

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 4, 2010
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: David D. Macy, Chairman
Julie M. Hannum, Clerk
Rene C. Wood

Others Present: Joseph A. Kellogg, Town Administrator
Rhonda LaBombard, Assistant Town Administrator

Members of the public

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Selectman Hannum moved to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2009 meeting, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

BEER AND WINE LICENSE PUBLIC HEARING:

Chairman Macy opened a public hearing at 7:01 p.m. for the application of SAVTOM, Inc., dba Village Green Restaurant and Pizzeria, for a Wine and Malt License. Maria Reno from the Village Green Restaurant was present for the hearing. Bruce Philbrick was present to represent the Old Parish Church, which has no objection to the license being issued. Beth Bartholomew, owner of the building, which houses the Village Green Restaurant was present and is in favor of the license being issued. The application is for an on premise, indoors Wine and Malt License. Board members stated their concern that the license be restricted to indoors. Chairman Macy closed the hearing at 7:07 p.m. Selectman Hannum moved to grant a Wine and Malt License to SAVTOM, Inc., dba Village Green Restaurant and Pizzeria for on premise indoor sales only Wine and Malt License during the hours of 11:00 am – 9:00 pm Sunday thru Thursday and 11:00 am – 10:00 pm for Friday and Saturday, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

SHEFFIELD LAND TRUST:

Kathy Orlando from the Sheffield Land Trust updated the Board on projects the Land Trust is working on. Selectman Hannum complimented the Land Trust for their work on preserving farm land in town. Selectman Wood inquired about the status of the Open Space and Recreation Plan. Ms. Orlando is a member of the Open Space Committee and stated that they are working on completing the plan and would like to be able to schedule a public forum in early spring. Ms. Orlando will keep the Board updated.

EMERGENCY 911 HOUSE NUMBERS:

Chairman Macy read two letters, one from Police Chief McGarry and one from Fire Chief Boardman regarding emergency 911 house numbers and their concerns with the residences that do not have house numbers displayed properly to ensure that emergency responders find the right address. House numbers should be displayed where they can be easily seen from the road. Reflective 911 emergency house number signs may be purchased from the Town. Information on the house number will be put on the Town website and in the Sheffield Times.

REGIONAL SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION:

Chairman Macy stated that Governor Patrick has rescinded the Regional School Transportation financial aid cuts. Discussion ensued.

SELECTMEN ITEMS:

Selectman Hannum discussed three resolutions that will be topics for discussion at the Annual MMA Business Meeting in January.

Selectman Wood presented a draft application for a District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) grant from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) for creating a "How to do Business in Sheffield" pamphlet. Selectman Hannum moved to authorize Administrator Kellogg to apply for the DLTA grant from BRPC to create a pamphlet on "How to do Business in Sheffield", pending final completion of the application, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood requested that the update of the Personnel Policy be placed on the agenda for the next working meeting.

Selectman Wood requested that the Town's website calendar be kept up to date.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

Administrator Kellogg reminded residents that a Special Town Meeting will be held on January 11, 2010 at 7 pm at Mt. Everett Regional High School for the following three warrant articles:

1. Special Legislation to allow Chief McGarry to work past the age of 65
2. Easement from the American Legion to install a septic system for the new senior center
3. Zoning changes to allow certain types of businesses in the General Business and Commercial Districts with a Special Permit from the Planning Board.

The warrant is available on the Town website.

Administrator Kellogg thanked the Highway Department for their good work during the storm over the past weekend.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Technical Assistance Grant – Permitting Software

Administrator Kellogg said that the Berkshire Managers have been discussing a permitting software program, designed by the Town of Westford, that would allow building permits to be applied for on-line. BRPC would house the software, keep it updated and provide technical assistance for the Towns that choose to use it. Selectman Wood moved to authorize Administrator Kellogg to apply for a DLTA grant from BRPC to explore purchasing a regional permitting software program and to serve as lead community, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood reminded residents of the State Senate Election that will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010.

Selectman Hannum moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Macy adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard
Assistant Town Administrator