



Town of Sherman  
Board of Selectman  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
February 26, 2015  
7:00 p.m.  
Mallory Town Hall

FINAL

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

**Call to Order:**

First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 7:03p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

BoS Regular Monthly Meeting of January 22, 2015

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve Minutes of BoS Regular Monthly Meeting of January 22, 2015 as amended.

Seconded by: First Selectman C. Cope Vote: For: Unanimous

**Correspondence-**

**J. McAlister-** writing in favor of proposed Septic Ordinance/ visual walk over program.

**Candlewood Lake Authority-** Announcement of 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual State of Our Lake Event, to be held March 21, 2015, 9:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Candlewood Lake Club in Brookfield.

**Julia's Wings Foundation-** Encouraging Sherman residents to tie a red bow on their mailbox to show support and raise awareness of Aplastic Anemia, the week of March 1<sup>st</sup> through March 7<sup>th</sup>,

**Public Comment-**

**T. Hahn-** of the Timber Trails Property Owners Association, submitted a letter that was read into record regarding traffic volume traveling Routes 37 and 39, over 2,600 cars pass through the town on a daily basis. That is 2,600 plus individuals that are potentially at risk by not receiving consistent and reliable cell coverage throughout their commute. Mrs. Hahn requested the BoS take action, contact the CT Siting Counsel and request reconsideration of placing a cell tower in the Town of Sherman. Attached to the letter was November 19, 2014 correspondence and coverage reports furnished by the CT Siting Counsel.

**G. Albert-** Requesting an update in reference to the information from the Town of Walpole, Massachusetts, submitted last month concerning allowing religious decorations and displays on Town owned property.

**Old Business-**

**Progress Report on Town Projects**

**Playhouse Bathrooms-**

First Selectman Cope reported the final stages are anticipated to be complete by next Monday.

**SVFD Tires-**

First Selectman Cope said he has requested a Purchase Order from Chief Pitcher, and will table this item to the next meeting.

#### **Spring Lake Road-**

First Selectman Cope referred to email correspondence from Indigo Land Design Engineer, Joe Wren, requesting a final payment of \$ 4,846.56, this fee reflects a credit of \$ 2,500.00 for faulty crack sealing and a faulty mortar patch at the culvert headwall. The BoS discussed project details; the work performed was on a two mile stretch that began in 2011. The project cost to date is \$818,210.46.

#### **Emergency Services Facility Project-**

First Selectman Cope reported the air drops have been delivered.

#### **Emergency Radio Communications-**

Discussion was tabled until the Budget Hearing on February 28, 2015.

#### **Briarwood Road Bridge-**

First Selectman Cope reported he met with Ned Statchen, District 4; Bridge Safety & Evaluation from the Connecticut Department of Transportation. Mr. Statchen conducted an inspection of the Briarwood Road Bridge and stated, based on the preventative repairs performed a few months ago to reduce erosion, the bridge is considered safe and no longer compromised, he will provide a written report.

#### **Public Works Wash Station-**

First Selectman Cope reported correspondence from Cramer & Anderson's Atty. D. Schiesel regarding the Public Works Wash Station project and bid package documents. Atty. D. Schiesel recommends a Construction Manager to oversee the project. The BoS discussed details briefly.

#### **Housing Commission-**

There was nothing new to report, the Commission did not meet in February.

#### **Monthly Financial Summary-**

Treasurer, E. Holub reported two areas which are running high; the Public Works, Road Maintenance line is running high at 106.48%, as expected because of the work done on Briarwood Lake Road and Spring Lake Road and the Public Safety Supplies line, at 427.29%.

#### **Disbursement Controls Policy Update-**

This discussion was deferred to the P&R discussion, later in the meeting.

#### **Forum Results for draft ordinance septic tank visual inspection-**

First Selectman Cope reported the Friday forum attendance was sparse The Saturday forum had many more attendees. The focus of any opposition was based around privacy. The BoS discussed meeting with Tim Simpkins, Health Director again as a group to discuss further details.

## **HVCEO/ SWERPA/ WCCOG-**

The BoS discussed an email from Francis Pickering, the Executive Director of WCCOG, requesting Board of Selectman approval of a Resolution and Endorsement of the Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program. The BoS tabled any action to the March meeting.

## **Parks & Recreation finance review/ response to audit comments-**

Selectman B. Ostrosky provided a detailed report of the 2013-14 bank statements from Webster bank. This report shows deposits and checks written out of the account for operational purposes, such as summer programming and concert series, activity supplies and trip fees. Mr. Ostrosky discussed accounting practices moving forward with P&R Director, J. Wren. Steps to be implemented include; description on checks, describing the purchase or program associated. The deposit detail should be documented and accompanied with attached bank statements as supporting documentation. A monthly list of outstanding checks, if there are none, a report showing none collected. If a surplus balance exists, it should be transferred to the General Fund. A full signature and date is required to prove evidence of review of the statement and collection report.

## **Dpt. Of Public Works improvement strategies-**

Selectman B. Ostrosky tabled this discussion until the next meeting.

## **Farm Committee**

First Selectman C. Cope and Selectman B. Ostrosky met with Sherman resident, Sue Moga. Sue is the program director at Muskoot Farm in New York State and brings with her a vast knowledge of agriculture and community programming. The three of them met with Full Circle, LLC to go over their Capital Plan. The BoS looks forward to meeting next with Ralph Gorman to do the same.

## **Happy Acres Farm**

The BoS discussed the HAF Five year projected Capital Plan. Some items were structural repairs, however some items were specific to Full Circle, LLC operative ventures. Treasurer E. Holub recommended separating out the structural improvements from the business venture. First Selectman C. Cope read into record an email from Full Circle's Adam Mantzaris: the official calve count to date is 7, two of which they assisted and they received 50 laying chicks, which will start producing eggs in July. Town Treasurer, E. Holub joined the table to discuss a follow up letter received from Town Atty. Sienkiewicz. In the letter, Atty. Sienkiewicz is stated he is holding the documentation regarding the release of mortgage until the BoS makes a decision. The BoS discussed future fund management, and the possibility of investing a portion of the restricted funding from the Hapanowich Trust. Atty. Sienkiewicz stated the Town would be able to proceed with the investment pursuant to CT General Statute 45-535a through 45-535e3 and Section 7- 148 (c)(B)(3) pending further discussion and preparation of an ordinance or resolution defining the investment approach. Mr. Holub recommended utilizing an outside party. The Town Auditor S. Welwood recommended the Investment Branch at Union Savings Bank. First The BoS requested Mr. Holub contact Union Savings and set up a preliminary meeting. Mr. Holub recommended Happy Acres Farm have a separate line in the budget and separate authorization at a Town Meeting.

## New Business

### Tax Refunds

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve a combined property and motor vehicle Tax refund in the amount of \$2,674.49.

Seconded by: First Selectman C. Cope Vote: For: Unanimous

### Appointments, Boards, and Commission Openings

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Appoint Elizabeth Beatty to serve on the Board of Assessment Appeals for the March and September 2015 Meetings.

Seconded by: First Selectman C. Cope Vote: For: Unanimous

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Appoint Juan Garcia and Jeanne McRoberts to serve on the Commission on Aging each for a three year term.

Seconded by: First Selectman C. Cope Vote: For: Unanimous

### Sherman School Boiler

Rowland Hanley, Chairman of the BoE Building Committee spoke in reference to funding the engineering study. He stated he would put forth a request to the Board of Education Budget Committee and request the funding come from their operating budget to cover the engineering study cost. Mr. Hanley shared concerns about long term project oversight and accountability. The BoS discussed points Joe Keneally, also of the BoE spoke in reference to the bid packages received. The BoE received five packages all together, ranging from \$35,500 to \$ 9,800.00. The BoE approved the bid from BL Companies, 355 Research Parkway, Meriden CT 06450-7100. They are a nationwide architecture, engineering, environmental, and land surveying company. The bid was in the amount of \$ 16,080.00 which includes four site visits. Currently the school heater has two operational boilers out of six. The BoE will provide an update after their monthly meeting.

### Sherman School K- Wing

First Selectman, C. Cope read into record an email from CIRMA Risk Management Consultant, Jeff Grundt as well as a formal letter from Mr. Grundt addressing the "Tools for Schools" pursuant to CT Public Act 03-220 that requires schools to adopt and implement an indoor air quality program. Rowland Hanley also spoke in reference to the recent BoE vote to remove the students from the Kindergarten wing until a reasonable health and safety resolution is presented to improve the air quality to the wing. Mr. Hanley met with the Town Health Director, Tim Simpkins as well as Jeff Grundt from CIRMA Risk Management Services. A preliminary inspection shows no definitive result to the poor air quality, however it is believed the air being pulled into the handling unit may be coming from a confined area in the attic. This problem has been discussed many times over a span of possibly fifteen years, with no resolution. The BoE felt it was in the best interest of the health and safety of the children to remove them from the equation and deal with the problem directly. Mr. Hanley reported he has reached out to a professional engineer from Kohler Ronan out of Danbury to assess the HVAC system. Jake Olmstead, a CIH will also submit a letter of intent. The BoE is requesting direction from the BoS and possibly create a task force with members of the Town such as the Health Director, Building Inspector, Facilities Manager and members of the BoE Buildings Committee to oversee and coordinate a resolution to the air problem. The BoS thanked Mr. Hanley for taking the time to address this issue and encourages the open discussion.

### Selectmen proposed budget discussion

The BoS discussed the need for future Budget submissions to be in a uniform template to ease understanding and discussion. Below is the 2015-16 timeline of Budget workshops and meetings:

Budget workshop	February 28 at 9:00 am
Budget workshop	March 4 at 7:00 pm
Budget workshop	March 10 at 6:00 pm
Budget workshop	March 12 at 7:00 pm
Budget hearing	March 31 at 7:00 pm
BoS Meeting	April 23 at 7:00 pm
Town Meeting	April 24 tba
Referendum Vote	May 2 tba

### Resident State Trooper program State Budget discussion

The BoS discussed an email from Kevin Maloney from CCM, discussing CT Act 6824, Public Policy, State Budget Updates and how it impacts State Municipal Aid for Sherman. Discussion followed regarding the recent proposed State Budget cuts regarding State Police funding specifically. These cuts would greatly impact small towns like Sherman. In addition, an email from COST representative, E. Gara was read, she is encouraging small towns in CT to voice their opinions regarding the proposed cuts to fund Resident State Troopers, and the impact this will cause not only financial reasons, but public safety as well. First Selectman C. Cope said he will reach out to area Towns to get a consensus on how they are preparing for the fiscal impact.

### DoT Master Municipal Agreement for Rights of Way Projects authorization

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to approve authorization for First Selectman, C. Cope granting the ability to sign the Agreement entitled "Master Municipal Agreement for Construction Projects".

Seconded by: First Selectman C. Cope Vote: For: Unanimous

### Town Meeting re Happy Acres Farm Appropriation

The BoS discussed pending invoices related to operational maintenance and repairs and Attorneys fees for Happy Acres Farm totaling \$ 5,740.10. Discussion followed regarding an amendment to the appropriation amount from \$ 15,000.00 to be amended to \$ 10,000.00 in the Legal Notice. The amended Legal Notice was read into record for a Town Meeting to be held March 4th, 2015 seeking approval to appropriate the sum of ~~\$ 15,000.00~~ \$ 10,000.00 to meet miscellaneous operating, maintenance legal and administrative expenses associated with the ownership of the Happy Acres Farm assets (land, buildings and equipment) and the management of funds derived from the Anthony Vincent Hapanowich trust, said appropriation to be met by expenditures of accumulated cell tower revenue in the Capital Non-Recurring Fund account and revenues derived from the Happy Acres Farm lease.

Selectman B. Ostrosky made a Motion to move to a Town Meeting on March 4th, 2015 at 6:30 pm seeking approval to appropriate the amended sum of \$ 10,000.00 to meet miscellaneous operating, maintenance legal and administrative expenses associated with the ownership of the Happy Acres Farm assets (land, buildings and equipment) and the management of funds derived from the Anthony Vincent Hapanowich trust, said appropriation to be met by expenditures of accumulated cell tower revenue in the Capital Non-Recurring Fund account and revenues derived from the Happy Acres Farm lease.

Seconded by: First Selectman C. Cope Vote: For: Unanimous

**Selectmen proposed budget discussion**

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**Resident State Trooper program State Budget discussion**

The BoS discussed an email forwarded from Kevin Maloney in reference to the CCM Public Policy & Advocacy State Budget Update and how it impacts CCM's Municipal Aid Estimates for Sherman.

**DoT Master Municipal Agreement for Rights of Way Projects authorization**

**T own Meeting re Happy Acres Farm Appropriation**

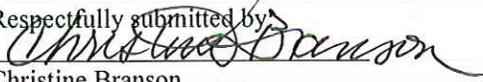
**General Discussion**

**Public Comment**

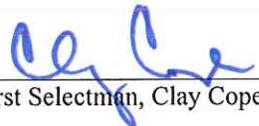
**Adjournment:**

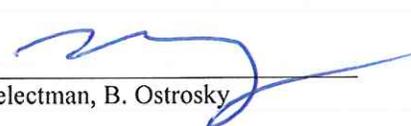
Selectman B. Ostrosky Adjourned the Meeting at 8:35 p.m.

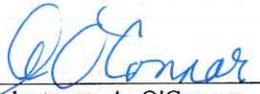
Respectfully submitted by:

  
Christine Branson  
March 6, 2015

APPROVED AS WRITTEN AT THE APRIL 23, 2015 REGULAR MEETING

  
First Selectman, Clay Cope

  
Selectman, B. Ostrosky

  
Selectman, A. O'Connor