



**Town of Sherman  
Board of Selectman  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
February 25, 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:**, E. Holub, G. Linkletter, A. O' Connor, J. O'Connor, M. Malsin, H. Malsin, A. Vangas, S. Quinn, S. Maletz, A. Chiaramonte, and V. Scheer ( Citizen News)

**Call to Order:** First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 pm

**Correspondence:**

**MacLean, K- Full Circle Farming, LLC resident farmers at Happy Acres Farm:** requesting permission to install a whole house humidifier, the cost shall be the responsibility of the tenants.

**CIRMA-** Annual report

**Administrative Items:**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Regular Meeting of January 28, 2016:**

Selectman D. Lowe Moved to Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 28, 2016, as Amended: page 2 under Letter of support for buffer zones on Candlewood Lake: strike the last sentence "~~Selectman Lowe requested an opportunity to work on the letter and will present a draft to the BoS at the next meeting.~~" and Amendment to page 3, under Other Business, add "at Happy Acres Farm" to the last sentence: "such as the future structural repairs to the large barn *at Happy Acres Farm*".

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

VOTE: For: Unanimous

**Proclamation Aplastic Anemia Awareness Week**

The BoS stood in support of the Malsin family recognizing Julia's Wings Foundation which was formed three years ago in honor of their late daughter, Julia Malsin. The Foundation was formed to bring awareness to families affected by aplastic anemia and dedicated to providing funding for education, research, blood drives and bone marrow drives. The BoS proclaim the week of February 29 th through March 6, 2016 as Aplastic Anemia Awareness Week, and encourage Town Employees and residents to participate in Operation Wear Red to help spread awareness. More information is available at [www.OperationWearRed.org](http://www.OperationWearRed.org). This proclamation was signed by the BoS and the official Town seal was affixed by the Town Clerk on February 26, 2016.

**Tax Refunds**

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve a property tax refund in the amount of \$5,613.21 and a motor vehicle refund in the amount of \$ 1,476.78.

Seconded by: D. Lowe

VOTE: For: Unanimous

**Appointments:**

First Selectman C. Cope had received a letter of interest from Helen Bray and also from John O'Connor to join the Commission on Aging, however has not received a letter of recommendation from the Chair of the Commission. First Selectman Cope recommended both parties attend a Commission Meeting and introduce themselves to the Chair. This discussion was tabled to the March meeting.

**Monthly Financial Summary Review:**

Business Administrator, L. LaVia provided a report, dated 2/18/16. Discussion followed regarding a few lines that appear to be over, but will reconcile themselves by the end of the Fiscal Year. Public Works, Part Time Help continues to track high.

**Revenue Update from the Treasurer:**

Treasurer, E. Holub provided a year to end of January report. He stated the revenue is tracking \$ 433,00.00 higher than last year, this time. The Taxes collected currently are at 94.9% compared to last year at 92%. Building permits are currently higher than last year this time. Park & Rec is running approximately \$5,000.00 or 15% lower than last year. Mr. Holub recommended requesting attendance records from P&R. Mr. Holub advised the BoS to keep an eye on Education Funding, the State is making cuts which may affect next year's budget. Mr. Holub said he would provide a 4 year outlook by the next meeting.

**Purchasing Policy**

Selectman B. Ostrosky implemented the recommendations from Selectman A. O'Connor. He stated he still needed to tighten up the Disciplinary action section to be sure it is in alignment with the Union/ Employee Manual. First Selectman C. Cope recommended having the Auditor look at the policies as well. Mr. Ostrosky hopes to have a finalized version by the next meeting.

**Gift Policy**

**Selectman D. Lowe Moved to Approve** the Gift Policy as presented.  
**Seconded by: B. Ostrosky** **VOTE: For: Unanimous**

**Sand for Snow and Ice Removal**

**Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve** the Request for Bid for Screened Sand for Snow and Ice Control.  
**Seconded by: D. Lowe** **VOTE: For: Unanimous**

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

**Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve** endorsement of the Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program, Resolution of Endorsement and Authorization of First Selectman Clay Cope to act on behalf of the Town of Sherman to sign all necessary agreements and take all necessary actions related to this proposal to enter into a binding agreement with the Office of Policy and Management according to terms of the RPI grant program.  
**Seconded by: D. Lowe** **VOTE: For: Unanimous**

### **Increase in Insurance coverage for Town and ESF**

A 2015-16 Policy review was received, dated February 10, 2016 from Carol Fitsimons, CPCU of CIRMA. This report outlines the Town Policies and coverage limits. The recommendations within the report suggest increasing the liability limit from \$ 5 million to \$ 10 million, which would be an annual increase of \$ 2,200.00.

**Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve** the increase of Insurance Liability coverage From \$ 5 million dollars to \$ 10 million dollars, upon verification of all items covered.

**Seconded by:** D. Lowe

**VOTE: For: Unanimous**

## **Information & Discussion Items**

### **Progress Report on Town Projects**

#### **Public Works Wash Station**

First Selectman C. Cope read into record correspondence from Town Engineer, T. Iadorola, dated Feb. 14, 2016. Informing Hawley Construction Corp. their bid of \$ 245,500.00 was determined to be the lowest responsible bid for the Public Works Wash Station. The Town of Sherman has submitted to the State all documents required in order to allow the Town to make an official award and enter into contract. This will continue to be an agenda item until State approval has been received, and the bid award is approved.

#### **Water Issue Regarding Elevated Sodium Content**

First Selectman C. Cope has rescheduled the meeting with the State Health Director and Town Sanitarian to March 4th, 2016. Additionally, Mr. Cope has become aware of Grant funding to provide potable drinking water and will begin the application process.

#### **Sherman School Boiler Report**

Nothing new was reported.

#### **Radio Communications**

First Selectman C. Cope read into record correspondence from D. Hopkins. Mr. Hopkins reported the ESF has begun using the new repeater system which was recently installed. This system covers a greater area, however there is still the need for improvement regarding the far Northern and far Southern ends of town.

#### **Town Buildings**

First Selectman C. Cope reported the heat tape was installed at the ESF. The waste oil burner was installed at the Public Works building, although requires a bit more work.

### **Housing Commission Report**

#### **Housing Planning Survey**

First Selectman C. Cope reported the new survey was edited and updated and sent back to the Housing Commission for final revisions. The target date for public release is April 15th, 2016. Final overall costs have yet to be determined.

### **Happy Acres Farm Report**

First Selectman C. Cope read into record a health evaluation of the herd conducted by Dr. Mark Carlson, of the Roxbury Animal Clinic. In short, the report states he was pleased with the condition of the herd, the

majority of animals were at an appropriate weight for their age and the time of the year. No evidence of disease was found. Dr. Carlson does recommend a vaccination program against leptospirosis and rabies

**Senior Van Use for Town Activities**

First Selectman C. Cope read into record a request from the Friends of Happy Acres, requesting use of the Senior Van during the 5k in April. Mr. Cope stated the insurance company was not comfortable with using the van outside of the regular scope of use. Mr. Cope stated the last several events have been heavily attended, and will advise the tenant farmers to adhere to the parking restrictions.

**Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman**

First Selectman C. Cope reported at the last Meeting he was given a charge to reach out to additional cell carriers in reference to improving cell coverage through-out the Town. Mr. Cope read the draft letter into record. Before sending, Mr. Cope stated he would like to speak to Mr. Mullen of Verizon. From the Audience, Mr. S. Maletz spoke in reference to Homeland Tower's ongoing negotiations with primary land owners.

**Communications and Website**

Selectman B. Ostrosky reported he was looking into options and will report further at the next meeting.

**Other Business**

Procedure for Appointing non- elected new members to Boards and Commissions

**Public Comment**

A. Blake: asked if the meeting with the CT State Health Director would be open to the public?

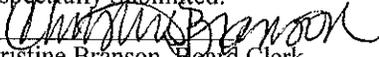
First Selectman C. Cope: replied Ms. Blake would be welcome to attend especially since her property is affected by the elevated sodium.

S. Maletz: requested a copy of the letter First Selectman Cope intends to send the cellular service carriers, once finalized.

**Adjournment**

**Selectman B Ostrosky Adjourned** the Meeting at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Christine Branson, Board Clerk

March 24, 2016

**APPROVED AS FINAL AT THE March 24, 2016 RMM**