
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   a. March 8, 2023 Selectboard-Finance Committee Joint Budget Meeting
   b. March 14, 2023 Selectboard-Finance Committee Joint Budget Meeting
   c. September 11, 2023

3. SELECTBOARD’S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS
   a. 2023 Halloween Trick or Treat Hours - Tuesday October 31st from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. S. Bannon stated Trick or Treat hours are the same as in past years and a press release will be sent out.
   b. G. Reed asked that trees removed from Lake Mansfield be replanted. S. Bannon confirmed they would be. He also asked that the Welcome to GB sign be placed elsewhere.
   c. L. Davis stated Stockbridge and West Stockbridge are interested in proposing a Real Estate Transfer Fee and have asked her to speak about it at their meetings - and she added the Lee Selectboard has invited her to speak as well.

4. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT – There was none.

5. LICENSES AND PERMITS
   a. Jenna Crandall for Berkshire South Regional Community Center for a One Day All Alcoholic License on Saturday, October 14th from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM for a fundraising event at 15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington.
      i. Amanda Leavenworth, Berkshire South, presented stating this is for their Toasting and Tasting fundraiser for their membership financial aid program - they will have beer and wine tasting, music and a silent auction. She noted IDs will be checked at the door and TIPS certified staff will be pouring.
      L. Davis made a motion to grant a One Day All Alcoholic License to Berkshire South for Saturday, October 14th from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM for a fundraising event at 15 Crissey Road; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: S. Bannon, “aye,” L. Davis, “aye,” B. Elliott, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor: 5-0.
   b. Mark DeCelle for the Rotary Club for a Temporary Sunday Entertainment License on October
15th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM for Truck Day at Butternut Ski Area, 380 State Road, Great Barrington.
i. S. Bannon stated he would recuse as a member of the Rotary Club.
ii. M. DeCelle, Rotary Club, stated this is the 15th annual event for kids and families to see and enjoy some big trucks and other activities.

L. Davis made a motion to grant a Temporary Sunday Entertainment License to Mark DeCelle for the Rotary Club for October 15th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM for Truck Day at Butternut Ski Area, 380 State Road; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: S. Bannon, “aye,” L. Davis, “aye,” B. Elliott, “aye,” E. Gabriel, “aye,” G. Reed, “aye.” All in favor: 5-0.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS
   a. Pole petition, work order number #30611209. Request to install 1 pole and relocate 2 poles on Seekonk Road beginning at a point approximately 10 feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Seekonk Road and Alford Road and continuing approximately 182 feet in a Southeast direction. Relocate P2 about 25’ northeast closer to Alford Road. Relocate P3 about 48’ northeast closer to Alford Road. Install push brace 3-89 on the Southwest side of P3. Install P3-15’ anchor on the North side of pole 3-15. Also for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes.
      i. Open Public Hearing
         E. Gabriel stated he would recuse.
      ii. Explanation of the Project
         A representative from National Grid stated they want to relocate two poles and install one pole and the poles are part of a larger project.
      iii. Public comments, speak in favor or opposition – There were no comments.
      iv. Questions from the Selectboard – There were no questions.
      v. Comments from other Boards – There were no comments from other Boards.
      vi. Close Public Hearing
      vii. Selectboard discussion
      viii. Findings
      ix. Motion to continue/deny/grant

7. NEW BUSINESS
   a. Selectboard vote to reappoint Eric Gabriel and Scott Shortt to the Housatonic Improvement Committee.
      E. Gabriel and B. Elliott recused.
   b. Selectboard vote to reappoint Leigh Davis (Selectboard Representative), Cindy Schoenfeld (At-Large) and Dale Abrams (At-Large) to the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force.
L. Davis recused.


c. Special Town Meeting Warrant- Review and sign – S. Bannon stated there is one change from the document in the packet – for #2 to authorize Tax Increment Finance Agreement was withdrawn by the company that requested it. He continued to state the three items on the Special Town Meeting warrant: 1) establishment of an eight-town regional school district to be known as the Southern Berkshire Hills Regional School District; 2) CPA projects 3) Citizens Petition regarding the redesign of the Mason Public Library grounds


d. Hilda-Banks Shapiro Proclamation – L. Davis read the Proclamation (attached).


e. Great Barrington Housing Authority – confirm appointment for Maureen Meier.

M. Pruhenski stated on August 2 the Selectboard recommended M. Meier for appointment to the GB Housing Authority as the Governor’s representative, but the Governor did not take action so the Selectboard under MGL 121B is authorized to make the appointment without further confirmation from the State.


8. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME

a. Claudia Shapiro, 78 Egremont Plain Road, requested a copy of the Selectboard’s decision on the Walter J. Koladza Airport and stated she had submitted multiple public records requests related to airport plans and permits.

b. Michelle Loubert, 70 Division Street, expressed concern about a discussion at the Housing Subcommittee meeting implying supporters of affordable housing would also support the Transfer Fee. She also noted there have been multiple suggestions for other avenues to increase funds for affordable housing.

c. Donna Jacobs, 260 Park Street, stated regarding the distribution of State funds for Housatonic residents that receipts will be difficult to provide and suggested eligibility should be income-related.

d. Kathy Regan, Housatonic, suggested there be additional third party water testing in Housatonic and an outside consultant to evaluate the HWW treatment plan. She also noted the importance of providing residents with information on water filtration systems.

e. James Garson, 84 North Plain Road, stated he agreed with M. Loubert’s concerns about the Housing Subcommittee discussion.

9. SELECTBOARD’S TIME – No members asked to speak.

10. MEDIA TIME – No media asked to speak.

11. ADJOURNMENT - Chairman Bannon adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 7:00pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk
Town of Great Barrington, Massachusetts

Whereas Hilda Banks Shapiro dedicated over 50+ years serving Great Barrington, as well as many other Berkshire towns, in her capacities in volunteerism, local government positions, non-profit organizations, students and educational institutions, and

Whereas Hilda as a single mom, humble internationally acclaimed concert pianist, fervent activist, prolific writer/poet, selfless volunteer, ardent supporter of nature’s preservation, and passionate leader of the arts, she remains an inspirational role model for all, and

Whereas her unwavering commitment to donate countless hours and resources towards the welfare of all people and our natural landscapes had impactful contributions which remain today, and

Whereas she aged gracefully, into her mid 90s and remained a strong, active voice for town, county and country inspiring artistic expression through action and deeds to “build community”, and

Whereas her admirable ideals and actions are consistent with like minded men, W.E.B. DuBois and David Grover, who are permanently publicly honored by the town of Great Barrington, we the people of Berkshire County request that this extraordinary, exemplary woman be honored by a day in Autumn, her favorite season, on the second weekend of October.

Now, therefore, Berkshire County can be inspired to celebrate nature, creativity, volunteerism, activism, the arts, creative thinking, and world peace in the spirit of Hilda. The community encourages the Selectboard to acknowledge these contributions by approving this Proclamation to allow an annual no cost Hilda Banks Shapiro Community Day.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, We have hereunto set on this 2nd day of October, 2023

Steve Bannon
Leigh Davis
Ben Elliott
Eric Gabriel
Garfield Reed