



**Town of Sherman
Board of Selectman
Regular Monthly Meeting
October 27, 2016
7:00 p.m.
Mallory Town Hall**

DRAFT

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

Members Absent: None

Audience: E. Holub, A. Blake, G. Maletz, S. Maletz, J. Reilly (SVFD), S. B. Addison Larson, J. Fried, and C. Fazzone

CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 7:02 pm

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Van Plachecki- submitting resignation as Chair of the Sherman Housing Commission effective December 31, 2016.

J. Burruano- Chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission in response to a letter received from Selectman B. Ostrosky regarding clarification of the process and timetable of the Special Permit Application for Telecommunication co-location of equipment located at 2 Taber Road, Happy Acres Farm.

Ed Hayes- regarding opposition of new proposed Farm Winery Regulations.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Approval of Minutes:

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

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2016 as written.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

Approval of Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2016:

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2016 as written.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

Tax Refunds:

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Approve Refund of combined property and motor vehicle taxes in the amount of \$ 2,189.88.

Seconded by: D. Lowe

Vote: For: Unanimous

Monthly Financial Summary Review:

The BoS discussed the monthly summary and noted the P&Z Legals line was tracking high. Business Manager L. LaVia stated last year this line was reduced because the amount expended was historically not reaching the budgeted amount. Selectman Ostrosky requested First Selectman Cope reach out to the P&Z Chair to verify the knowledge of the overage and discuss future plans.

Purchasing Policy:

Selectman Ostrosky stated there was nothing new to report.

SVFD Engine Repair Funds Request:

The BoS discussed a request from SVFD for full Town funding for the repair Engine 3 in the amount of \$23,500.00. The BoS discussed dates for moving this request to a Town Meeting because it will need to come from the Capital Non-Recurring Account.

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to take the request from SVFD for Town funds to come from the Capital Non-Recurring Account in the amount of \$23,500.00 for the repair Engine 3. The Town Meeting is set for Saturday November 19, 2016 at 10:00 am at Mallory Town Hall

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

Fire Marshal Appointment:

First Selectman Cope read an email from Sherman Fire Chief Jim Reilly recommending S.B. Addison Larson for the position of Fire Marshal.

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Appoint S. B. Addison Larson as Marshal to the Town of Sherman.

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

Town Calendar for 2017:

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Approve the 2017 Legal Holiday calendar.

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

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Approve the 2017 Board of Selectman Regular Monthly Meeting dates, Pre-Budget Hearings, Budget Workshops, and Annual Meeting dates.

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

Payroll Reporting Correction:

Business Administrator L. LaVia reported a payroll correction was needed to be applied to this quarter regarding the FICA line in Pension Reporting in the amount of \$2,600.00. Town Treasurer stated the correction was to be made to the FICA line of the 457 Plan which is the Cash Balance Retirement plan that the Town matches what the Employee contributes. The BoS agreed to charge the amount of \$2,600.00 to the FICA line to correct the error for this Fiscal Year. At the beginning of the next Fiscal year, payments will be split between the Town and the Employee as intended.

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Approve a charge in the amount of \$2,600.00 to the FICA line to correct the error of the 457 Plan which is the Cash Balance Retirement plan for this current Fiscal Year 2016.

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

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Progress report on Town Projects:

Water issue regarding elevated sodium content:

First Selectman C. Cope reported read into record a letter received from Mr. Cohen, Source Water Program Manager of ASRWWA which was accompanied by a map of the well testing sites and data regarding the most current sodium levels. First Selectman Cope reported a meeting with Gary Robbins a Professor of Geology at UCONN in the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment (NRE) in the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources Groundwater Program at UCONN and Luke Nabo who provided a recommendation for a source water protection plan, which was read into record. Additionally Mr. Robbins has requested permission to dig a small well to conduct tests on "raw water". The BoS discussed the recommendations. First Selectman Cope stated he is encouraged with the progress UCONN has made and hopes to have additional information to report by the next meeting.

Happy Acres Farm Report:

First Selectman C. Cope read into record an email from John Motsinger of Full Circle Farming, LLC. The grazing season has officially ended yesterday with the bull leaving and yearling heifers coming home. They will be feeding hay to the cows behind the barns until Spring. A thank you was shared to all who attended the 2nd annual chili cook off. Also reported was this will be the last weekend of regular hours for the farm stand. During the winter they are open by appointment or they can be found Saturday mornings at the New Milford Winter Market at the East Street School. A herd report was included with the submittal, dated October 1, 2016, two cows were processed, and currently there are 51 cows in the herd.

Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman:

First Selectman C. Cope provided an update with Homeland Towers Ray Vergati. Currently there are three property owners in the negotiations process. One additional property owner on Route 55 was also interested, however was told the property was too low to provide any boost in coverage. There is still the possibility of putting two smaller towers or poles elsewhere. Mr. Cope has also spoken to Sharon's First Selectman Jessica Fowler in Sharon and NWCoG's Executive Director Rick Lynn. There is good news, OPM has approved four towns within the NWCoG funding approval, and Sherman is one of the four. Mr. Cope received a power point presentation from NWCONNect and will share with the BoS. The BoS discussed \$ 60,000.00 remaining in the Capital Non-Recurring account earmarked until a cell tower is implemented. Gale Maletz spoke on behalf of the Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman and thanked Mr. Cope for the updates he provided. Ms. Maletz requested why Mr. Cope is just sharing the information from NWCONNect now when it was provided in July. Additionally Ms. Maletz asked for clarification in the use of "broadband" for cell service. Mr. Cope recommended reaching out to Jessica Fowler for that information. Ms. Maletz stated she was disappointed there was no one in attendance representing Sherman at the Town Planners Luncheon regarding small service cell technology. There will be another opportunity to meet with representatives from Verizon at a meeting scheduled for November 14th at Terry Hahn's home at 10am, Ms. Maletz invited the BoS to attend. First Selectman Cope stated he maintains frequent contact with Mr. Vergati and is prepared to pursue all possibilities. The BoS discussed availability for November 14th and stated earlier would be ideal for the meeting. Ms. Maletz stated Ms. Hahn is contacting the representative from Verizon and will request the meeting begin at 9am rather than 10 am.

Communications and Website:

Selectman B. Ostrosky reported he has contacted NIXLE/ Everbridge and has designated contacts.

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

First Selectman Cope stated there was an additional invoice for the light tower and trailer. Mr. Cope is waiting to hear from the CLA Chair to confirm the final amount. Business Manager L. LaVia stated there was a \$16.00 left in the account for the boat and she cannot submit the invoice to the State until there is proof that all invoices have been paid. The BoS discussed details regarding the grant agreement, title and ownership rights, and insurance. Treasurer E. Holub requested clarity and stated he wanted to make sure all risk is shared by the five Towns involved with the Grant, and wants to be sure the Town of Sherman is held harmless.

Videotaping of Town Meetings:

Selectman D. Lowe stated he has found a volunteer, Alex Mastron a Junior at New Fairfield High school and he has agreed to cover ne Meeting. The Meeting will be broadcast on Channel 21. Mr. Lowe stated there are more details he will need to figure out and will report at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

A. Blake- requested a copy of the water reports and map. Additionally she asked the status of the Tennis Court renovations.

First Selectman Cope- replied that the Ad Hoc Committee is comparing the difference between post tension and asphalt paving for the tennis courts. Additionally Mr. Cope stated he has not heard any details regarding the Park and Rec. bathrooms discussed at last months' meeting.

S. Maletz- requesting the status of the Septic Walkover program.

Selectman Ostrosky- stated the BoS needed to meet with the Health Department to discuss budgetary impact, as well as the cost of mapping the areas. Mr. Ostrosky stated no referendum date has been scheduled but anticipates early Spring.

E. Holub- stated in the P&R minutes they noted the attendance of the after school program has been averaging 3 students. Mr. Holub stated it does not seem to be financially viable and requested the BoS consider inviting P&R to the next meeting to discuss.

Selectman B. Ostrosky- made a statement as a resident, reporting he been to the playing fields twice in the last three weeks and the dog waste that is on the fields is ridiculous. There are bags available for clean up but nothing is done. He feels this is a safety issue, no one is paying attention to the signs.

First Selectman Cope- replied that he thinks this is a Selectman's issue and will speak to P&R.

ADJOURNMENT:

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Adjourn the Meeting at 8:29pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Christine Branson, Board Clerk
November 17, 2016