



**Town of Sherman  
Board of Selectman  
Special Meeting  
September 2, 2014  
7:00 p.m.  
Mallory Town Hall**

**FINAL**

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

**Invited & Guests:** E. Smolen, K. McCon.... J. Molito, K. Clark, D. Hopkins, J. Hopkins, J. Chiaramonte and V. Shere (Citizen News)

**First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order** at 7:02 p.m.

**Purpose:** To review tenant farmer proposals for Happy Acres Farm

The BoS had the opportunity to review the proposals over the weekend. The Board discussed their goals for this meeting, and agreed to evaluate each proposal and apply scores to the following categories.

**Proposal 1:**

**Full Circle Farming, LLC**

**Proposed Use:** Cattle/ diversified agriculture

**Experience:** Medium

**Community engagement:** Strong

**Additional ventures:** Strong, offering many ideas

**Economic:** \$15,040.00 annually

**Business plan:** Strong

**Occupy farm house:** yes, two families as well as sub-let the apartment

**Use equipment:** yes

**Maintain character of the farm:** need additional info.

**Additional comments:** Proposing a heavily diversified funding strategy

**Proposal 2:**

**Lescynski Farm, LLC**

Proposed Use: **Cattle**

Experience: **Very strong**

Community engagement: **Open houses, children's educational programs, community gardens (maintained by Town and responsibility of insurance to the Town for that portion of the property).**

Economic: **Medium, potential cost to Town**

Business plan: **Need additional information.**

Occupy farm house: **No**

Use equipment: **Some, will assume financial responsibility for each piece of equipment repairs up to \$1,500.00**

Maintain character of the farm: **Main objective. Very Strong**

Additional comments: **Willing to purchase heard outright. Opportunity for the Town to gain additional revenue by renting out the farm house separately. Applicant requesting use of Cell Tower revenue to off-set cost of hand.**

**Proposal 3:**

**Rosie's Dairy**

Proposed Use: **Dairy**

Experience: **Very strong**

Community engagement: **yes, diverse proposals. Strong**

Additional ventures: **farm stand, diverse meat/ dairy products**

Economic: **10% profits up to \$25,000.00 annually, sell heard, and some equipment**

Business plan: **Five year proposal. Town to maintain road side upkeep, mowing. need additional info**

Occupy farm house: **yes**

Use equipment: **no**

Maintain character of the farm: **medium**

Additional comments: **Dairy vs. cattle, many questions concerning financial and business plans, many objections to lease.**

**Proposal 4:**

**Greystone Farm**

Proposed Use: **Cattle/ educational**

Experience: **medium**

Community engagement: **children's programs, high school programs, seeking adults as volunteers to maintain and upkeep. Bird watching, plein air painting workshops, community harvest dinners, Strong**

Additional ventures: **Farm stand/ grass fed beef allowing other local farmers to sell at farm stand**

Economic: **\$ 1.00 annually**

Business plan: **unclear**

Occupy farm house: **Not sure**

Use equipment: **Needs assessment**

Maintain character of the farm: **medium**

**Additional comments: The Board stated they felt this proposal did not fit the criteria the Town is seeking.**

**Proposal 5:**

**Mid-Island Aggregate Distribution, LLC**

Proposed Use: **Keep heard intact for breeding/ sell excess cattle, Town will receive 10%. Terracing the land to revitalize nutrients. Bringing in 4,000,000 yards of topsoil.**

Community engagement: **yes**

Additional ventures: **yes, agricultural crops and recycling earth products**

Economic: **\$1.00 annual**

Business plan: **confusing**

Occupy farm house: **yes, living and educational/ office**

Use equipment: **not clear**

Maintain character of the farm: **no**

**Additional comments: The Board stated they felt this proposal did not fit the criteria the Town is seeking.**

**Proposal 6:**

**CT Edible Ecosystems**

Proposed Use: **Community farm/ Agricultural education/ diverse food crops**

Experience: **Medium**

Community engagement: **yes/ community gardens, school are as well as adult programming, volunteers/ donations to local food banks.**

Additional ventures: **yes**

Economic: **weak**

Business plan: **confusing**

Occupy farm house: **yes, living and educational/ office**

Use equipment: **not clear**

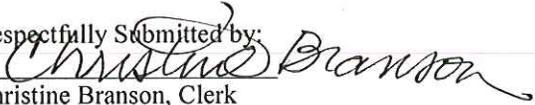
Maintain character of the farm: **not clear**

**Additional comments: The Board stated they felt this proposal did not fit the criteria the Town is seeking.**

Following the evaluation process, the Board agreed to eliminate Greystone Farm, Mid Island Aggregate, and CT Edible Eco-Systems from the group of candidates, stating they did not fit the criteria the Town is seeking. The Board agreed to set up the next meeting to interview the remaining three candidates. They will prepare questions before the meeting, allow one hour for each applicant. In addition, the Board will reach out to others in the community who have shown interest in the selection process and who can offer expertise in the field.

**Selectman B. Ostrosky Adjourned the Meeting at 8:39 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

  
Christine Branson, Clerk  
September 9, 2014

\*Approved as written at the Regular Monthly Meeting of October 23, 2014

  
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First Selectman C. Cope

  
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Selectman B. Ostrosky

  
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Selectman A. O'Connor