



## HOUSATONIC REST OF RIVER MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2021; Zoom Meeting

**1. Introductions.** T. Matuszko opened the meeting at 11:30am, announced it was being recorded and introduced each of the Committee members and the municipality each represents, BRPC staff and consultants, acknowledged Sean Regnier, a Lee Selectman and member of the public on the call. Attending the meeting were the following Committee members:

Pat Carlino, Lee Select Board & Representative  
Channing Gibson, Lenox Representative  
Chris Rembold, Great Barrington Town Planner, Assistant Town Manager & Representative  
Steve Shatz, Stockbridge Representative  
R. Wood, Sheffield Select Board & Representative

and: Tom Matuszko, BRPC  
Melissa Provencher, BRPC  
Lauren Gaherty, BRPC  
Nat Karns, BRPC

**2. Review of minutes of January 15, 2021 meeting.**

**A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by S. Shatz, seconded C. Gibson, and approved 5-0 on a roll call vote.**

**3. Public Comments. None**

**4. Law Firm Update.** T. Matuszko reviewed the Committee on the movement of M. Pawa and his legal team have moved from Hagens-Berman to Seeger Weiss LLP. As discussed at a previous meeting, the Committee has the choice of staying with Hagens-Berman and their legal staff or moving with M. Pawa and team to Seeger Weiss. The Committee had previously decided to continue to retain M. Pawa and his team as our legal counsel, but no motion had been made. S. Shatz reviewed his concerns with the engagement letter as it currently reads and wanted a retainer release letter from Hagens-Berman.

**A motion to retain M. Pawa and associates at Seeger Weiss LLP as the Committee's legal counsel and seek a retainer release letter from/to Hagens-Berman within 30 days was made by R. Wood, seconded by P. Carlino, and approved 5-0 on a roll call vote.**

It was clarified that the billing arrangements would remain the same.

**5. Other Business & Next Meeting.**

A request for an updated Committee financial statement was made and will be provided at the next meeting, which was set for 3/19 at 9am.

**6. Executive Session – Legal Strategy and Adjournment.**

**On a motion made by P. Carlino, seconded by R. Wood, and passed by 5-0 roll call vote, the Rest of River Municipal Committee went into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing its strategy relative to Rest of River cleanup litigation and possible appeals. Such discussion, if held in an open meeting, could have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the ROR municipalities on this matter, and it was stated the Committee would not return into open session. The Committee went into Executive Session at 11:14am.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:03pm

**Meeting Materials:**

- Meeting Agenda 3-11-21
- Draft Meeting Minutes of 1-15-21

Respectfully submitted,

Rene Wood,  
Sheffield's Representative