

## Selectmen's minutes of meeting July 17, 2017

Members present: John Skrip, Alice Boyd, Mark Newman, Richard White,  
Bob O'Brien, Dolores Harasyko

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

It is with deep respect that we acknowledge the Mahican Tribe, the pathfinders of our community.

John introduced Richard White as the interim Town Administrator.

John opened the Special Permit Public Hearing for Andre and Constance D'Andrea. John read aloud the notice. Dolores confirmed that the public hearing notice was advertised for two consecutive weeks in the Berkshire Record and all abutters notices were sent by certified mail and also posted to the town's website and posted in three locations throughout town. Abutting towns also notified. John invited the public to comment.

Dan Pinsky has concerns about the noise of high powered weapons and also about the sales of guns at the house. Connie confirmed that they will not be firing guns on her property. They have a showcase in Housatonic. They make a mold of the guns in order to make a holster for the guns. The only shooting in from the property owners, not the customers. Connie agreed to hold her personal shooting practice to Saturdays from 2p.m. to 4 p.m.

Mary Turek asked about the future sales of guns, can this turn into a guns sale store. Connie responded that this will be by appointment only, probably on Saturdays.

Mary asked about ammunition. Connie responded that she will sell ammunition later. John clarified that the sale of ammunition and gun smithing is not part of this special permit. Dolores explained the need and process for a special permit. There is no commercial zone in town therefore each business has to be handled by special permit. Alice clarified again that this special permit is for the sale or transfer of ownership of guns only.

Jill Reiter asked about signage, traffic and shooting. Connie responded that she will follow the bylaws regarding signs but will probably not put signs out.

The selectmen explained that a condition of the special permit will be that if Connie intends to sell ammunition or do gun smithing she must come before the selectboard for another special permit.

Mark reiterated that the business will be to sell or transfer ownership of guns only, nothing else. Discussed hours of operation. They will be Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 9a.m. to 2 p.m.

Motion by Alice to approve the Special Permit for the sale or transfer of ownership of guns only with the condition that the D'Andrea's come back to the town for any other business other than the sale or transfer of ownership of guns such as the sale of ammunition or gun smithing.

Roll call vote to approve: John, yes, Alice, yes, Mark, yes

Dolores reviewed the 21 day appeal period. Nothing happens until the appeal period expires.

Highway Department updates: They continue to work on Town Hill Rd, dealing with boring issues with Kinder Morgan, permit issues. Bob is looking into alternative ways to track fuel usage. There were trees down on five roads in town last week. They will be mowing in the upcoming weeks. He continues to follow up on the Rugg Bridge. He has some alternate ideas that may lower the cost of the bridge.

Motion by Alice, second by Mark, passed unanimously to appoint Rosanne Hoekstra and Ellen Croibier Fischman to the Cultural Council.

Selectmen's updates:

Alice has a meeting on July 27 to complete the broadband negotiations. Kathy Jacobs asked about the financial status of Frontier, Alice explained that they tried something that didn't work. They have done a thorough vetting of Frontiers financials and have found them to be fiscally sound. Otis Woodlands will put in their own conduit and Frontier will run the fiber through them.

John continues to work with the town hall staff. The audit continues. He is working with the highway department. He commended the staff for all their hard work.

Mark would like to evaluate Bob O'Brien in an executive session. Alice explained that it couldn't be done in executive session. She suggested the town administrator develop an evaluation sheet that each selectmen would fill out. The town administrator would compile the results and meet with Bob with or without one selectmen present.

John and Dolores will be meeting with the towns insurance representative to review policies.

Discussed future agenda items:

Bob would like to have Chapter 90 paperwork signed at the next meeting.

Mail reviewed

Warrants reviewed and signed

Minutes reviewed and signed

At 7:52 motion to enter into Executive Session for the express purpose of discussing contract negotiations and to adjourn immediately after.

Roll call vote: John, yes, Alice, yes, Mark, yes

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John Skrip

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Alice Boyd

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Mark Newman

