

**STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, March 23, 2023**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**ZOOM MEETING - TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET**

**Present:**

Patrick White, Chuck Cardillo, Jamie Minacci and Mike Canales

**Call to Order:**

Patrick called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Special Permit Hearing for the property of Jacob L & Katie M Silverman located at 104 Interlaken Road**

Patrick made a motion to open the hearing to consider the application for special permit public hearing for Jacob and Katie Silverman located at 104 Interlaken Road, waive the reading of the notice and incorporate the notice in the minutes of the meeting. Chuck seconded. Aye Patrick, Aye Chuck, Aye Jamie.

**Notice:**

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE  
50 MAIN STREET  
STOCKBRIDGE, MA 01262  
SPECIAL PERMIT HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Selectmen, acting as a Special Permit Granting Authority, will hold a public hearing at the Stockbridge Town Offices and via Zoom Meeting, on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. to consider the application for the property of Jacob L & Katie M Silverman located at 104 Interlaken Road. The applicant is requesting authorization, pursuant to Section 6.1.2 of the Zoning Bylaws to allow the extension, alteration reconstruction or change of use of a nonconforming single-family dwelling. The property is R4.

The application is filed in the Town Clerk's Office where it can be reviewed.

Patrick White,  
Chairman

The Berkshire Eagle  
March 2, 2023

The Berkshire Eagle  
March 9, 2023

Patrick stated that;

The following procedures will be followed:

- a) Testimony will be limited to the issues directly related to the subject matter.
- b) Only one person will be permitted to speak at a time.
- c) All discussion will go through the chair.
- d) All parties will conduct themselves civilly.
- e) Arguments between parties will not be permitted

Patrick turned the meeting over to the applicant's representative Sharron Boomsma from White Engineering. Boomsma presented the plans for

renovations and three additions to the house. Patrick asked if there was anyone who wished to speak in favor or opposition. With none Patrick made a motion to close the evidentiary portion of the hearing and move to deliberation by the Board. Chuck seconded. Aye Patrick, Aye Chuck, Aye Jamie. With no comments, Patrick made a motion to approve the special permit. Chuck seconded. Aye Patrick, Aye Chuck, Aye Jamie.

Seasonal Alcohol License Renewals: Trustees of Reservations – Naumkeag, Boston Symphony Orchestra & Berkshire Theatre Festival- Main Stage Patrick said they have a seasonal alcohol renewal for Naumkeag. Chuck made a motion that they grant the license. Patrick seconded; all were in favor. Next was seasonal alcohol licenses for the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Patrick recused himself. Chuck made a motion that they grant the license. Jamie seconded. Aye Chuck, Aye Jamie. Next was seasonal alcohol licenses for the Berkshire Theatre Festival- Main Stage. Patrick made a motion to approve. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Take action on one-day alcohol license for Berkshire Botanical Garden for April 8, 2023

Patrick made a motion they approve. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Take action on minutes from February 9<sup>th</sup>, February 23<sup>rd</sup> and March 9<sup>th</sup>

Patrick made a motion to approve the minutes. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Budget – Discussion of Operational and Capital for FY2024

Looking at the capital budget, Patrick asked if the intersection changes were going to be on this warrant. Chuck said he would prefer to have the crosswalks done with paving and do at a special town meeting for the intersection. This was agreed upon.

The major changes to the budget since the last meeting was the pulling of funds from dedicated stabilization to pay off the Town Hall and other notes that were voted at town meeting last year; paying the loan off now.

Looking at revenue page Patrick pointed out that investment income should increase this year. He also stated that the occupancy tax was up while the meals tax was not.

Patrick wanted to discuss the OPEB line which is funded at 96%. Patrick would like to have a policy with options on using OPEB as we are nearing 100% funded. Chuck said that he wanted input from Finance.

Patrick said that he asked Mike to increase the Cultural Council budget by \$5,000. The Glendale Solar Maintenance was decreased for \$15,000 to 5,000 as it is not needed. He added that there are concerns about the inflation rate and whether the 2.5% increase for nonunion employee salaries is adequate. He said that he would like to keep the raise at 2.5% but repeat the ARPA bonus of \$1,000 full-time/\$500 to part-time. Patrick made a motion to use ARPA funds at the end of this year to fund \$1,000 for full-timers and \$500 for part-timers.

Jamie seconded; all were in favor. The recommendation to Finance will be that the raises are left at 2.5%. Patrick next discussed the litigation budget bringing it down from \$85,000 to \$65,000 but further down to \$30,000. Patrick made a motion that they lower that to \$30,000. Jamie seconded; all were in favor. In the Police budget purchase of equipment has increased with the purchase of new tasers. In the Fire Department, salary for another full-time fire fighter/EMT employee was added along with increasing the stipends. Patrick would like Finance to weigh in on this also.

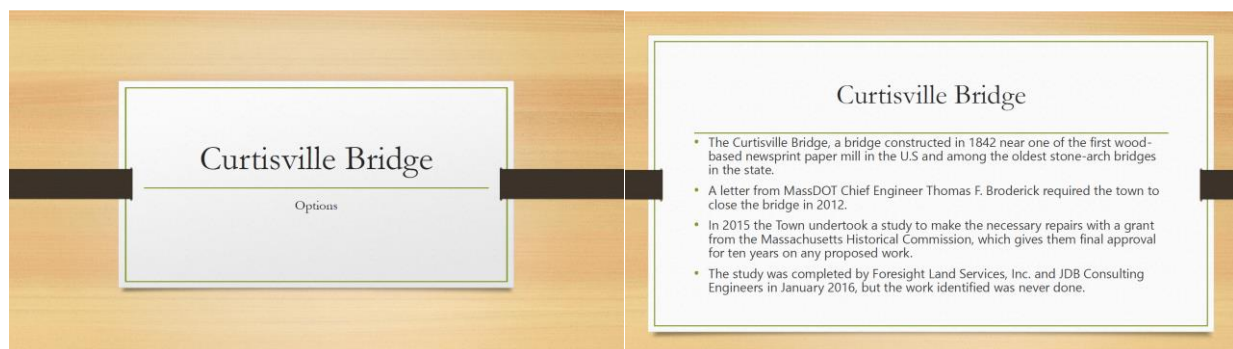
Patrick made a motion that they refer this draft budget with the open items of OPEB and fire fighters, allowing Michael to make minor changes necessary based on new information over the next week. Chuck seconded; all were in approval.

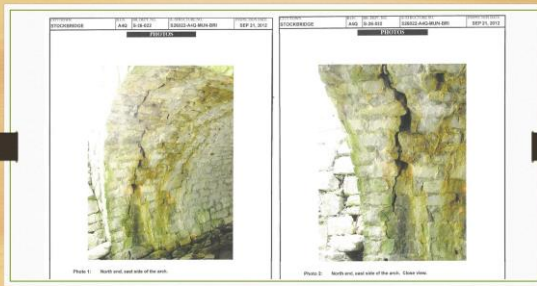
### Short term rental management tools discussion

Patrick said that with the STR bylaw, as of February there are about 135 STR active with only 12 registered in Town. Names are not provided by the state but there are tools that allow to automate the complaint process, automate reminder letters to register and sign up with the MassDOR. Patrick said they received a quote from Granicus of \$12-13,000. Patrick suggested doing a pilot and use free cash to fund it and do a one-year contract with GoGov or Granicus to have better insights to the STR market. Chuck did not see the need at this cost but suggested bringing this to Finance. Jamie asked for more information.

### Curtisville Bridge – Initial Discussions of options

Mike said that he has had a number of discussions with residents in the area and said that it is one item that we do not have a good plan around. Mike shared the presentation below:





## Curtisville Bridge

- During site visits in April and May, 2020 by Foresight Land Services, Inc. and JDB Consulting Engineers, respectively, the existing bridge structure was observed to have deteriorated significantly. Specifically, they observed that the abutments are being undermined by erosion, the stones are continuing to separate within the arch and upstream walls have continued to fail. Therefore, the decision was made to move the utilities off the bridge structure.

## 2015 North Elevation



PHOTO PANORAMA EXISTING NORTH ELEVATION  
REFER TO HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE GENERAL NOTES  
PAGE 4-11-17

## 2015 North Elevation



Wing wall has collapsed.

## 2015 South Elevation



PHOTO PANORAMA EXISTING SOUTH ELEVATION  
REFER TO HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE GENERAL NOTES  
PAGE 4-11-17



Stones at base have been pushed out from erosion behind wing wall.



Stones at base have been pushed out from erosion behind wing wall.

## Today Status - Closed

- The bridge structure has deteriorated significantly since 2015. The arch continues to separate.
- The wing walls have deteriorated significantly since 2015 including the upstream section that has failed.
- The abutments are being undermined by erosion
- Rail system is not stable.

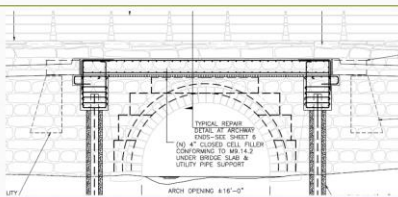
### Option 1

- Remove the existing stone arch bridge.
- Protect the banks by rebuilding wing walls using old stones set in a poured in place concrete walls. Possible bank sheathing needed.
- Explore possible use of utility bridge to support a pedestrian bridge.
- Least expensive – no estimate at this time.

### Option 2

- Remove the existing stone arch bridge.
- Use the old stones to create a façade while underneath would be a chapter 85 road bridge.
- Protect the banks by rebuilding wing walls using old stones set in a poured in place concrete walls.
- Estimated at \$2,700,000 (needs updating)

### Chapter 85 Bridge Underneath



### Option 3

- Remove the existing stone arch bridge.
- Use the old stones to create a façade while underneath would be a pedestrian bridge.
- Protect the banks by rebuilding wing walls using old stones set in a poured in place concrete walls.
- Estimated at \$2,300,000 (needs updating)

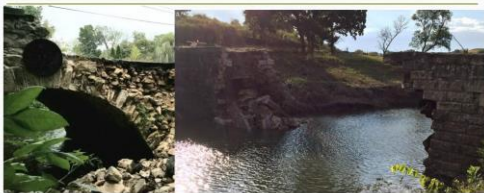
### Option 4

- Reconstruct existing stone arch bridge. Use the old stones to rebuild the bridge.
- Protect the banks by rebuilding wing walls using old stones.
- Estimated at \$6,500,000 (needs updating)
- Would not be built to Chapter 85 standards therefore the weight limits could not be set and would most likely only be rated as a pedestrian bridge.

### Next Steps

- Choose an option (s)
- Proceed with engineering or feasibility studies if more than one option explored.
- Secure funding.
- Town will control approval in FY 2026

### Results of no action!



Mike added that there are many ideas but within the next year we should come up with a definitive plan. There is only a ten-year deed restriction on this. Mike said there will be much more to follow. Patrick advocated for option two.

### Public Comment

Anita Schwerner stated that there has been a violation of the town bylaws, Article 3 Section 5, by hiring Roxanne McCaffrey as the Council on Aging Director before her year as Selectmen had expired.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business, Patrick adjourned the meeting.

Please see <https://ctsbtv.org/government-channel-1303/> to view the full meeting.