

STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, May 13, 2021
6:30 p.m.
ZOOM MEETING - TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET

Present:

Chuck Cardillo, Roxanne McCaffrey, Patrick White and Mike Canales

Call to Order:

Chuck called the meeting to order.

First on the agenda, Chuck moved that they open the special permit hearing for Russell and Mary Lou Glazer for property located at 5 Mahkeenac Shores Road and to waive the reading of the notice to be incorporated into the minutes. Patrick seconded; all were in favor.

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 via Zoom Meeting, at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 13, 2021 to consider the application of Russell and Mary Lou Glazer for property located at 5 Mahkeenac Shores 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 in an R-2 zone.

Persons wishing to access this public hearing via zoom should consult the posted Agenda for instructions and access codes.

The application is filed in the Town Clerk's Office and the Selectmen's Office from where a digital copy of the application can be requested.

Ernest J. Cardillo,
Chairman

The Berkshire Eagle
April 21, 2021

The Berkshire Eagle
April 28, 2021

Russ and Mary Lou Glazer reviewed their request to finish the basement of their home. Dana Bixby, their architect, stated that the existing finished area will exceed the zoning ratios and therefore the need of a special permit. With no comments from the public, Chuck closed the public hearing. Chuck made a motion to grant the special permit. Patrick: aye, Chuck: aye, Roxanne: aye.

Next, Chuck made a motion to open the special permit hearing for Murray A. Klayman & Judith S. Roberts for property located at 21 Beachwood Drive and to waive the reading of the notice to be incorporated into the minutes. Patrick seconded; all were in favor.

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Judy Roberts stated that they purchased a house in Beechwood in July and they were asking to add a small addition, the width of the existing deck but it will be encroaching on the set back if they extend it to 8 feet. Including the screen porch, it puts the addition at 6.4% lot coverage (under 10%). With no comments from the public, Chuck moved that they close the public hearing. Patrick seconded; all were in favor. Chuck made a motion that they accept the special permit for Judith Roberts at 21 Beachwood Drive. Patrick seconded. Patrick: aye, Chuck: aye, Roxanne: aye.

Discussion of rental of office space at Town Hall to the Berkshire Hills Regional School District was next. Mike said that the district proposed renting the downstairs vacant space (two spaces previously rented as doctor's offices). Chuck said that Chris and Scott would like to retain the smaller room for EMD storage space. Chuck also felt that they should advertise the space. Roxanne also agreed and asked if we were at market value. Mike said that Chris could keep the smaller room for EMD storage for 6 months to a year and then put out an RFP for it. With the larger room they will need to decide if they want to put out an RFP or rent to the school district for programing for older children. The Board asked to have someone from the district come to next Thursday morning's meeting and provide specifics of the program and further detail their proposed use.

Next was to take action on an Annual Entertainment License application of Hand Crafted catering for events located at 2 Depot Street, owned by the Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum Inc. As the applicant was not present, the

Board asked to continue until their next meeting with the applicant in attendance to answer questions.

Next discussion was on Economic Development funds to enhance advertising for the Town. Mike noted that the Board has \$4,800 in a line item for economic programming and he reached out to Barbara at the Chamber of Commerce to see if it could be used to support local businesses. Barbara looked into WAMC Northeast Public Radio for “revitalizing tourism” and they offered 134 total spots for \$4,800. Roxanne questioned advertising on local tv and a price comparison. Patrick said that it was more costly when he looked into it over the winter. Chuck made a motion that they proceed with this. Roxanne seconded; all were in favor.

Mike outlined the Warrant Operating Budget, Pump Station Borrowing and Planning Board Consultant. A Warrant article yet to close on from the operational budget was the cost for ambulance coverage from Lenox and Lee which came in as \$268,871; \$9,000 less than last year. This brings the final to \$7,554,952; down \$61,000 from last year. The school budget is up \$217,000 and when calculated in, the overall difference is an increase of \$156,554. With information from the Assessor’s office there is a projected tax rate is \$9.95. Patrick asked what it would take to keep the tax rate the same (out of free cash or stabilization). Mike said that he could calculate it out but it is still very early now. Mike also cautioned the use of free cash to offset the tax rate. Mike reviewed the remaining articles to act upon: the Park Street Pump Station borrowing. Patrick made a motion to put this on the Warrant. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Chuck made a motion that they accept the operating budget. Roxane seconded; all were in favor.

Mike asked the Board to place an article on the Town Meeting Warrant for a free cash appropriation of \$135,000 to cover any change orders for the Larrywaug Bridge. Chuck made a motion that they put on the Warrant to transfer \$135,000 for bridges. Roxanne seconded; all were in favor.

The only remaining article was \$40,000 for the Planning Board Consultant. Chuck made a motion that they place the \$40,000 on the Warrant for this article. Roxanne seconded: all were in favor.

Roxanne noted that there are planning assistance grants available that could offset the cost, Mike researched it and they can discuss moving ahead with this grant. Patrick said that he would feel more comfortable if Mike was managing the consultants. Bill Vogt explained how the process had change. Chuck reminded Patrick that they were just discussing funding now. Mike said that he hopes to have the final Warrant back from legal and to the Board next week to sign and post.

Next Mike gave an update on the Swap Shop. He said that a new walkway was put in sometime during the garage construction. When inspected, the building inspector had to reject it as it is not ADA compliant. Options to consider are

whether to continue to use the building; can a proper walkway be installed; or are there better location options. Mike is going to work with Ned and Hugh on coming up with a plan. He hopes to have ideas by the end of the month. Chuck said that the Swap Shop is very important to many in the Town and it is best to do everything the right way. Roxanne also mentioned the need of a dog kennel.

Patrick next gave an update on the MVP Action Grant submission for a culvert assessment with Lenox, Pittsfield and New Marlborough. The grants are moving toward regional grants and this would help update the status of culverts in Town.

Next was discussion on boat wash inspectors pay increase and a Boat Ramp manager position. Mike said that he had a request come in from harbormaster, Gary Klinerman, asking to set the inspector pay at \$15/hour and \$20/hour for a manager. The daily hours would be less than last year to offset the budget. Chuck made a motion that they accept the pay increase and position of management. Roxanne seconded; all were in favor.

Patrick said that he met with a member of the Berkshire County League of Sportsmen and they came up with ten recommendations and concerns for the boat ramp. He would like to come in and talk to the Board or the SBSC. Roxanne noted that they have a contract which may cover some of the ideas. Chuck said that the member should come into the next Select Board meeting.

With no further comments, Chuck made a motion to Vote to enter into Executive Session per MGL Ch 30A, sec 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body. Chair to declare that they will return to open meeting session upon completion of the executive session. Roxanne seconded. Vote: Aye Patrick, Aye Chuck, Aye Roxanne.

Chuck made a motion to return to open meeting. Roxanne seconded. Vote: Aye Patrick, Aye Chuck, Aye Roxanne.

Chuck made a motion that they accept the contract for the union for the Police Department. Patrick seconded. Vote: Aye Patrick, Aye Chuck, Aye Roxanne.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Chuck adjourned the meeting.