



**Town of Sherman
Board of Selectman
Regular Monthly Meeting
December 16, 2015
6:30 p.m.
Mallory Town Hall**

FINAL

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

Members Absent: None

Call to Order: First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting of October 22, 2015

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting
October 22, 2015 as written.

Seconded by: A. O'Connor

Vote: For: Unanimous

Regular Meeting November 19, 2015

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve the Minutes of
Regular Meeting November 19, 2015 as written.

Seconded by: A. O'Connor

Vote: For: Unanimous

Correspondence

Fratini, Fran- thanking the BoS in reference to her re-appointment to the Park & Recreation
Commission.

Public Comment

No Public Comment.

Old Business

Progress report on Town projects

Road paving projects

First Selectman C. Cope reported the paving project at Taber Road is complete.

Public Works wash station

First Selectman Cope reported the Town Engineer, T. Iadorola has completed the cost evaluation review of the wash station plans and determined there was little else that could be modified to reduce costs. The BoS will present the adjusted anticipated cost to construct the Public Works Wash Station for approval at a Town Meeting, date to be determined.

Fox Run detention basin

First Selectman Cope reported he the project will be put out for bid in February 2016 and anticipates breaking ground March/ April.

Water issue regarding elevated sodium content

First Selectman Cope reported discussion with the Town Sanitarian, T. Simpkins regarding recent water testing results done by the State. The sodium levels at Mallory Town Hall and Old Town Hall have gone down a bit, however the ESF facility has elevated a bit. Selectman B. Ostrosky requested additional ground testing in areas of concern to see if a point of contamination could be determined. First Selectman C. Cope stated he would be happy to speak to Mr. Simpkins. Before any tests are done, the BoS will discuss the costs of the testing once that information becomes available.

Sherman School K-wing Update

No new news has been received.

Housing Commission report

The BoS discussed the Housing Commission's proposed survey. Selectman B. Ostrosky has reached out to the Sherman Sentinel for costs to run the survey in the paper. Also discussed was the use of a survey website and regular postal mailers. Selectman A. O'Connor suggested the Housing Commission assign unique numbers to each entry, as was done with the Land Acquisition survey some years back. This would be a way to track entries anonymously so that one person would not be able to reply many times. Selectman Ostrosky was quoted a cost to print 2000 surveys, plus envelope, postage with return SASE, would be approximately \$ 2,000.00. The BoS discussed where in the Budget the funding could be found to pay for the printing and mailing of the survey.

Monthly financial summary review

No action taken.

Financial controls

Selectman B. Ostrosky read into record drafts of the Gift Policy, Purchasing Policy and Conflict of Interest Notification for feedback from the BoS. Discussion followed regarding specific details below:

- General Purchasing Authority
- Defining split services
- Pricing Guidelines
- Highest Quality for purpose intended
- Exceptions
- Purchasing: Legal perspective
- Disciplinary actions
- Mileage: Level of Detail

Senior Center Meal reimbursement: the BoS agreed to increase from \$12.00 to \$ 15.00
The use of the word "need" should be replaced with the word "shall" throughout the document where appropriate.

Happy Acres Farm report

First Selectman Cope reported an email from Full Circle Farming, the Mantzaris' family has welcomed a baby girl Piper, born December 4th. Coincidentally a baby goat was born the same day. The farm store has officially closed for the winter season, they will sell their grass fed beef by appointment as well as at the New Milford Indoor Farmer's Market every other week on Rte. 202 at the Eastern School Saturdays 9am to 1pm through February. The BoS discussed getting the herd inspected in January. The BoS discussed an email received by Full Circle requesting Town assistance regarding plowing. Selectman B. Ostrosky asked if it would create a liability issue or demand too much of Public Works. First Selectman C. Cope stated he would seek advice from CIRMA. Also discussed was the possibility of placing a plow on one of the vehicles at the farm. Further details are needed, this discussion will continue at the next Meeting.

Sherman School boiler update from Clerk of the Works

First Selectman Cope stated there was nothing new to report, however it was mentioned the final billing has not been closed out.

Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman

Gale Maletz spoke on behalf of the Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman and their mission to help implement connection to cellular service through-out the communities of Sherman. Homeland Towers continues to work with landowners to enter into a lease agreement, and hopes to do so by the first quarter of 2016. Mrs. Maletz respectfully requested the BoS be proactive in seeking providers to improve cell coverage in Sherman. First Selectman C. Cope stated he would as well as consult WECOG and the Town of Washington to see if any other Towns might be in discussions with carriers.

Proposal for Ambulance Service Billing

Mr. Anthony Sartori, SVFD Billing Committee Chairman, is seeking approval of the BoS to begin billing for services. The Department has agreed to create a 7 member committee of various residents of Sherman to meet on a quarterly basis to review individual cases as well as policies and procedures. SVFD intends to use a third party billing service, who will work on commission paid out of a percentage of the fees collected. The remainder of funding received is intended to offset costs for continuing training and equipment upgrades. The SVFD intends to hold informational forums and a vote will need to take place at a Town Meeting to implement this process. The BoS agreed the SVFD should move forward with the preliminary process and file the necessary paperwork with the State.

Inter-Town Capital Equipment (ICE) Purchase Incentive Program Grant for CLA Patrol Boat

First Selectman Cope stated he has completed the grant application and sent it to the State. If the funding is Granted, a Town at a Town Meeting will be necessary to move forward.

New Business

Tax Refunds

No action was taken.

Communications and Website

Selectman B. Ostrosky handed the BoS a draft proposal listing website improvement goals. Several areas of needed improvement were discussed such as adding an online payment option for Park & Recreation activities. Also discussed were new items to be published on the website such as traffic and weather alerts as well as departmental abilities to upload information as needed. This item will be discussed again in January giving the BoS time to comment on the information provided tonight.

Recognition of Service for Selectman Andrea O'Connor

First Selectman Cope thanked Mrs. O'Connor for her many, many years serving several capacities within the Town of Sherman and wished her luck for future endeavors.

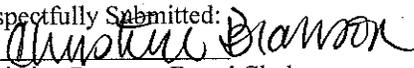
Public Comment

- Scott Randall-** spoke in reference to a presentation given regarding blue-green algae blooms this past spring. Mr. Randall hopes the BoS will reconsider implementation of Septic over site programs to improve the health of Candlewood Lake.
- Phyllis Share-** Chair of CLA spoke in comment of Mr. Randall's statement regarding implementation of a buffer zone between the lake and landowners to reduce runoff of household chemicals.
- Ashley Blake-** thanking Selectman O'Connor for her service to the Community. Also thanking Selectman Ostrosky for continuing to discuss the elevated sodium issue in the ground water. Ms. Blake requests the Town more aggressively test areas and identify the source.
- Don Lowe-** Incoming Selectman- agreeing with the implementation of a buffer zone to improve the health of the lake.
- Christopher Pitcher-** SVFD Chief- requesting information regarding plowing of Happy Acres' driveway. Mr. Pitcher stated it was not in the Lease that the Town would provide any plowing services. Mr. Pitcher requested, the Fire Department take precedence and be plowed first should the Town decide to take on this responsibility.

Adjournment

Selectman A. O'Connor Adjourned the Meeting at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:


Christine Branson, Board Clerk

December 23, 2015

APPROVED AS AMENDED AT THE JANUARY 28, 2016 RMM