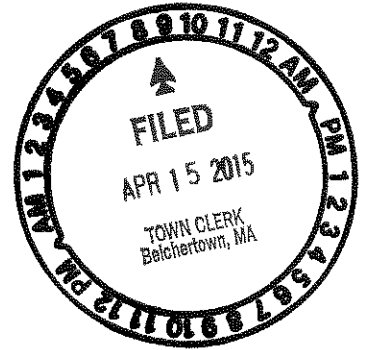


**TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015  
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Lawrence Memorial Hall**



**Present:** Brenda Q. Aldrich, Ronald E. Aponte, William R. Barnett  
**Absent:** George D. Archible, Kenneth E. Elstein,

1) **Call to Order:** Chairman Aldrich called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) **Sign Documents:**

- a) Warrant #1536 was signed for \$1,209,339.57.
- b) Routine documents
- c) Approval of Minutes: Mr. Aponte moved the Board accept the minutes of November 24, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Barnett. Motion passes 3 – 0.

3) **Additions to the Agenda:**

- Community Development Block Grant – Certification of Completion: Mr. Aponte presented the details. As discussed over the last several meetings with Erica Johnson the FY2012 CDBG Grant has come closure. The projects have all been completed to satisfaction. There is one final document for the Board to sign which is a closing financial statement that summarizes all the costs associated with the program.

Mr. Aponte moved the Board Chairman Aldrich to sign on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Mr. Barnett. Motion passes 3 - 0.

4) **Appearances Before the Board:**

- 7:33 p.m. Pole Hearing #2015-01, Rockrimmon Street: Mr. Aponte opened and read Pole Hearing #2015-01. The request is to relocate one jointly owned pole numbered T.21/E.21 to a point on the easterly side of Rockrimmon Street approximately 1,039 feet northerly from the centerline of Granby Road. The purpose is to provide for the distribution of intelligence and telecommunications, and for the transmission of high and low voltage electric current. Paul Davis, representing Verizon was present for the hearing. Further justification for moving the pole is to widen the road. No abutters were present for this hearing.

Mr. Barnett moved to close the pole hearing. Seconded by Ms. Aldrich. Motion passes 3 – 0. Mr. Barnett moved the Board grant the petition #2015-01. Seconded by Ms. Aldrich. Motion passes 3 – 0.

- 7:45 p.m. LeeAnne Connolly, Chairman – Lakes Committee: LeeAnne Connolly, Conservation Administrator was present representing the Lakes

Committee. Members of the Lake Committee were also present. She indicated that they are before the Board with a draft and are proposing a motor boat bylaw. The town attorney has put the proposed bylaw in the proper format and has added their additions and questions on the proposal before the Board. Ms. Connolly indicated she has clean copies of the bylaw and that there are minimal changes that will incorporate all of the Town's attorney's comments so they will re-word their purpose. It will now state "the safety of persons using lakes, ponds and rivers 10 acres or more in size within the Town". The Town attorney advised the Lakes Committee to be specific.

Mr. Aponte questioned if this incorporated all three lakes. It was confirmed that it did incorporate all three lakes and any water body / lake over ten acres. It was asked if Knights Pond would be included. Mr. Brougham stated it is a water source and therefore not accessible to motor boats. It would however apply to the Swift River.

Ms. Connolly went on to say that #7 under general requirements the word in-board engines was removed. So people were not confused the Lakes Committee put motor boats are not allowed to operate on any water body under 15 acres in area. Also #8 will be changed to say that Motorboats are not allowed to operate on Lake Arcadia at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour (in-board engines was again removed).

On the last page Ms. Connolly indicated that the Lakes Committee needs guidance from the Board of Selectmen. The Lakes Committee is not under the Conservation Commission. They need an authority so they can enforce the by-law and she is hoping that it would be the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Aponte questioned the Town Police.

Mr. Barnett read that portion as "The provisions of this chapter shall be enforced by the Town Police and by the Belchertown Board of Selectmen... Ms. Connolly stated that was correct. Ms. Connolly questioned the Town Administrator if that was okay. He questioned if she meant as far as who was going to enforce it. She said the Select Board. He suggested it be their designee probably the police department or the environmental police. The selectmen would be the overseeing body, the governing body overseeing it. Ms. Connolly does not think the environmental police can enforce the Town of Belchertown bylaws. Mr. Aponte doesn't believe they can but feels it should be looked into. Ms. Connolly stated that our bylaw is right up there with the State regulations. The Committee incorporated the State regulations in the Town's bylaw.

Ms. Aldrich questioned if this needs to be put on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Mr. Brougham indicated it does have to go on the warrant to be voted on. She confirmed that she will need to hold a public hearing. Mr. Aponte asked for confirmation that it's just a simple majority to pass a bylaw. Mr. Barnett indicated it depends on the type of bylaw.

Mr. Barnett questioned the frozen water body on the bylaw. Ms. Connolly stated she copied the State regulations. Mr. Aponte said in a nutshell that Committee took a lot of the State rules and regulations and applied them to make a Town bylaw. Changes can be made at the public hearing. At the annual town meeting the bylaw can be amended, modified, withdrawn or passed.

Mr. Aponte asked the town administrator to check with Town Counsel to make sure if we do proceed with this particular bylaw it won't "muddy" the waters with Mr. Furhman's case. Mr. Brougham indicated that it was ok and that the waters would not be "muddied". It is good to go. He stated Town Counsel is fully aware of this proposed bylaw.

A final draft will be ready in time for the public hearing. Mr. Aponte moved that the Board of Selectmen will oversee this bylaw. Seconded by Mr. Barnett. Motion passes 3 – 0.

**5) Discussion/Action Items:**

- a. Vote to Authorize Housing Authority 3-Year Term on Election Ballot: Mr. Barnett presented the details to the Board. There has been a resignation on the Housing Authority and that must go on the election ballot. Mr. Barnett moved the vacancy on the Housing Authority created by the resignation of Chantel Mallalieu be placed on the ballot for the 2015 Annual Town Election for the remainder of the unexpired term, to expire 2018. Seconded by Mr. Aponte. Motion passes 3 – 0.
- b. Appointment of Associate Member to Veterans' Services Advisory Board: Mr. Aponte presented the details to the Board. There is a recommendation from Ray Janke, Co-Chair of the Veterans/ Services Advisory Board to appoint an associate member. Mr. Aponte moved the Board appoint Edward Dice as an Associate Member of the VDAB, term to expire Jun 30, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Barnett. Motion passes 3 – 0.
- c. Accept Resignation(s) from Cultural Council Members: Mr. Aponte presented the details indicating there are several resignations from the Cultural Council. He stated that Matt Grillo, Claudia Bermudez as well as Lew Holzman have all resigned and all are either past effective dates or immediate effective dates. He asked that Gary Brougham, Town Administrator have letters sent thanking all of them for their service to the Town. He also asked that we advertise for members as soon as possible. Mr. Brougham stated that the office has already begun the process to advertise for new members.
- d. Miscellaneous Matters: None.

**6) Town Administrator's Report: None.**

**7) Review of Weekly Mail:**

#9) The Board received a letter from Donna-Rae Kenneally regarding the work of Mr. Ray Janke, Veterans' Services Agent. The Town is lucky to have him as an employee. He does a great job working with the veterans in Town.

**8) Individual Board Members' Reports:**

Mr. Barnett: On March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Clarion Hotel in Northampton Governor Baker and the attorney general will be there all day to answer questions at a municipal seminar.

He also mentioned that there is 911 Silent Call. If someone has an emergency that can't talk then can dial 911. When you call 911 wait for an answer and then use the telephone key pad press (1) for police, (2) for fire, (3) for EMS and if the dispatcher asks you questions (4) means yes and (5) means no. He thinks it's good for people to know.

Ms. Aldrich Congratulated the Girl's Basketball team. They won the Western Mass Basketball Championship. It is the first Western Mass Championship for a basketball team, boys or girls, ever for Belchertown. They play Wednesday night at the Mass Mutual Center.

Mr. Aponte: This Thursday at 6:30 pm at the Belchertown High School auditorium there is going to be a presentation by Mr. Chris Heron. He was a very, very good basketball player in the Boston area and actually played for the Boston Celtics and all the talent that he had basically was just wasted as he became addicted to drugs. As part of his program he goes into graphic detail about what happened and how it happened and how to avoid the pitfalls that he fell into. He strongly recommends that people go see the presentation.

9) **Questions from the Press:** None.

10) **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

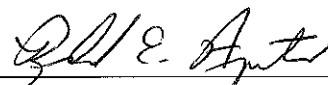
Minutes submitted by Gary L. Brougham, Town Administrator

Board approved/endorsed: \_\_\_\_\_

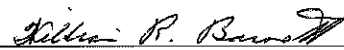
Board of Selectmen - Town of Belchertown

Endorsed by a majority:

  
Brenda Q. Aldrich, Chairman

  
Ronald E. Aponte

(Absent)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth E. Elstein

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William R. Barnett

(Absent)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
George D. Archible