



**Town of Sherman  
Board of Selectman  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
March 24, 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. Van Plachecki, B. Hoag, R. Hudson, G. Maletz, S. Maletz, T. Beatty, B. Cowan, and V. Scheer (Citizen News)

**Call to Order:** First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 7:15 pm

**Public Comment:**

**T. Beatty:** spoke in reference to the Department of Public Works request to add a full time position for FY 2016-17. He stated that years ago the department was able to function fully with two full time and two part time employees. Mr. Beatty has done a comparison of the Towns of Kent and Warren and their Budgets are broken down fully showing each individual position within Departments. Mr. Beatty questioned why Sherman DPW does not also break down each employee's position including health and related costs. Additionally, Mr. Beatty questioned the comparing costs per mile to maintain Town Roads. Mr. Beatty stated The Towns of Kent and Warren are comparable in size both towns spend approximately \$16,000.00 annually per Town mile. Mr. Beatty asks why the Town of Sherman claims it costs \$32,000.00 to annually maintain Town roads.

**Correspondence:**

**P. Bissacki, Department of Public Health-** in reference to rescheduling the requested meeting to the beginning of April. (First Selectman Cope stated the meeting has been re-scheduled to April 8th at 12:00 pm.)

**Administrative Items:**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Regular Meeting of February 25, 2016:**

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 25, 2016, as Amended; page 4: under Public Comment, A. Blake, add the word "be" to "...Health Director would *be* open to the public..."

Seconded by: D. Lowe

VOTE: For: Unanimous

**Tax Refunds**

Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Approve combined property and motor vehicle tax refund in the amount of \$ 3,480.00.

Seconded by: C. Cope

VOTE: For: Unanimous

**Appointments:**

First Selectman C. Cope read into record an email from R. Hudson, expressing interest in joining the Commission on Aging. Mr. Cope recommended Mr. Hudson attend a Commission on Aging meeting and introduce himself to the Board. Mr. Cope will wait for feedback from the CoA's Chair, Janet Wey. First Selectman C. Cope read into record an email from Sherman Housing Commission Chair, Art Van Plachecki endorsing Helen Bray as a new Commissioner. The BoS discussed the procedure for appointing new members to Boards and Commissions.

**First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Approve** the Appointment of Helen Bray to serve on the Housing Commission for a three year term, expiring December 31, 2018.  
**Seconded by:** B. Ostrosky **Vote: For: Unanimous**

**Monthly Financial Summary Review:**

The BoS received the March 2016 Summary of the General Fund, no discussion took place.

**Financial Controls:**

Purchasing Policy: First Selectman C. Cope stated he has sent the policy to the Town Auditor for feedback.

**Bid Openings:**

**Tree Trimming and Removal**

First Selectman C. Cope stated he is in receipt of two proposals for tree removal for the Town.

**Gentile Tree Care, LLC-** 458 Chestnut Land Rd, New Milford, CT 06776  
With a bid of \$ 125.00 per hour, or \$ 900.00 flat daily rate.

**Emmons Tree & Landscaping Service-** 5 Old Town Park Rd #3, New Milford, CT 06776  
With a bid of \$ 185.00 per hour, or \$ 1,480.00 flat daily rate.

**First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Award** the Town of Sherman tree trimming and removal contract to Gentile Tree Care, LLC- 458 Chestnut Land Rd, New Milford, CT 06776 , with a bid of \$ 125.00 per hour, or \$ 900.00 flat daily rate.  
**Seconded by:** D. Lowe **Vote: For: Unanimous**

**Dock Replacement**

First Selectman C. Cope stated he is in receipt of one proposal for Town Dock Replacement

**Harry T. Tucker & Sons Inc-** 490 Candlewood Lake Road, Brookfield, CT 06804  
with a bid of \$ 21,950.00.

**First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Award** the Town of Sherman Dock Replacement to Harry T. Tucker & Sons Inc- 490 Candlewood Lake Road, Brookfield, CT 06804 with a bid of \$ 21,950.00.  
**Seconded by:** D. Lowe **Vote: For: Unanimous**

**Information & Discussion Items**

**Budget Hearing Date Discussion**

The BoS agreed to move the April 6th Hearing to April 9th to allow BoE attendance. There is a Town Meeting already scheduled for 10:00 on the 9th.

**Progress Report on Town Projects**

**Public Works Wash Station**

The BoS discussed recent correspondence from the Department of Economic and Community Development, which stated they have reviewed the bid documents and agree with the Town's intention to award the bid contract to Hawley Construction Company- 30 Germantown Rd., Danbury, CT 06810

**Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved to Award** the Town of Sherman Department of Public Works Wash Station construction contract to Hawley Construction Company, 30 Germantown Rd., Danbury, CT 06810 not to exceed the amount of \$ 245,500.00  
**Seconded by:** D. Lowe **Vote: For: Unanimous**

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

First Selectman C. Cope stated he has rescheduled the meeting with P. Bisacky, Department of Public Health and Town Sanitarian T. Simpkins to Friday, April 8th, 2016 at 12:00 pm.

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

First Selectman C. Cope stated he has not received anything new to report, however there is still a remaining unpaid balance since a final invoice has not been received.

#### **Sherman School K-wing Update**

First Selectman C. Cope stated the Town Engineer, T. Iadorola met with Selectman B. Ostrosky and was able to assess building documents dating back to the original refurbishment of the K-Wing along with photographs. Mr. Iadorola will create an evaluation report and present to the School Building Board. This item will remain on the BoS Agenda.

#### **Housing Commission Survey Report**

Commission Chair, A. Van Plachecki spoke in reference to recent letters to the editor in the newspaper regarding the Housing Commission Survey. Mr. Van Plachecki plans to write an additional letter to the editor to clarify the intention of the Housing Commission. The survey is in the final stages and has been handed off to Selectman Ostrosky to create a digital survey and finalize the mailer. The BoS discussed minor edits and set a target of April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 to mail the surveys to postal patrons.

#### **Happy Acres Farm Report**

First Selectman C Cope reported an email from A. Mantzaris dated March 2, 2016 stating the herd count is presently at 49. The BoS discussed the South facing wall of the large barn. Last fall Full Circle Farming, LLC requested the repairs be postponed to Spring to allow winter hay storage. First Selectman Cope will check in with Full Circle to see if they are on schedule and have emptied the barn of hay. Also discussed was the request to reconfigure some of the heating ductwork in the farmhouse.

#### **Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman**

First Selectman C Cope reported he has written a letter to Verizon, requesting any good news regarding Sherman. Mr. Cope stated he will also reach out to AT&T. G. Maletz read a progress report into record, the following items were included; the SVFD has requested maps and an accident report that was discussed previously at a BoS meeting. This data was obtained from the CT DoT. Homeland Towers conducted a site walk on a proposed property and will soon produce an exhibit report. Mrs. Maletz thanked Selectman D. Lowe for his article in the Citizen News, mentioning the desire to improve cell communication in Sherman. Mrs. Maletz spoke in reference to small cell technology and stated one can find out more information regarding this topic at [www.alcatel-lucent.com/solutions/small-cells](http://www.alcatel-lucent.com/solutions/small-cells).

#### **Communications and Website**

Selectman B. Ostrosky had nothing new to report at this time.

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

First Selectman C Cope reported he is waiting to hear back from the State.

## **New Senior Van Update**

First Selectman C Cope reported communication from S. Berger, the van has been ordered and will be delivered in approximately four months.

## **New Ambulance Update**

First Selectman C Cope reported the new ambulance has been delivered to the SVFD and has been registered with the DMV.

## **Fox Run Detention Basin**

First Selectman C Cope read a letter into record from Laurie Valente, DEEP Grants and Contracts Specialist, dated March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016, informing the Town the contract approval process is complete. The contract is in the amount of \$48,542.50 and covers the period of February 9, 2016 through December 31, 2016. First Selectman Cope stated he will send the contract out to bid next week now that he is in receipt of the grant funding approval from the State. From the Public, L. Berger spoke on behalf of the Atchison Cove Community asking if it is possible to have the Town's DPW do some of the work to keep the cost down. First Selectman Cope replied the State has strict stipulations that the Town must adhere to, but will reach out to the Grant Administrator to find out.

## **Town Meeting for Parks and Recreation Expenditure for beach sand, clay for ball fields, stone dust for track, and mulch for playgrounds to come from Capital Non-Recurring Fund**

**Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved** to take to a Town Meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Mallory Town Hall at 10:00 a.m. the request on behalf of Parks and Recreation to approve an expenditure not to exceed the amount of \$ 10,000.00 for the purchase of beach sand, clay for ball fields, stone dust for track, and mulch for playgrounds.

**Seconded by:** D. Lowe

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

**First Selectman C Cope Moved** to take to a Town Meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Mallory Town Hall at 10:00 a.m. request on behalf of Sherman Parks and Recreation to approve the purchase a Toro Field Pro not to exceed the amount of \$ 18,235.00 to come from Capital Non-Recurring Fund.

**Seconded by:** B. Ostrosky

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

**Selectman D. Lowe Moved** to Approve the Town of Sherman FY 2016-17 Budget in the amount of \$ 5,144,402.00, and the Board of Education in the amount of \$9,381,718.00 for the Combined amount of \$14,526,120.00 as proposed.

**Seconded by:** B. Ostrosky

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

**Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved** to bring the Town of Sherman FY 2016-17 Budget in the amount of \$ 5,144,402.00, and the Board of Education in the amount of \$9,381,718.00 for the Combined amount of \$14,526,120.00 to a Town Meeting set for May 7th, 2016, 10:00 a.m. at the ESF.

**Seconded by: D. Lowe**

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

**Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved** to bring the Town of Sherman FY 2016-17 Budget in the amount of \$ 5,144,402.00, and the Board of Education in the amount of \$9,381,718.00 for the Combined amount of \$14,526,120.00 to a Town referendum vote on May 14th, 2016 at the ESF from 8:00 am to 8:00pm.

**Seconded by:** D. Lowe

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

**Other Business:**

**Agenda Items for future Meetings:**

**D. Lowe-** would like the BoS consider video-taping meetings in the future, he will look into costs and possibility of broadcasting on the local cable channel.

**D. Lowe-** would like the BoS consider creating a procedure when a volunteer would like to donate time/ labor to improve Town property, for example such as a bench at the ball fields. Are there inspections involved and who? Building/ Zoning?

**Public Comment:**

**R. Hudson-** requested if the proposed Town Budgets will be published in the local newspaper, as well as available online and at the Town Clerk's office previous to the Town Meeting?

**V. Scheer-** requested if the Housing Survey will be available on the Town website and mailed .

**Selectman B. Ostrosky-** stated all postal patrons will be sent a survey by mail with a return envelope. The survey will also be available online.

**B. Cowan-** thanked the BoS for their support in replenishing the ball fields. Also would like the BoS to consider allowing Town residents the use of the DPW wash station.

**First Selectman C. Cope -** replied the State grants will not allow public use of the wash facilities.

**L. Berger-** would like some clarification regarding the volunteer process when requesting to join Town Boards.

**Adjournment:**

**First Selectman C. Cope Adjourned the Meeting at 8:45pm**

Respectfully submitted by:



Christine Branson, Board Clerk

April 7, 2016

APPROVED AS AMENDED AT THE 4-28-2016 RMM