SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
7:00pm, October 5, 2022
Town Hall, 557 Main Street, Becket

Attendees
Select Board (SB): William Elovirta (BE), *Chair;* Chris Swindlehurst (CS), *Vice-Chair*; *and* Michael Lavery (ML), *Clerk*

Staff: Katherine A. Warden (KW), Town Administrator

Energy Committee Members: Garth Klimchuk, Cathy DeFoe, and remote: W. Katherine Hoak.

1. **The Chairperson will call the Select Board meeting to order.**
   BE called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and indicated that the SB is recording the meeting.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   BE led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Broadband Update and Select Board to discuss and possibly vote on policies and decisions relating to the Broadband Project**
   None.

4. **Discussion with the Energy Committee regarding the Energy Committee's request for the project of installing a Bergey 15kW Wind Turbine by Hudson Valley Wind and Solar on town-owned land adjacent to the Town Hall.**
   After discussion with Energy Committee Members Garth Klimchuk and Cathy Defoe, in response to the Energy Committee's recommendation, CS moved to furnish a letter of support for the project of installing a Bergey 15kW Wind Turbine by Hudson Valley Wind and Solar on town-owned land adjacent to the Town Hall. ML 2nd: Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Approval of the September 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes**
   ML moved to approve the September 21, 2022 Meeting minutes, CS 2nd: Motion carried with BE abstaining due to that he was not present at the September 21, 2022 meeting.

6. **Public Input (limited to 3 minutes per person, 20 minutes total for this agenda item).**
   None.

7. **Select Board to vote on appointment: Shirley Vachula to the Parks & Recreation Committee effective October 5, 2022 through June 30, 2025**
   After reviewing the appointment application, CS moved to appoint Shirley Vachula to the Parks & Recreation Committee effective October 5, 2022 through June 30, 2025. ML 2nd: Motion carried unanimously.

8. **Select Board to Vote on Town Administrator's new hire recommendation(s):**
   - **Thomas Dean, Highway Dept. Equipment Operator/Truck Driver effective October 11, 2022**
   - **Possible vote to hire Building Maintenance & Grounds Technician**

   ML moved to accept the Town Administrator's recommendation to hire Thomas Dean, Highway Dept. Equipment Operator/Truck Driver with a start day on October 11, 2022. CS 2nd: Motion carried unanimously.

The SB agreed with CS's suggestion to pause the Building Maintenance & Grounds Technician position. CS indicated that this position was created to use Dave Shorey talents on special projects. Now that these are completed, the SB and Town Administrator will have an opportunity to review the needs of the town. In the short-term, KW has arranged for Bert Goodermote to clean Town Hall on a part-time/non benefitted basis.

9. Select Board to review Departmental Reports

- **tba**

The Select Board receive and reviewed the Building Inspector's September 2022 monthly report of activity.

10. Town Administrator's Report and Recruitment Update

KW provided the following update:

- Berkshire Regional Planning Commission sent an e-mail to advise that the Heavy Truck Exclusion Traffic Count study(two traffic counts) for Route 8 & 20 (East of Mass Pike), Wade Inn Road (between Route 8 and Bancroft Road0 and Wade Inn Road(between Bancroft Road and Route 20) has been completed. BRPC is paying the $580.00 fee for the study from their annual traffic counting funds. BRPC anticipates sending the traffic counts data next week.
- Tomorrow KW and the Highway Superintendent will meet with Chris Jones/BETA to discuss Werden Road.
- Benton Hill Road – KW does not believe the Hazard Mitigation grant will work out. She does not agree it would be prudent use of town resources to spend $900,000. KW will discuss this matter with Carry Banks of the Department of Ecological Restoration.
- Based on the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission's suggestion (9/22/2022) the SB would like to revise the town's Policy on Issuing One-Day Liquor Licenses by requiring proof of liquor liability insurance for **all** licenses (not only for events on Town property). KW will arrange to provide a draft of the revised policy.
- The SB confirmed Trick or Treat in Becket is on Monday, Oct. 31st from 5 p.m. till 7 p.m.

11. Select Board's Comments and Announcements

ML asked KW to discuss speed trailers with the Highway Superintendent. ML asked KW to discuss arranging for a speed trailer to be brought for use on Route 20. CS asked KW to arrange for discuss with the Highway Superintendent placement of three or four permanent flashing speed limit signs in various town locations.

The SB agreed that it will pay $45.00 fee for ML to attend a Mass Trails Class.

The SB discussed who will attend the Massachusetts Municipal Association Conference.

12. Any other business to come before the Board

None.

13. Correspondence/announcements:

- **2022.09.26 Zoning Board of Appeals Notice of Public Hearing scheduled on November 15, 2022 to review a Special Permit application submitted by David and Lorraine Corriveau to seek relief from Section 4.3.1 of the Becket Zoning Bylaws, to encroach on property lines setbacks at 29 Lancelot Lane (Map 217, Lot 77).**

The Select Board reviewed the above captioned.

14. Select Board to review and sign payable warrants
The SB reviewed and signed payable warrants.

15. Select Board to adjourn the Meeting
ML moved to adjourn, BE 2nd: Motion carried unanimously. At 7:52pm, BE adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine A. Warden, *Town Administrator*

Signed by:

_____ / *October 19, 2022*
William H. Elovirta, *Chair* Date Approved

Documents discussed at this meeting:
- 2022.10.05 Select Board Agenda
- 2022.09.21 Select Board Meeting Minutes
- Correspondence as listed above - Agenda item 13
- Appointment Application Shirley Vachula to the Parks & Recreation Committee
- Town Administrator's report
- Departmental Report listed above Agenda item 9
- 2022.09.27 Town Administrator's e-mail re; BOS Support Letter Wind Turbine 9-25-22 with documents draft approval letter, Megan Amsler resume Executive Director of Self-Reliance, Small Wind Site Evaluation Proposal
- 2022.09.22 Ryan Melville e-mail re: One Day Wine & Beer Permit liquor liability requirement, Town of Becket Policy on Issuing One-Day Liquor Licenses