



**Town of Sherman
Board of Selectman
Regular Monthly Meeting
January 28, 2016
7:00 p.m.
Mallory Town Hall**

FINAL

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

Members Absent: None

Audience: A. Blake, A. Zeisler, E. Holub, G. Maletz, S. Maletz, B. Hoag, T. Hahn, V. Scheer (Citizen News)

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

Correspondence:

Candlewood Lake Authority: reference to the drawdown.

Eversource: reference to future upgrades to the area beginning in 2018.

Eversource: report of recommended updates to identify inadequate exterior and interior lighting.

Wozniak- Brown, J. : on behalf of Friends of Happy Acres, notice of event to host a 5k road race on April 23, 2016.

Administrative Items:

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting of December 16, 2015:

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting December 16, 2015 with amendments to the spelling of Mr. Pitcher's name, as well as correction under Inter Town Equipment, add the word "pre" to grant.
Seconded by: C. Cope **Vote:** For: 2 Abstain: 1 (Lowe)

Regular Meeting January 14, 2016:

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting January 14, 2016 with amendment to the spelling of Mr. Pitcher's name.
Seconded by: D. Lowe **Vote:** For: Unanimous

Tax Refunds: **Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved** to Approve a property tax refund in the amount of \$ 233.56.

Seconded by: D. Lowe **Vote: For: Unanimous**

Appointments:

Land Acquisition Fund Advisory Board:

Selectman C. Cope Moved to Appoint Don Lowe to represent the BoS on the LAFAB.

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

Commission on Aging:

First Selectman C. Cope read into record a letter of interest from John O'Connor and another from Helen Bray. Both parties have expressed interest on joining the Commission on Aging. The BoS would like to table this discussion to the next meeting to check the by-laws to confirm the maximum number of Commissioners. This will additionally allow time to invite Mr. O'Connor and Ms. Bray to attend a CoA Meeting to introduce themselves.

Monthly Financial Summary Review:

The BoS briefly discussed the monthly report. Points of discussion were; printing costs for the Annual Audit, Public Works, and Park & Rec is over budget by \$ 1,200.00 with six months still left in this fiscal year.

Financial Controls:

Selectman Ostrosky requested feedback regarding the proposed Purchasing Policy. There were no additional comments. The Board discussed the Town Gift Policy, points of discussion include a maximum cap on gifts to individual Town employees, and the bidding process for Public Works salt and black top needs.

Proposal for Ambulance Service Billing:

The BoS discussed further details regarding the billing process, how the fees are collected, and what the administrative costs will be. This discussion was tabled to next month's meeting.

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

No discussion took place, there will be a Town Meeting tomorrow evening where this is an action item. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

Letter of Support for buffer zones on Candlewood Lake to CLA and First Light:

Selectman D. Lowe spoke in reference to a letter that was received and read into record from Scott Randall last month requesting Town support in reference to the CLA proposed implementation of buffer zones at the waters' edge of Candlewood Lake and Squantz Pond.

Information & Discussion Items:

Budget Meetings / Workshop Schedule:

The BoS agreed on the proposed workshop dates.

Progress Report on Town Projects:

Public Works Wash Station:

First Selectman C. Cope has requested additional grant funds from OPM, and will report any feedback at the next meeting.

Water Issue Regarding Sodium Content:

First Selectman C. Cope has requested a meeting with the State Health Department Director, and Sherman Sanitarian T. Simpkins to discuss the elevated sodium content in the ground water. Selectman D. Lowe and Selectman B. Ostrosky were interested in attending the meeting as well. The date of this meeting has not been determined.

Sherman School Boiler Report:

First Selectman C. Cope stated he is still not in receipt of the final billing and will not sign anything until all operating manuals have been provided.

Housing Commission Report:

The BoS discussed details regarding the proposed survey. They agreed, it is not ready to go until a little fine tuning is done. Discussion followed regarding placing the survey on the Town website, and how to assign unique identifiers to assure people are not filling out the survey multiple times, but still remain anonymous. The target date to release the survey is mid March/ early April.

Happy Acres Farm Report:

First Selectman C. Cope read an email from Full Circle Farming dated January 26th, 2016. The tenant farmers are requesting the structural repairs to the large barn begin in late May early June. First Selectman C. Cope stated he would like the Town Engineer to inspect the structure and provide an opinion. This discussion will continue at next month's meeting.

Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman:

G. Maletz was present to read her letter into record. Homeland Communications continues to work on a lease, and is hopeful to finalize by midyear. Homeland will need to secure a carrier before the application goes to the CT Siting Council. Mrs. Maletz, on behalf of the "Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman" respectfully requests the BoS/ Town act aggressively to facilitate acceleration of the process to improve cell service throughout the Town. First Selectman C. Cope stated he contacted AT&T and was told they are not pursuing the Sherman area presently. Mrs. Maletz requested Mr. Cope reach out to other carriers at this point. The BoS agreed to contact other carriers. Additionally Mr. A. Zeisler shared major concerns regarding school bus communications and safety along their daily routes. Ms. T. Hahn spoke in reference to a Superior Court Summons Timber Trails has received in relation to a fatal motor vehicle accident last year. Ms. Hahn stated Timber Trails is an area where there is no cell service. First Selectman C. Cope read an email into record from D. Hopkins on behalf of the Public Safety Communications Group. Mr. Hopkins reports installation of antennae atop the ESF has been completed, the Fire Dept. has began testing.

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve First Selectman C. Cope act on behalf of the Town to seek interested cell service carriers in an effort to improve public safety and cellular communications throughout the Town.

Seconded by: D. Lowe

Vote: For: Unanimous

Communications and Website:

The BoS discussed needed updated to the Town website. Selectman Ostrosky shared the School is also looking to update their website and communication practices. Selectman Ostrosky is in the process of gathering information regarding mass communication venues such as NIXLE or EventBridge.

Other Business:

J. Burruano, Planning & Zoning Commission Chair- C. Cope read correspondence into record reminding the BoS submit an 8-24 referral request to P&Z when significant improvements are made to Town owned property, such as the future structural repairs to the large barn AT Happy Acres Farm.

Public Comment :

Selectman D. Lowe- suggested taping/ broadcasting meetings to make information available to those who may not be able to attend.

Selectman D. Lowe- commented on the Public Works building, stating he recently visited the site and was shown various areas of concern. Mr. Lowe requested information regarding where in the 5 year Capital Plan are the improvements coming from?

First Selectman C. Cope - responded to Mr. Lowe's request; 2 new doors are being installed, upgrades to the bathroom include implementation of hands free fixtures , desk/ lounge area will include new flooring and a table

Selectman D. Lowe- stated he felt the timing was inappropriate to install heat tape to the ESF facility, by the time this goes through a Town Meeting, it will be almost Spring time.

Selectman B. Ostrosky - stated the heat tape is a preventative measure to work in conjunction with the ventilation and insulation. He stated he would rather err on the side of caution than have someone hurt from falling ice.

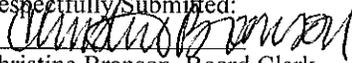
W. Knaak- questioned the recommendation of implementing buffer areas along the water's edge on Candlewood Lake and Squantz Pond requesting the scientific background.

A. Blake- stated the maps along the wall in the large meeting room were done by the Conservation Commission and may be on a disk. Ms. Blake also inquired about the status of the Housing Commission Survey and the Fox Run Detention Basin.

Adjournment

Selectman D. Lowe Adjourned the Meeting at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:


Christine Branson, Board Clerk

February 4, 2015

APPROVED AS AMENDED AT THE 2/25/2016 RMM