



Town of Sherman  
Board of Selectman  
Budget Workshop  
April 2, 2014  
7:00 p.m.  
Mallory Town Hall

FINAL

Members Present: First Selectman, C. Cope, Selectman B. Ostrosky, and Selectman A. O'Connor

The purpose of this Meeting is to continue work on the FY 2014-15 Municipal Budget

First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment-

G. Linkletter- Shared concern in reference to the new Facilities Manager position created in February this fiscal year. In particular Mr. Linkletter focused his concern about the necessity of this position on the Town's side of the Budget. He stated there are a total of 10 buildings owned by the Town, of which he feels only 2 or 3 may be of concern, those buildings are considered seasonal or limited use. In closing Mr. Linkletter stated he feels the position was unwarranted and upkeep of the buildings could be better handled under the supervision of the First Selectman or the Town Crew.

K. Cushnie- Shared her disappointment in reference to the recently reduced Library Grant Funding for FY 2014-15 Budget request. Mrs. Cushnie stated this was her first time hearing the request was reduced, and that making comparison to last FY Budget request was unfair, since the library was operating in a smaller location during renovations. Mrs. Cushnie stated the Library has made every effort to raise additional funding, and feels like they are moving backward. In closing, Mrs. Cushnie stated it was going to be a challenging year without the full funding, there has been more attendance since the re-opening and is offering many new programs.

Five Year Capital Plan 2014 – 2019-

Highlights of this discussion include, the school roof funding requested at \$150,000.00. First Selectman Cope stated he would like to look into this cost further. The BoS cut \$ 44,100.00 from the School Roof request. Replacement of the boat dock was discussed. Selectman Ostrosky contacted someone that is selling used docks similar to the sizes currently at the Sherman Town Beach. Fifty used docks could be purchased in this Fiscal Year for \$20,000.00. Selectman O'Connor stated the new docks need to comply with what First Light has approved, and recommended to coordinate with the ZEO. The BoS agreed not to remove the Dock Replacement from the Capital Plan until there is more information about sizing and compliance. The BoS agreed to reduce the Capital Reserve by \$ 50,000.00. Discussion turned to Park & Recreation, SPARK program. It has come to light the program is running at a deficit, with dwindling enrollment, the BoS discussed the longevity of the program. If enrollment isn't increased, is the program worth continuing. Discussion moved to the possibility of the School absorbing the responsibility of the afterschool program. The BoS agreed to leave the SPARK funding in the Budget with conditions the program enrollment must show improvement this coming fiscal year. Selectman Ostrosky has reached out to the Park & Rec. Director for feedback regarding the program, and will share an email he has received with the Board. Discussion moved to the ESF building operating costs increasing by \$ 20,000.00. Business Administrator L. LaVia stated that cost will most likely be lower, but since the building has just began use so it was hard to estimate a full year for fuel, electricity, etc. The installation of the new phone systems for the School and Town Hall was also budgeted high, more information is needed before this number is firm. The BoS agreed to restore the rate of pay for all Board and Commission Clerks back to the original formula keeping the bottom lines flat. Discussion moved to the Happy Acres Commission clerk fees and Miscellaneous line of \$ 1,750.00, could this line be paid from the cell tower revenues? The BoS was in favor of using the revenue from the cell tower to cover the Clerk and

miscellaneous for the Happy Acres Farm Committee line. The BoS discussed the total reduction of \$ 45,850.00 from the Proposed FY 2014-15 bringing the bottom line to \$ 14,074,033.00.

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to approve the combined BoS & BoE, Town of Sherman Proposed FY 2014-2015 Budget amounting to a total of \$ 14, 074,033.00.

Seconded by: Selectman A. O'Connor

Vote: For: 2 (Cope & Ostrosky) Against: 1 (O'Connor)

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to bring the Approved combined BoS & BoE, Town of Sherman Proposed FY 2014-2015 Budget amounting to a total of \$ 14, 074,033.00 to a Town Meeting set for April 25, 2014 and a Referendum Vote set for May 3, 2014.

Seconded by: Selectman A. O'Connor

Vote: For: 2 (Cope & Ostrosky) Abstain: 1 (O'Connor)

Adjournment:

Selectman B. Ostrosky Adjourned the Meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Christine Branson  
April 9, 2014

APPROVED as written at April 24, 2014 RMM



First Selectman C. Cope



Selectman B. Ostrosky



Selectman A. O'Connor