



**Town of Sherman
Board of Selectman
Regular Monthly Meeting
October 22, 2015
7:00 p.m.
Mallory Town Hall**

FINAL

Members Present: First Selectman, C. Cope, and Selectman B. Ostrosky

Members Absent: Selectman A. O'Connor

Audience & Invited: A. Blake, B. Lama, G. Linkletter, A. Motzinger, A. Von Plachecki, B. Hoag, D. Lowe, C. McDermott, E. Holub, S. Maletz, T.J. Fazzone and V. Scheer (Citizen News)

Call to Order: First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting of September 24, 2015

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting
September 24, 2015 as written, with the financial report appended.
Seconded by: C. Cope **Vote: For: Unanimous**

Correspondence:

Sienkewicz, J. Atty.- moving practice and joining the firm of Allingham & Readyoff effective October 1, 2015

Residents of Squantz Pond- to the CLA- requesting funding be considered for the implementation of grass carp to reduce milfoil in Squantz Pond.

CT Conference of Municipalities-Director, Ronald Thomas- notice of OPM cuts to State Municipal aid in the amount of \$ 15,000,000.00.

Public Comment:

There was no comment from the Public.

Old Business:

Progress report on Town projects:

Public Works Wash Station:

First Selectman Cope reported a Planning and Zoning approved the Application for a Special Permit at a Public hearing on September 3rd and continued to October 1st, 2015. A letter of approval will be issued following a 15 day grace period. Work may begin after November 10th, 2015.

Town Center Water Elevated Sodium Report:

The Sherman Department of Health Director, T. Simpkins met with State Public Health representative, M. Dietz to review the latest report of sodium levels in the drinking water affected near the Town Center. An additional test will take place in November.

December 31, 2016. Selectman B. Ostrosky moved to enable First Selectman C. Cope to act as Municipal agent, to sign contracts on behalf of the Town of Sherman.

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Resolve that it is in the best interests of the Town of Sherman to enter into contracts with the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection. In furtherance of this resolution, Clay Cope, the First Selectman is duly authorized to enter into and sign contracts on behalf of the Town of Sherman. Clay Cope currently holds the title of First Selectman and has held that office since January 1, 2012. First Selectman Clay Cope is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the local, state or federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto.

Seconded by: C. Cope

Vote: For: Unanimous

Road Paving Projects:

First Selectman, C. Cope reported American Pavement is scheduled to begin the paving projects at Briggs Hill Road, Veteran's Field parking area and the Playhouse driveway on October 26, 2015.

Housing Commission Report:

Chair A. Van Plachecki submitted a draft survey the Housing Commission has been working on to send out to the Community to better define the future needs of Sherman's aging population. Mr. Van Plachecki additionally plans to publish a few articles in the local paper to notify the Community of the survey in hopes to receive a diverse amount of feedback. Discussion followed regarding the venue in which the survey will be conducted: mail or website. Mr. Von Plachecki stated either way the Commission would need to request funding to create the survey and get it out to the public. The BoS agreed to continue the discussion at the November meeting.

Monthly Financial Summary Review:

The BoS reviewed the monthly report provided from Business Administrator, L. LaVia.

Financial Controls:

Selectman Ostrosky reported progress on the Policy on the Town receiving gifts. Mr. Ostrosky will separate the purchasing policy and receipt of gifts into separate policies. Asset disposal was separated out as well.

Happy Acres Farm:

First Selectman Cope reported an email from J. Motzinger; the farm is gearing up for the seasons' final event, a chili cook-off to be held on October 26th. They have picked up a buck for the dairy goats. The cattle activity is winding down for the winter. Adam Mantzaris reported the manure spreader has failed. The estimate for parts and labor including welding will run approximately \$ 1,001.39. This is an urgent repair, the spreader is used at this time of the year to ready the fields for spring. First Selectman C. Cope requested Mr. Mantzaris come into the office and submit a purchase order.

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to approve funding out of the Happy Acres Operating fund for the repairs to the manure spreader, not to exceed \$ 1,001.39.

Seconded by: C. Cope

Vote: For: Unanimous

Farm Equipment Sales

The BoS discussed a list of equipment that was previously agreed to sell from Happy Acres. Bids have been received for each piece.

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to sell the Happy Acres Farm equipment advertized for sale to the highest bidders, should any sales fall through, the offer will go to the next highest bidder. The funds received from these sales will be held in the Happy Acres Restricted Fund.

Seconded by: C. Cope

Vote: For: Unanimous

Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman

S. Maletz reported an update on the progress of Homeland Towers, stating they continue to pursue interested property owners and are optimistic they will have a lease secured by the end of the year. The BoS agreed they would like the opportunity to join in alliance as a region to help expedite better cell service as a whole.

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 very minimal impact this would have on the taxpayers.

Public Utilities Commission

This discussion will continue at the next meeting. Selectman Ostrosky will reach out to New Fairfield school in reference to the solar array that was recently installed.

New Business

Tax Refunds:

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve refund of Property Taxes in the amount of \$14,182.25.

Seconded by: C. Cope

Vote: For: Unanimous

Labor Attorney Appointment

First Selectman C. Cope read a letter into record from Labor Atty. Stephen Sedor announcing their firm Durant, Nichols Houston PC will be joining the law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC. Atty. Sedor is requesting a decision of the BoS as to if they wish to have the Town's legal matters going forward.

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve continuation with Stephen M. Sedor as legal counsel and request that the Town's records, other documents, and property be delivered to Stephen M. Sedor at Pullman & Comley, LLC. The Town of Sherman discharges the legal counsel of Durant Nichols Houston PC.

Seconded by: C. Cope

Vote: For: Unanimous

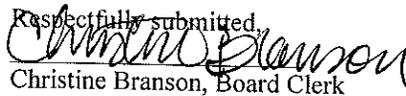
Public Comment:

T. Hahn- spoke in favor of Sherman joining alliance with New Fairfield concerning improving cell service in Sherman.

Adjournment

Selectman B. Ostrosky Adjourned the Meeting at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Branson

Christine Branson, Board Clerk

October 29, 2015

APPROVED AS WRITTEN AT THE DECEMBER 16, 2015 RMM