



**Town of Sherman
Board of Selectman
Regular Monthly Meeting
July 23, 2015
7:00 p.m.
Mallory Town Hall**

FINAL

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

Members Absent: None

Audience & Invited: G. Linkletter, R. Accosta, R. Handley, L. LaVia, P. Bailey, A. Van Plachecki, B. Hoag, G. Maletz, S. Maletz, F. Spaziani, J. Hopkins, D. Hopkins, A. Blake, J. Bruzinski, C. Jellen, T. Hahn, C. Diotte, A. Smith and V. Scheer (Citizen News)

Call to Order:

First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 7:05 p.m

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Amend the Agenda under New Business, move item d. Senior Tax Relief Proposal to follow item b. Housing Commission Report in Old Business.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

Approval of Minutes:

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Approve the Minutes of Special Meeting June 22, 2015 as amended.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky **Vote: For: Unanimous**

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting June 25, 2015 as written.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky **Vote: For: Unanimous**

Correspondence:

Sherman Conservation Commission- P. Bailey requesting the restoration of Munch Meadow to a natural habitat to encourage wildlife and wild flower growth. The Commission is requesting a halt of mowing maintenance to once a year to inhibit the woody plants and allow natural flower growth.

Sherman Park & Recreation- July Meeting Minutes

Candlewood Lake Authority- July Meeting Minutes

Zeisler, A. - Residents For Reliable Cell Service, thanking the BoE for the opportunity at the June 3rd, 2015 BoE Meeting to discuss the need for expanded cell service throughout Sherman.

Smolen, G.- resignation from the ZBA effective June 26, 2015. Mr. Smolen will be moving out of Sherman.

Public Comment:

There was no comment from the Public.

Old Business:

Progress report on Town projects:

Emergency Services Facility:

First Selectman C. Cope reported an email from D. Raines via; all systems are functioning as designed.

Public Works Wash Station:

First Selectman C. Cope reported he met with an engineer to fine tune the scope of the plans to address the possible need for a catwalk to the design for washing the upper portions of the trucks. The RFP will be ready for publication after all local and State Departments have had a chance to review the plans, anticipating of breaking ground in the fall.

Dock Replacement:

First Selectman C. Cope reported the new docks are scheduled to be installed by Tucker & Sons on July 30th, 2015.

Water Issue regarding elevated sodium content:

First Selectman C. Cope reported additional testing of the water will be conducted by the Sherman Health Department in Mid-August to continue monitoring the sodium levels.

Fox Run Detention Basin:

First Selectman C. Cope reported meeting with Howland & Associates, as well as with a local contractor to reassess the scope of the project.

Smoke Ridge Road and Southview Road paving Bid Results:

First Selectman C. Cope reported an additional catch basin was installed on July 20th, to correct the icing issue located near # 9 Smoke Ridge, based upon the recommendation of the Engineer. Paving began today and will continue through mid next week. Public Works has been overseeing the paving to assure correct installation of the asphalt.

Discussion of estimates for repairs to the Town Hall cupola, Play House cupola, and Scout House in the Historic District-

Historic District Chair, J. Hopkins has received one estimate from Havens Construction and Hudson Valley Restoration has declined stating they are committed to other projects up to the end of the year. Ms. Hopkins stated she would prefer to use one contractor for all of the repairs stated. The BoS reminded Ms. Hopkins that the Town Bidding Policy requires three proposals.

Housing Commission Report:

Housing Commission Chair A. Van Plachecki reported he attended the P&Z Public Hearing relating to the creation of the new regulation for Accessory Dwellings and feels P&Z is in support of the recommendations made by the Housing Commission to open up opportunities for alternate housing in the Town. The Housing Commission invited Lesley Higgens Biddle to speak at the July 20th Meeting regarding the creation and implementation of a survey to offer the Town to determine the current housing needs. The Housing Commission hopes to work in conjunction with other Boards to come up with a realistic proposal for alternative housing.

Senior Tax Relief Proposal:*added by amendment of Agenda:

Housing Commission Vice Chair, B. Hoag requested the BoS take into consideration a proposed Tax Abatement for lower income Seniors by amending the existing maximum income eligibility to match that of which the State allows.

Monthly financial summary:

Business Administrator, L. LaVia provided a financial statement. The BoS discussed the Re-val Sinking Fund which shows the funding needs doubled. First Selectman Cope stated he would follow up with the Assessor's office to verify this amount.

Financial Controls:

Selectman B. Ostrosky discussed the revised language to the Bid Ordinance in regard to adding provisions when receiving bids from the State. The BoS agreed to the recommended revisions. The revised Bid Ordinance will be placed on the Town website and an informational forum was tentatively set for August 7, 2015 followed by a Town Meeting, the date is to be determined.

Sale of used DPW equipment:

The BoS discussed a list of equipment submitted by Supervisor D. Borkowski that is no longer in use by the DPW. The Town advertized these items for sale and has received an offer to purchase the equipment from Picco Construction, LLC dated June 23, 2015. The offer to purchase includes the following:

1-	1980 International Cab and Chassis	\$ 500.00
1-	1987 Ford 8000 Dump Truck	\$ 850.00
1-	8' Sweeper and Brushes	\$ 700.00
1-	6 Cubic yard stainless steel sander	\$ 750.00
1-	Button Walk Behind Mower	\$ 100.00
1-	9' Plow	\$ 100.00

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to approve the sale of the unused DPW equipment to Picco Construction, LLC for the amount of \$ 3,000.00.

Seconded by: A. O'Connor

Vote: For: Unanimous

Happy Acres Farm:

The BoS requested a herd status report from Full Circle Farming. The current cattle head count is 68 to date. Needed repairs were discussed including the maintenance along the split rail fences, and repairs to the barbed wire along the rear pastures. The BoS is seeking the advice of an electrical engineer regarding the updates needed in the large barn. The BoS requested a three year repair plan, based on priority from Full Circle. First Selectman Cope also mentioned the exciting news of the arrival of baby girl; Francis Motzinger, born at the homestead earlier this month.

Farm Committee:

First Selectman Cope reported a discussion with Sullivan Farm in New Milford, in reference to the language to formalize an appointed committee.

Sherman School K-wing update:

BoE Chair, R. Handley spoke on behalf of the Board and reported findings from the Task Force regarding the future use of the wing. No students will be occupying the wing. The Board is working on language for a consent form which would allow adult use of the wing for administrative purposes. Health Director, T. Simpkins did not feel the air quality was of particular threat, however the BoE has agreed to post signs

regarding the air quality. The BoS along with BoE Chair R. Handley and Business Administrator L. LaVia moved to an Executive Session.

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to recess the Regular Meeting and Move to an Executive Session and to invite BoE Chair R. Handley and Business Administrator L. LaVia.

Seconded by: A. O'Connor

Vote: For: Unanimous

First Selectman C. Cope resumed the Regular Monthly Meeting.

* Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to award the school boiler repair contract to Countrywide Mechanical Services, LLC located at 430 Middle Street, Bristol, CT not to exceed the amount of \$ 221,695.00.

Seconded by: C. Cope

Vote: For: Unanimous

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to empower First Selectman C. Cope to act as Clerk of the Works for the repair over site of the Sherman School boiler repairs to completion.

Seconded by: A. O'Connor

Vote: For: Unanimous

* Presented Later in the Meeting*

Mr. Handley requested the Motion to award the boiler repair bid be Amended to include account of two (2) Addendum items, which significantly change the final project cost.

* Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Amend the previous Motion to award the school boiler repair contract to Countrywide Mechanical Services, LLC located at 430 Middle Street, Bristol, CT not to exceed the Corrected amount of \$ 225,870.00.

Seconded by: C. Cope

Vote: For: Unanimous

Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman:

First Selectman C. Cope reported a discussion with New Fairfield's First Selectman S. Chapman requesting information regarding their cell tower in Patterson NY on Tower Hill and the possibility of allowing co-location on that site which may facilitate coverage for Southern Sherman. Additionally, Mr. Cope reached out to representatives from Verizon and AT&T to see if there would be any interest in co-locating at the Tower Hill location. Mr. Cope had discussions with a member of New Canaan's Utilities Commission, and suggests Sherman form a Utilities Commission to oversee solar, electric, gas, radio and cellular and internet communication improvements. T. Hahn spoke in reference to a letter that was sent to the BoS last month from Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman, requesting BoS support. R. Vergotti, Site Development Manager from Homeland Towers also spoke. Mr. Vergotti was invited in April to a BoS Special Meeting and spoke in reference to improving cellular service for the Town of Sherman. He reported that he is in the process of working with landowners whose properties meet the criteria for tower placement. Once a lease agreement has been put into place Mr. Vergotti plans to return and report any progress to the BoS. There is a ninety (90) day grace period once an agreement is filed for Town comment as well as a Public Hearing before the application goes before the CT Siting Counsel. Mr. Vergotti added, once a site is approved, Homeland Towers will offer co-location with Municipalities for Public Safety communications enhancement free of charge. Mr. Vergotti looks forward to working with Planning & Zoning and the BoS in the near future.

New Business

Tax Refunds:

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve refund of Property Taxes in the amount of \$500.00.

Seconded by: A. O'Connor

Vote: For: Unanimous

Great Hollow, LLC Tax Abatement:

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Approve Tax Abatement for Great Hollow LLC on the amount of \$ 956.34 for this tax cycle.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

Appointments:

First Selectman C. Cope read correspondence from DTC Chair, J. Bruzinski to ZBA Chair S. Addonizio, cc'd to the BoS recommending Kenric Gubner to fill the recently vacated seat of (D) Lucy Pollack. Also read into record was correspondence from RTC Chair G. Linkletter endorsing Richard Lenihan to fill an existing vacancy on the ZBA. An additional letter from ZBA Chair S. Addonizio was read into record endorsing Kenric Gubner, Richard Lenihan, and Brooke O'Dwyer to all serve two year terms as Alternates on the ZBA.

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Approve Appointment of: Kenric Gubner, Brooke O'Dwyer, and Richard Lenihan to all serve two (2) year terms as ZBA Alternates. Their terms will expire June 31, 2017.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

Sale of SVFD equipment proposal:

First Selectman C. Cope read into record correspondence from SVFD Chief R. Accosta in reference to discussions regarding the sale of SVFD Apparatus: Engine 1- 1990 Chevy Kodiak/ Marion and Engine 2 - 1985 Peterbuilt/ Ward 79 Limited. It has been determined this apparatus was originally purchased with funds raised by the SVFD and the funds received from the sales shall be retained by the SVFD to be used to fund future equipment and apparatus. No action of the BoS was required.

Town Notices:

The BoS discussed various options in reference to Public notification regarding Town Meetings and BoS Meetings. To date the State requires Notice be posted with the Town Clerk and on the Town website. First Selectman C. Cope recommended those who wish to receive notice contact the Administrative Assistant to be placed on a distribution list.

Consider acceptance of a DOT cash grant for one wheelchair accessible vehicle for the transportation of the elderly and/or persons with disabilities:

First Selectman C. Cope read into record correspondence received from the State of CT Department of Transportation regarding State approved grant funding opportunity. The grant requires the Town to come up with 20% the cost, while the State will fund 80%. The estimated cost of the van is \$ 63,000.00. The State would cover \$50,400.00 and the Town would need to fund \$ 12,600.00. Along with the letter, was a Certificate of Acceptance of Section 5310 Grant for

Federal FY 2014 CT-16- X040 which is due back to the State no later than August 28, 2015. This certificate also outlines the stipulations for purchasing this vehicle. The BoS discussed the possibility of selling the existing van or trade in value to be put toward the \$ 12,600.00. Discussion followed regarding the need for a Town Meeting to approve funding.

Girl Scouts Gold Award proclamation:

First Selectman C. Cope requested the Selectmen endorse two (2) proclamations recognizing Girl Scouts Anika K. Berger and Meaghan F. Reilly for demonstrating outstanding leadership and dedication for their years of Scouting and congratulating them on their receipt of the highest Gold Scouting Award.

Senior Center administrative staff discussion:

This discussion was tabled to the next meeting.

Public Comment:

- A. Blake- requested a list of duties in relation to the person who will be coming to assess the silo at Happy Acres Farm. In addition Ms. Blake requested the scope of responsibility regarding the "Clerk of the works" overseeing the wash station project.
- E. Holub- requesting approval to close out the Emergency Services Building construction accounts.
- V. Scheer- requesting information regarding vandalism at the Town beach and lifeguard facilities.

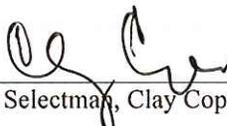
Adjournment

Selectman B. Ostrosky Adjourned the Meeting at 8:50 pm.

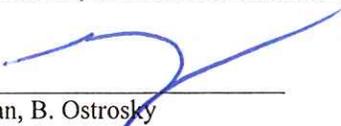
Respectfully submitted,

Christine Branson, Board Clerk
* July 30, 2015

APPROVED AS WRITTEN AT THE AUGUST 27, 2015 REGULAR MEETING



First Selectman, Clay Cope



Selectman, B. Ostrosky



Selectman, A. O'Connor