuss.

Chris

Christopher Rembold, AICP
Town Planner
Town of Great Barrington
(413) 528-1619, ext. 7

-----Original Message-----

From: cmsmailer@civicplus.com <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2019 2:05 PM

To: Jennifer Tabakin <jtabakin@Townofgb.org>

Subject: [Great Barrington MA] Bicycle Event Notification for September 29th 2019 (Sent by Hayes Gilman, hayes@wrenegadesports.com)

Hello Jennifer,

I am writing to inform the Town of Great Barrington of the Farm to Fork Fondo – Berkshires bicycle event on September 29th. This is a non-competitive bike ride that will be passing through Richmond, West Stockbridge, Alford, Egremont, Great Barrington, Lee, Lenox, Tyringham, Monterey, Sheffield, Stockbridge and Hancock. This event is a non-competitive bicycling ride that requires no road closures. Riders will start and end at Hancock Shaker Village in Pittsfield. We are reaching out today to inquire whether a bicycle event of this nature requires any permitting from Great Barrington. If your municipality has any specific requirements that may apply to our event or our use of course signage, please advise.

This year marks our third year producing this event in your region, and we are very excited to return.

The route maps can be seen here:

<https://ridewithgps.com/events/69864-2019-farm-to-fork-fondo-berkshires>

Click on the button that reads "show all on map" to view additional course distances.

Additional event information can be found on the website here:

<http://www.farmforkfondo.com/berkshires>

We will be out marking our course routes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the event week. We use a temporary spray chalk for arrows on the pavement shoulder alongside small directional signs that are attached to existing sign posts or telephone poles, or using metal H-frames. We also put up yellow signs that say "Bicycle Event this Weekend" at busier intersections on the route to give local residents advance notice of our event and to hopefully provide some level of traffic calming on event day. We strive to clear all of this signage from the route by the end of the day on Saturday; signage will be removed by mid-day Monday at the latest.

For the entirety of the event, participants are required to obey all traffic laws. As with all Farm to Fork Fondo events, we anticipate having local law enforcement assistance at the start of the event, and our comprehensive course support crew along the route providing support to our riders.

The charitable component of our event directly supports local community-based programs including farm and food related initiatives. In 2018, Wrenegade Foundation donated an average of \$5,649 in our event host communities, benefitting farms, school groups, and nonprofit organizations. The Farm to Fork Fondo event also brings positive economic impact to our host communities when our cyclists travel and spend money at hotels, restaurants, and local businesses.

The event is fully insured and includes liability coverage for your town while riders are out on course.

Thank you for your time and attention on this matter. My contact information is listed below. In your reply, may I please ask answers to the following questions:

1. Whether any permitting is required for us to proceed with our event?
2. Is the signage usage specified above acceptable within your village limits?
3. What is the best way to stay in contact on these matters?

With thanks and kind regards,
Hayes Gilman

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TITLE: Lake Mansfield Road – Short Term Paving and Repairs

BACKGROUND: At its meeting of September 10, 2019, the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force (LMITF) voted to recommend closure of the 1,000 linear-foot stretch of Lake Mansfield Road from Knob Hill Road northwards, to just south of the 30 Lake Mansfield Road driveway, to all vehicular traffic by November 15, 2019. The recommendation further stated that it not be re-opened in the spring and that signage and barriers be installed and communications of this closure be sent to the community.

FISCAL IMPACT: The cost estimate for re-paving this section of roadway is roughly \$50,000.


RECOMMENDATION: After further review, staff recommends that the Selectboard re-pave this section of Lake Mansfield Road and allow the roadway to remain open for the next several years for the following reasons.

1. There is no funding in place at this time to advance the long-term design of the road, and the design, permitting, and construction timeline (expected to be 3 years) is still uncertain. There is also no plan at this time for addressing a turn-around and/or detour of vehicles if the road is to be closed now.
2. The recent and sudden closure of the Division Street Bridge to vehicular traffic, especially emergency vehicles, should be taken into consideration. The closure of a part of Lake Mansfield Road would create another detour that can be avoided for the time being.
3. The draft LMITF meeting minutes of September 10, 2019 do not provide any environmental concerns to justify this closure.

While we respect the opinion and recommendation of the LMITF, after further review we feel that this closure is not in the best interests of our town at this time. Staff recognizes the potential that a smoother road in the short term may increase traffic speeds and decrease pedestrian safety, and we will work to install speed signage and increase traffic enforcement should the Selectboard implement our recommendation.

PREPARED AND APPROVED BY:

DATE:


Mark Bruhenski/Town Manager
Christopher Rembold/Assistant Town Manager
Sean VanDesusen/DPW Superintendent

09/20/2019

Mark Pruhenski

From: Chris Rembold
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2019 12:21 PM
To: Mark Pruhenski
Cc: Sean Van Deusen
Subject: Lake Mansfield Road

Mark,

At the request of the Selectboard, its meeting of September 10 the Lake Mansfield Task Force discussed whether or not the worst portion of Lake Mansfield Road should be paved this fall or not, as a short term solution.

The Task Force voted that this portion of the road should not be paved. The Task Force recommends that the 1,000 linear-foot stretch of Lake Mansfield Road from Knob Hill Road northwards, to just south of the 30 Lake Mansfield Road driveway, be closed to all vehicular traffic beginning November 15, 2019, and not be reopened in the spring. Appropriate road closed signage and barriers should be installed, and communications sent to the community.

Once the minutes of the Task Force meeting are drafted, I will send them along to you, since the discussion may be informative to the Selectboard.

Chris

Christopher T. Rembold, AICP

Assistant Town Manager / Director of Planning and Community Development
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