

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FEBRUARY 5, 2007
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: David D. Macy, Chairman
Julie M. Hannum, Clerk
James T. Collingwood

Other Staff Present: Robert Weitz, Town Administrator
Rhonda LaBombard, Recording Secretary

Chairman Macy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Chairman Macy welcomed the School Committee, Finance Committee and the Boy Scouts to the meeting.

Chairman Macy announced the resignation of Administrative Assistant Rhonda LaBombard and thanked her for her service.

PUBLIC HEARING –APPLICATION FOR STORAGE OF INFLAMMABLE MATERIAL:

An application was received from John B. Hull, Inc. for storage of 60,000 gallons of heating oil on Berkshire School Road. John Hull was present for the hearing. There were no comments from the public. Discussion ensued on the history of the tanks. Chief Rick Boardman was present and asked for copies of all permits to keep in the Fire Department files. Selectman Hannum moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Macy closed the public hearing. Selectman Collingwood moved to grant the permit renewal for the storage tanks, seconded by Selectman Hannum. Administrator Weitz stated that this was a new application not a renewal. Selectman Collingwood amended his motion to grant a new permit for the storage tanks, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Selectman Hannum moved to approve the minutes for the January 16, 2007, January 24, 2007 and January 31, 2007 meetings, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The meetings on January 24th and 31st also include executive session minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

MAIL OF NOTE:

Selectman Collingwood moved to accept the resignation from Dek Tillett from School Committee and Rhonda LaBombard as Administrative Assistant, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Macy requested that a letter be sent to Mr. Tillett thanking him for his service.

BOY SCOUTS:

Janet Stanton was present with the Boy Scout Troop 28 who are working towards their Citizenship Merit Award. Scouts introduced themselves and asked the Board of Selectmen a question. The Selectmen encouraged the scouts to call with any questions they may have in the future.

SCHOOL BUDGET:

Members of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee attended a School Committee meeting on February 1, 2007 to view the school budget. Finance Chairman Steindler stated that Sheffield is looking at a Proposition 2 1/2 override with the proposed increase in the school budget. Discussion ensued on the effects on Sheffield if the school budget increases as projected. Discussion ensued on funding programs, emphasizing the core subjects, school choice and student enrollment. State funding amounts are not available at this time. Chairman Macy stated that the concern with the school budget is not unique to Sheffield. Discussion ensued on the school's excess and deficiency (E & D) account and the possibility of putting more of that fund towards the budget. The School Committee must vote on the school budget by March 15th but with the state figures unavailable the date could possibly be extended. School Committee members Catherine Miller, Marcia Savage and Jack Pollett committed to going back to the School Committee to review the budget and look at the impacts to Sheffield and possibly finding methods to reduce the budget. Chairman Macy thanked the School Committee members for their efforts.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Selectman Hannum stated that the Parking Lot Committee held their first meeting last week and the work on the parking lot is moving forward.

Selectman Hannum discussed Kidmocracy with the Egyptian students at Mount Everett and she would like to see this continue and have the town become more involved.

Selectman Hannum moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing non-union contract negotiations. The meeting will return to open session, seconded by Selectman Collingwood.

The motion carried as follows:

Chairman Macy – Aye

Selectman Hannum – Aye

Selectman Collingwood – Aye

Executive Session entered at 8:30 pm

Open session continued at 8:33 pm

Selectman Hannum moved to ratify the contract between the Town of Sheffield and Police Chief James McGarry as written from July 1, 2007 to January 4, 2011, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectmen Hannum moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Macy adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda LaBombard
Recording Secretary