



**Town of Sherman
Board of Selectman
Regular Monthly Meeting
September 24, 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: D. Borkowski, A. Von Plachecki, J. Bruzinski, T. Iadorola E. Holub, B. Lama, A. Chiaramonte, D. Lowe, S. Maletz, F. Spaziani, J. Motzinger, T. Hahn, D. Hopkins, and V. Scheer (Citizen News)

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

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting of August 27, 2015

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting
August 27, 2015 as written.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

Correspondence:

New Fairfield, First Selectman S. Chapman - a letter of recommendation to consider T. Iadorola as
Town Engineer.

Candlewood Lake Authority- Monthly Minutes of September 2015

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. Mr. Raines states he is currently working with Perfect Temp for final adjustments as well as working to get the elevator repaired. Selectman B. Ostrosky requested the SVFD compile a Capital Plan for upcoming needs.

Public Works Wash Station:

First Selectman Cope reported an 8-24 has been approved from Planning and Zoning and a Public hearing began on September 3rd for an Application for a Special Permit. The Public Hearing has been continued to October 1st, 2015, additional information is required to determine approval.

Park & Recreations Dock Replacement:

First Selectman Cope reported he is waiting for the final portion of this phase of docks to be installed. Mr. Cope will reach out to P&R for an inventory balance as to how many more. Discussion followed regarding the difference in color in relation to the TRECKS docks. Mr. Cope will follow up with Mike Malson, the original contractor to create a plan.

Town Center Water Elevated Sodium Report:

The Sherman Department of Health has heard back from the State, the levels are dropping. There are still elevated readings at the ESF. Selectman O'Connor asked what precautionary measures are being taken to protect piping at the municipal buildings?

Fox Run Detention Basin:

First Selectman Cope reported he has received a modified plan from Arthur Howland & Associates with reduced project costs. A request for bid will be published. Mr. Cope has contacted Chuck Lee of the CT DEEP to renew the expired contract. The BoS discussed authorizing the First Selectman to act as Town Agent and enter into contract with the DEEP to use the remaining funding balance in the amount of \$48,542.50 for repairs to the Fox Run Detention Basin.

Playhouse Steeple Repair:

First Selectman Cope reported the repairs to the steeple have been completed.

Road Paving Projects:

Department of Public Works D. Borkowski reported American Pavement has quoted the paving projects at Briggs Hill Road, Veteran's Field parking area and the Playhouse driveway at \$ 29,700.00, which includes the asphalt and oil and stone.

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to Award American Pavement the bid for paving Briggs Hill Road, Veteran's Field parking area and the Playhouse driveway in the amount of \$ 29,700.00.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

Housing Commission Report:

Chair A. Van Plachecki reported since he was appointed in December the needs of surrounding communities as well as Sherman have been a hot topic of concern. He reported that he and Commissioner B. Hoag viewed a Land Use Webinar a few days earlier the major emphasis was the aging population is vastly growing over the next five years. Sherman's projected population of residents over the age of 65 by 2025 is expected to reach approximately 20%. Other topics of concern were transportation, housing, health care, and quality of life. The Housing Commission has requested P&Z consider new Regulations to allow alternative housing. Chair Von Plachecki hopes to provide a draft survey to the BoS to better understand the needs of the residents. Mr. Von Plachecki additionally will publish a few articles in the local paper to make the community aware of the upcoming survey. The Housing Commission is seeking funding to create the survey and mail to postal patrons. The BoS discussed alternative methods of conducting the survey, there are several websites that can be utilized.

Monthly Financial Summary Review:

The BoS reviewed the monthly report provided from Business Administrator, L. LaVia. First Selectman Cope will reach out to the Playhouse for an update of the repair bills. Selectman Ostrosky requested the financial report be attached to the minutes of each meeting from here forward. The Clerk agreed to do so.

Financial Controls:

Selectman Ostrosky provided the BoS with an updated purchasing policy. He is currently updating the Conflict of Interest policy as well as working on a policy for gifts and asset inventory/ disposal. Mr. Ostrosky stated he feels these policies are important and should be updated. Selectman O'Connor clarified the Gifts Policy, stating the intent was for gifts to the Town such as bequests.

Happy Acres Farm:

First Selectman Cope read into record an email from J. Motsinger with the monthly update. The farm hosted a screening of a documentary movie, participated in the Northwestern corner Farm Crawl and is gearing up for a Chili Cook-Off in October. Attached to the email was an inventory of the herd. The farm equipment the BoS agreed to sell has been viewed by several perspective buyers. The BoS discussed the implementation of an annual herd evaluation to assure the health and welfare of the cattle. Mr. Motsinger requested an update of the BoS in regard to repairing the water lines in the main barn. First Selectman Cope stated he would like to meet in the next two weeks to discuss quoted and the findings of the engineer.

Sherman School Boiler update from Clerk of the Works

First Selectman Cope read a memo from Clerk of the Works, F. Spaziani, the removal of the old boilers is complete, the oil is substantially complete, the interior double wall is complete and no change orders were approved. There will be a shop meeting on September 25th to discuss completion deadlines. First Selectman Cope encouraged the BoS to take a tour of the school and see the progress.

Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman

Ms. T. Hahn spoke on behalf of Homeland Towers. She read into record an update, stating they are working out a lease and are in phase 2 of negotiations. They have met with five property owners that have expressed interest and are reviewing sites. Homeland's goal is to have a candidate leased and a runner up in the next two months. Once leased, they will market to the major and secondary carriers. They feel optimistic they will have a lease by the end of the year. There is also legislation going on currently regarding smaller municipalities which may have a positive impact to improve reliable service throughout the major corridors and improve communications and safety.

Senior Tax Relief Proposal

The BoS discussed the request from the Housing Commission to come to current State standards in regard to Senior Tax Relief, doing so will allow some Seniors to stay in their homes rather than be forced to downsize due to decreased income. The BoS discussed the impact this would have on the taxpayers. Even if the relief amount were to be tripled, it would make a very minimal impact. First Selectman Cope stated he would draft up a Motion and speak to the Assessor.

Public Utilities Commission

First Selectman C. Cope is proposing to create a Public Utilities Commission which will consist of 6 appointed members, the charge of this Commission will be to assess the needs of the Town and make recommendations regarding improvements to the Town's infrastructure such as gas lines, telecommunications, electric and internet lines, and solar programs. This discussion will continue at the next meeting it was determined more information would be needed.

New Business

Tax Refunds:

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve refund of Property Taxes in the amount of \$442.88.

Seconded by: A. O'Connor

Vote: For: Unanimous

Town Engineer Appointment:

First Selectman C. Cope is proposing to create an appointed Engineer position for the Town for various projects to be utilized on an as needed basis. Mr. Cope introduced Mr. Tony Iadorola who presented a lengthy and detailed resume and work history over a 27 year span as well as his educational back ground. The BoS discussed the scope of the position. Discussion followed regarding questions on how the position would be compensated. This discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Purchase of Radio Equipment for SVFD:

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve and Award the bid from Motorola Solutions, Inc. located at 7 Great Hill Road, Naugatuck, CT 06770 in the amount of \$ 27,591.05 to install two way radio equipment at the Emergency Services Building per the State of CT.

Seconded by: A. O'Connor

Vote: For: Unanimous

Discussion and Action needed to prepare for the Town Meeting

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to take to a Town Meeting the request to transfer \$ 425,000.00 from the General Fund balance to the Capital Non-Recurring to pay for future town capital projects.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to receive and Act upon the FY 2014-15 Annual Town Report of the Board of Selectman, Board of Education, and Tax Collector and move to request approval at a Town Meeting.

Seconded by: A. O'Connor

Vote: For: Unanimous

Selectman A. O'Connor Moved to award the single source provider and approve the repair of the silo at Happy Acres Farm not to exceed the amount of \$ 15,000.00 the funding shall come from the restricted account.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

Public Comment:

J. Bruzinski- requesting a status report of the sodium problem with the water. He is wondering what the next step is.

First Selectman C. Cope- in response to Mr. Bruzinski's question- the State is still investigating the source and with that, will come up with a plan.

A. Von Plachecki- would like to caution the Town and make known the Town of Washington recently went through aggressive negotiations with AT&T to put up a telecommunications tower at Hardscrabble Road only to have AT&T delay the project an additional year due to lack of funding. Mr. Von Plachecki encourages Homeland Towers speak with carriers other than AT&T when seeking carriers for Sherman's telecommunication purposes.

Adjournment

Selectman B. Ostrosky Adjourned the Meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Christine Branson, Board Clerk

* October 21 , 2015

* APPROVED AS WRITTEN AT THE OCTOBER 22, 2015 REGULAR MEETING

First Selectman, Clay Cope

Selectman, B. Ostrosky

Selectman, A. O'Connor