



**Town of Sherman
Board of Selectman
Regular Monthly Meeting
September 22, 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: D. Tuck, E. Holub, F. Fratini, B. Hoag, A. Van Plachecki, G. Linkletter, J. Seigel, R. Handley, G. Maletz, S. Maletz, S. B. Addison Larson, J. Reilly, A. Blake, J. Bruzinski, C. Fazzino, and J. Hopkins

CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 7:01 pm

Public Comment:

A. Chiaramonte- asking if the BoS will read the letter from S. Randall.

R. Handley- spoke on behalf of the BoE, referred to a letter recently published in the Town Tribune in reference to the close of FY 2015-16. Mr. Handley reported on a few final projects at the school including refurbishing the website, as well as the completion of landscaping at the school. The unexpended balance of the school budget FY 2015-16 is approximately \$400,000.00. Mr. Handley is requesting the consideration of earmarking a portion of that surplus toward school capital projects such as the K-Wing. The BoE welcomes new Superintendent Jeffrey Melendez, many members had the opportunity to attend a full day retreat with him as well as participate in some of the first day of school activities.

CORRESPONDENCE:

H. Berger- letter of resignation from the Candlewood Lake Authority received, he and his wife will be moving out of state, the full letter was read into record.

L. Berger- letter of resignation from the IWWC, as stated above, she and her husband will be moving out of state.

S. Randall- letter sharing frustration with the process of the proposed Septic Walk-Over program regarding the length of time; encouraging the BoS to expedite the issue to a Town vote.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Approval of Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2016:

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to table approval to the October meeting in order to verify the discussion of item IV, section 3: Water Issue.

Seconded by: D. Lowe

Vote: For: Unanimous

Tax Refunds:

No refunds were requested.

Monthly Financial Summary Review:

The BoS discussed several items regarding the close out of the FY 2015-16.

Purchasing Policy:

Selectman Ostrosky stated he will have more to report at the next BoS Meeting.

Fire Marshal Appointment:

First Selectman Cope stated he is in receipt of several resumes in regard to the position of the Town Fire Marshal. Mr. Cope read into record the Ordinance regarding selecting and appointing a Fire Marshal. J. Reilly, Sherman Volunteer Fire Department Chief stated from the audience the Department has not had the opportunity to review the resume's and is not prepared to make a recommendation at this time. Discussion followed regarding appointing the Deputy Fire Marshal to act as Interim Fire Marshal during the process of selection.

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Appoint S. B. Addison Larson to act as Interim Fire Marshal, to the Town of Sherman until a decision is made to hire a full time Fire Marshal.

Seconded By: B. Ostrosky **Vote: For: 2 Against: 1 (D. Lowe)**

SVFD transfer/ gift 1985 Peterbilt Tanker truck:

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Approve the transfer/ gift of the 1985 Peterbilt Tanker truck to the Marrowbone Fire Department of Burkesville Kentucky.

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

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Progress report on Town Projects:

Department of Public Works Wash Station:

First Selectman C. Cope reported the construction of the wash station is complete, and has been issued a Certificate of Occupancy. A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on October 14, 2016 at 10 am.

Department of Public Works bathroom upgrades:

First Selectman C. Cope reported the upgrades to the bathroom are complete and all within budget.

Water issue regarding elevated sodium content:

First Selectman C. Cope reported a phone conversation with Town Sanitarian T. Simpkins and State Department of Health L. Mathew. Ms. Mathew is in receipt of the report generated by Marc Cohen, once a source and cause is identified she plans to send a plan of recommendation to the BoS. Discussion followed regarding the drinking water at the school. The BoS discussed hiring a private water testing company to conduct tests at the Town Hall, Senior Center, Fire House, and School to seek a second opinion. First Selectman Cope stated he will first reach out to the get a ballpark quote to see how much this would cost the Town.

Renovations to Mallory Town Hall:

First Selectman C. Cope reported the carpet has been replaced, paint, flooring and new cabinets in the kitchen have been installed, and the Zoning Office has been re-painted.

Repairs to the Playhouse:

The cupola has been repaired and there have been improvements made to the exterior lighting.

Parks and Recreation:

First Selectman C. Cope reported the Committee that was formed to evaluate the tennis court repairs is in the process of reviewing quotes. Also being considered is the addition of lighting for the basketball courts. Stan Greenbaum spoke on behalf of the committee, stating he would like to seek the input from the Town Engineer to evaluate the requirements of a post tension slab court to create a clean bid speculation. The BoS discussed the proposed Dog Ordinance. F. Frattini spoke on behalf of the P&R Commission, stating the Ordinance will go back to the Commission for final revision. They would like to try the ordinance for 1 year to see how effective it is. The BoS discussed the need for specific signage in the areas where it will be enforced.

Housing Commission Report:

Housing Commission Chair, A. Von Plachecki delivered the official report of the Housing Survey results to the BoS and read the full report into record. This report has additionally been shared with the Commission on Aging and Planning and Zoning Commission. The BoS suggested Mr. Van Plachecki publish a column in the newspaper with the information in the report as well as hold educational forums to offer opportunities for the public to learn more about the survey results. First Selectman Cope recommended holding a forum at the Senior Center as well as one at Mallory Town Hall. Mr. Van Plachecki stated he will be submitting his resignation from the Housing Commission at the end of December.

Happy Acres Farm Report:

First Selectman C. Cope reported an email from John Motsinger of Full Circle Farming, LLC. The full herd is on property and grazing in the fields. They have purchased hay for the winter. They are currently preparing for a chili cook-off scheduled for October 16th. The farm stand continues to be open on weekends from 1pm to 4pm. The BoS discussed the general upkeep and look of the fields. A herd report was included with the submittal, dated September 1, 2016, one cow was processed, currently there are 51 cows in the herd.

Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman:

A letter was submitted and read into record from the Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman (RRCSS). Their request upon reading the letter is to respond individually with status updates. First Selectman Cope responded to several of the questions:

- 1. Action taken regarding contacting State Representatives ?
Response: Mr. Cope has reached out to State Representatives Michael McLaughlin and Richard Smith.
- 2. Contacted State Committees from list submitted from RRCSS?
Response: Yes
- 3. Regular contact with Homeland Towers, R. Vergati to facilitate location?
Response: Mr. Vergatti has been in contact and has shared the names of several landowners that have expressed interest. Is also aware of one new name from the Northern portion of Town.

4. Contact New Fairfield regarding joint action to cover the Southern portion of Sherman?
Response: Has reached out to First Selectman in New Fairfield, and there didn't seem to be any interest.
5. How much additional revenue will be obtained from the T-Mobile co-location at Happy Acres Farm?
Response: Cannot provide that information, the Town is currently in contract negotiation with T-Mobile.
6. Has there been any discussion with Great Hollow owner or Naromi?
Response: Did speak to Mr. Goldring. Heard about a lawsuit from New Fairfield, due to State restrictions, non-profits are not eligible. Selectman Ostrosky stated he would like to verify this with the Town Atty.
7. Was a Utility Commission ever formed?
Response: No, the Utility Commission was never formed.
8. Has First Selectman Cope reached out to the other telecommunications carriers to see if there was any interest?
Response: Mr. Cope has been in contact with Mr. Kerry of AT&T as well as a contact at T-Mobile, so far no replies.
9. Has any progress taken place to join the Regional Alliance as the BoS agreed in October of 2015?
Response: Mr. Cope has reached out to WECOG Director R. Lynn and referred Jocelyn Ayers in charge of Community Development .
10. Update of discussion with Sharon Selectman Jessica Fowler and representatives from NHCog in reference to NWCONNECT initiative program in progress with Litchfield.
Response: First Selectman Cope has scheduled to meet with representatives from NHCog next week in reference to NWCONNECT initiative program to see if Sherman may qualify for the grant.

Communications and Website:

Selectman B. Ostrosky is in receipt of an annual service contract agreement from NIXLE, this includes an implementation plan. Would like the BoS to review agreement. Regarding the website, Selectman Ostrosky spoke to the Webmaster, A. Burgasser regarding improvements to the current site. Mr. Burgasser requested each department review their content at least every three months and provide screen shots of areas that are inaccurate, and provide correct information when needed.

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

First Selectman Cope reported the boat and trailer has been delivered. The Town Atty. has drafted a letter of revisions which was read into record.

Septic Walkover Program Discussion:

Discussion took place regarding the projected cost as proposed in FY 2015-16 and the realistic cost currently to implement the program since the ordinance has been modified. The BoS would like to meet with the Health Director to discuss the next steps.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

J. Seigel- spoke in reference to seeking a second opinion regarding the testing of sodium levels in the Town. Hopes the BoS will reach out to other Towns in CT to compare their experiences and possibly have results published in the local newspaper.

C. Fazzino- requested if the State spoke to private snow removal contractors that treat the Town Center and not just the DoT for the treatment of the State roads.

A. Blake- asked if the treatment of the Town Hall parking lot was considered during testing of sodium. Also inquired about the status of the bathrooms at Veteran's Field.

First Selectman Cope- replied, yes all parking lots in the affected area were considered. Mr. Cope is seeking another quote in reference to the bathrooms.

G. Maletz- requesting information of video-taping meetings.

Selectman Lowe- stated Charter Communications has offered to air the meetings, but there needs to be a volunteer willing to physically tape the meeting and then transport the media to Newtown.

G. Maletz- requesting the BoS request the P&Z Commission facilitate telecommunications applications such as the current application at 2 Taber Road.

ADJOURNMENT:

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Adjourn the Meeting at 9:29pm

Respectfully submitted by:



Christine Branson, Board Clerk

October 25, 2016

APPROVED AS FINAL AT THE OCTOBER 27, 2016 RMM