



Town of Sherman
Board of Selectman
Regular Monthly Meeting
September 25, 2014
6:30 p.m.
Mallory Town Hall

FINAL

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

First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 6:31 p.m.

Executive Session-

The Selectmen met in an Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to take the Meeting into Executive Session at 6:31 p.m.
Seconded by: A. O'Connor Vote: For: Unanimous

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Resume the Regular Meeting at 6:52 p.m.
Seconded by: B. Ostrosky Vote: For: Unanimous

Approval of Minutes:

Tabled until October Meeting

Correspondence:

Trantolo & Trantolo- N. LeBlanc writing to inform the Town of the Annual Motorcycle event to honor the Fraternal Order of Police, Chapter 28 to take place September 28, 2014 between 1:00pm and 2:00 pm, a large group of motorcyclists are anticipated to pass through the Town of Sherman from New Fairfield along Route 39 to Route 55 and onto Route 7 heading North.

Resident State Trooper, M. Saraceno- Informing the Town of the Annual Drug Take Back Day, September 27, 2014 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Department of Public Works.

Candlewood Lake Authority- Meeting Minutes of September, 2014

Planning & Zoning Commission- in reference to a vacancy on the Commission to expire January 1, 2016, seeking recommendations.

Planning & Zoning Commission- in reference to Affordable Housing

Planning & Zoning Commission- addendum to letter regarding Affordable Housing.

J. Wozniack- resignation as Chair on Conservation Commission.

Public Comment:

M. Josephson- requesting any information regarding use of the Happy Acres Farm Trust fund.

J. Hopkins- correspondence regarding creating a policy for the Town accepting gifts.

Old Business:

Progress report on Town projects

Happy Acres Farm RFP-

The workshop meetings continue, the September 29, 2014 Meeting is set to meet and discuss the requested materials from Full Circle Farm, LLC and Lescynski Farming, LLC.

Playhouse Bathrooms

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to award the Playhouse Bathroom bid to Hawley Construction for the amount not to exceed \$ 79,923.00
Seconded by: B. Ostrosky Vote: For: Unanimous

School Roof RFP

The Facilities Manager has received four bids, and will attend bid opening at the BoE Meeting on Monday September 29, 2014.

SVFD Tires

Chief, C. Pitcher spoke in reference to a Budget Error when requested the funding for the tires. Originally the front tires were thought to cost \$ 350.00 for each front tire and \$ 300.00 each for the rears. The new cost is anticipated to be \$561.00 for each front tire and \$ 415.00 for each rear tire. The new cost will be \$ 6,943.64 for a total of sixteen tires. The original approved funding request was in the amount of \$ 5,300.00, the overage is anticipated to be \$ 1,650.00. The State requires the tires changed every ten years. The BoS determined if the SVFD didn't approve the use of membership funding to offset the cost, this expense request would have to be approved at a Town Meeting.

VOIP Town Hall phone system update

First Selectman C. Cope reported the new telephone systems have been installed at Town Hall, there are still are a few small issues, but off to a good start.

Road Paving Report

Wanzer Hill Road

Three inches of Class 1 asphalt were applied, and are in the process of backfilling.

Briarwood Drive

The road has been reclaimed. The concrete bridge is badly deteriorated, pictures were provided. The concrete was re-poured. S&S Paving will place a light coat of asphalt over the concrete. The bridge will need to be re-evaluated next year.

Spring Lake Road update

Still pending litigation.

Emergency Services Facility

Maintenance to the HVAC system and central control system are underway, all other routine issues are being completed.

Emergency Radio Communications report

First Selectman C. Cope stated he intends reach out to the CT Siting Counsel and request an assessment of the Sherman area to identify telecommunications coverage. The request is sent to various carriers and the Siting Counsel will create a detailed map of coverage within 60 to 90 days, this report can be submitted electronically. First Selectman C. Cope stated he thinks this would be a great resource and will contact the Siting Counsel.

D. Hopkins provided a report entitled, " Fire Department Radio System, Current Status Report, September 2014" Mr. Hopkins the Fire Department Radio system identifies three problems; poor broadcast to the North end and to the South, no radio coverage. LCD's dispatch problems if there is a power drop there is limited communication. The Town should have a back up dispatch. Mr. Hopkins also discussed FCC licenses, the Town has three, one expired in 2013, one was used for Town Meadows and the third will expire next year, it was recommended to protect this license. Mr. Hopkins recommends moving the current emergency communications antenna to the ESF building. Mr. Hopkins discussed repeater systems, which could be placed in the center of Town. This would improve coverage. The cost of implementation of these recommendations will be approximately \$ 30,000.00. Step two of the proposal involves simulcast equipment added to the ESF at a cost of approximately \$ 60,000.00. Steps three and four include transmit and receive; simulcast and repeaters, piggy backed on a cell tower or explore and develop a site for a pole. The cost of this phase will be approximately \$ 100,000.00. Discussion followed regarding clarification if the cost of the actual pole (\$ 30,000.00) was included in the \$100,000.00. Mr. Hopkins will get more information regarding the pole funding and report at the next Meeting. Mr. Hopkins requested the BoS act whether in or not in support before the group puts forth additional efforts.

Disbursement controls discussion

Selectman B. Ostrosky provided a handout to the Board regarding implementation of specific procedures regarding Purchase Orders, policies, terms, conditions and procedures. Mr. Ostrosky requested a collaborative meeting with the BoS and Business Administrator for further input and discussion. Also discussed was a recommendation for periodic departmental asset reviews.

Draft ordinance for septic tank visual inspection/ walk over- program

The BoS discussed the need for additional information regarding the Ordinance, as well as a timeframe designated for required action if the property is found out of compliance.

Public Works Wash Station

Selectman B. Ostrosky Made a Motion to take the following question to the Annual Town Meeting of October 24th, 2014:" To appropriate the sum of \$205,000.00 for the design, construction, implementation and related expenses of a Department of Public Works truck wash station, and to meet said appropriation, to authorize the First Selectman to apply for and accept on behalf of the Town, a Connecticut STEAP Grant in the amount of \$ 205,000.00; and further to authorize the First Selectman, or other proper officer of the Town, to execute a grant agreement and such other documents as may be required by the State of Connecticut for such purposes."
Seconded by: A. O'Connor Vote: For: Unanimous

HVCEO/ SWERPA merger update:

First Selectman C. Cope spoke In reference to a request of the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the Merger between local planning groups. First Selectman C. Cope reported he attended the September Meeting of NWC and met the Director, Rick Lynn and where they discussed Litchfield County culvert inventory, a Tiger Grant for the railway services in the City of Torrington, and tree trimming. First Selectman C. Cope stated he didn't feel this group had the same priorities as Sherman. Selectman A. O'Connor asked if this still should go to a Town Meeting to provide information to the public. Mrs. O'Connor also stated the Town should be aware of the expenses attached to joining these planning agencies, to assess the benefits.

New Business

Tax Refunds

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Approve Tax Refunds in the Amount of \$ 1,212.50
Seconded by: B. Ostrosky Vote: For: Unanimous

Appointments to Commissions:

Housing Commission

Following a brief discussion any appointment of new Commissioners will be postponed until further notice. In light of the recommendations from Planning and Zoning, new details are forthcoming which may change the charge of a Housing Commission. The discussion was tabled until the October Meeting, no Action was taken.

Conservation Commission

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to appoint the following members to the Conservation Commission: Lucille Hinkley and John Foley.
Seconded by: A. O'Connor Vote: For: Unanimous

Re-Appointment of the Building Code Official:

Following a brief discussion regarding no changes to the terms of the contract, the Selectman agreed to re-appoint William Jenks as Building Code Official for another four year term.

Library parking lot discussion

M. Loeb, Director of the Sherman Library spoke in response to an inquiry from K. McConaughey regarding the responsibility of the Library to maintain the pervious parking lot. The Library is in the process of seeking a piece of equipment to vacuum the surface and assumes all responsibility with the maintenance and upkeep of the lot. It was recommended by the Zoning Enforcement Officer signs should mark where the pervious surface begins and ends for plowing purposes. J. Lucious from the Board of Directors added, the Public Works knows not to sand the surface. First Selectman C. Cope asked if there is any impact from the water run-off. Mrs. Loeb responded it is working very well, if there are any repairs needed the Library assumes all responsibility for repairs.

Clerk rate-of-pay formula discussion

It was brought to the BoS from the Conservation Commission with concerns that they were running through their Budget too soon. It was then determined that there was a mistake when applying the formula for the Clerk's rate of pay. First Selectman C. Cope stated some of the Conservation's anticipated overage was caused by the purchase of the Weed Wrench. Selectman B. Ostrosky stated the Clerk's rate of pay needs to be restored to what the formula was intended to be. And moving forward the rate of pay for all Clerks should follow a standard formula. Selectman A. O'Connor stated that was the intention of the formula in the first place. The Clerk's rate of pay will revert back to the intended formula; a follow meeting with the Business Administrator was also requested.

Mike Luzi Appreciation Day and proclamation (in recognition of Mr. Luzi's over 30 years as owner of the Sherman IGA)

The BoS discussed details regarding the celebration to honor Mr. Luzi and it was agreed to reach out to the Sherman School as well as order a cake. The event will take place Saturday October 11th, 2014 and will be called "Shop at the IGA day".

General Discussion: Items to be brought up by Selectmen for future agendas

P&Z Affordable Housing

Septic Walk over- continuation of discussion

Gifts to the Town, Policy

Appointments to Housing Commission

Art Von Plachecki

Michael Berenberg

Carol Faure

Public Comment:

- P. Amhurst - spoke in reference to the Affordable Housing. Does the affordable housing apartment follow in perpetuity with the property or is it in affect during the time the owner lives in the home?
- D. Hopkins- spoke in reference to the merger of Planning Agencies, stating Sherman has a lot more in common with the Northwestern Hills than the Southern areas of Connecticut. He urges the BoS to look deeper into the benefits of merging with NWCC.
- S. Maletz- spoke in favor of contacting the CT Siting Counsel to generate a report of coverage. Also requested information on what benefits the Town has received upon the expenditure of the \$ 35,000.00 spent previously to create reports of coverage. Mr. Maletz encourages contacting other cell carriers to see if there is any interest to erect cell towers in the Sherman area.

Adjournment

Selectman A. O'Connor Adjourned the Meeting at 8:55 p.m.

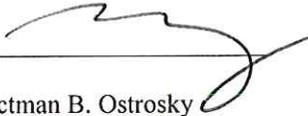
Respectfully Submitted by:


Christine Branson, Clerk
October 1, 2014

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



First Selectman C. Cope



Selectman B. Ostrosky



Selectman A. O'Connor