

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MAY 17, 2010  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Julie M. Hannum, Clerk  
Rene C. Wood  
David A. Smith, Jr.

Others Present: Joseph A. Kellogg, Town Administrator  
Rhonda LaBombard, Assistant Town Administrator  
  
Members of the public

Clerk Hannum called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed Selectman Smith to the Board following his election on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

**BOARD REORGANIZATION:** Selectman Wood nominated Selectman Hannum as Board Chairman, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously. Selectman Smith nominated Selectman Wood as Board Clerk, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
Selectman Wood moved to approve minutes from the April 26, 2010, April 28, 2010 and May 3, 2010 meetings, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried 2-0, Selectman Smith abstained.

**PUBLIC HEARING – UTILITY POLE INSTALLATION – S. UNDERMOUNTAIN ROAD:**

Chairman Hannum opened a public hearing on the application of Verizon for a utility pole installation on the east side of South Undermountain Road. The pole number will be T.24S/E/86-84. Albert Bessette Jr. from Verizon was present for the hearing and explained that the pole will be for a support wire. There were no abutters present. Chairman Hannum closed the hearing at 7:04 pm. Selectman Wood moved to grant the utility pole installation on South Undermountain Road, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**BARNARD PARK:**

Administrator Kellogg explained that due to a recent storm two trees in Barnard Park were damaged and need to be removed. During the site visit to access the damage it was noted that all six memorial trees are Norway Maples and have begun to show signs of decaying. Administrator Kellogg recommended that all six trees be removed and replaced. Barrett Tree Service has given a price of \$4,800 to take down and clean up all six trees. The Town would purchase six new trees at an estimated cost of \$3,000 and the Sheffield Tree Project will plant the new trees. Joe Wilkinson has volunteered to remove the stumps, JTC Trucking has volunteered to dispose of the stumps and Wayne Wilkinson has volunteered to install bases for the flagpole and monuments. Administrator Kellogg suggested that the donation from Berkshire School be used to purchase the new trees. Mark Bachetti, representing the American Legion said that the

members of the Legion voted unanimously to remove and replace all the trees, hopefully before Memorial Day. A rededication ceremony could be held at the same time as the Memorial Day ceremony. Selectman Wood moved to proceed with the tree removal and design plan as indicated by Administrator Kellogg, and to use the donation from Berkshire School to pay for all related costs, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**SBRSD SUPERINTENDENT:**

Dr. Michael Singleton, SBRSD Superintendent, was present to give a report on happenings at the District. The current student enrollment is 901. Dr. Singleton talked about several issues, including cyber bullying, home schooling, staffing and staff certification, special education, charter school, transportation aid, nutrition, MCAS scores and physical education. Dr. Singleton also read a memo that he sent to the School Committee recommending closing the Monterey School. He said the School Committee has passed the request onto the Monterey Board of Selectmen asking for a Special Town Meeting vote to close the school at the end of this school year. The request is based on safety issues with the location and the building. Pam Kenyon, Principal of the Undermountain School, and Glen Devoti, Principal of Mt. Everett High School, were present to discuss goals for their schools. Paul O'Brien, Supervisor of Technology, was also present and noted that the best asset the District has is its student body.

**RESIGNATION – FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Jason Smith has resigned from the Fire Department. Selectman Wood moved to accept the resignation and to send Mr. Smith a letter of thanks for his service to the Town, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**MEMORIAL DAY PARADE PERMITS:**

The Ashley Falls Village Improvement Society and the American Legion, Post 340, have requested Memorial Day Parade permits. The Ashley Falls parade will take place on May 31, 2010 at 8 am beginning at the Ashley Falls Green. The Sheffield parade will take place on May 31, 2010 at 11 am. Selectman Smith moved to approve both parade permits, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

**WEDDING AT COVERED BRIDGE:**

Jennifer Wheeler had earlier requested permission to hold her wedding at the Covered Bridge on October 10, 2010. The Board requested more information regarding parking. Ms. Wheeler responded that Salisbury Bank has granted permission for her guests to park on their property. Selectman Wood moved to grant permission to Ms. Wheeler to hold her wedding at the Covered Bridge on October 10, 2010 with the following conditions: No Food Allowed, No Decorations Allowed, Guests to Park on the Salisbury Bank property and the public will be allowed to continue with normal activities at the Covered Bridge, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**FY2011 APPOINTMENT PROCESS:**

Chairman Hannum read the list of vacancies for FY2011 and stated that anyone wishing to serve should send a letter of interest to the Board of Selectmen. The list will be posted on the Town website.

**SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:**

Selectman Wood updated the Board on Wind Siting Legislation and presented a draft letter to Representative Pignatelli, tailored from the previous letter sent addressing the Board's concerns with the legislation. The Board authorized Selectman Wood to send the letter together with PDF copies to other legislators.

Selectman Wood welcomed Selectman Smith to the Board.

Selectman Wood again reminded residents to fill out and send in their U.S. Census forms and explained the importance for the Town to have all residents respond.

Selectman Wood stated that David Lynch, Director of the Smart Deferred Compensation Plan has written twice and telephoned regarding the Board's letter addressing their concerns with the deferred compensation plan.

Selectman Smith stated that he is looking forward to serving the Town and thanked the voters for their support.

Chairman Hannum stated that she is serving on the Long Range Capital Planning Commission for the Southern Berkshire Regional School District.

Chairman Hannum reminded residents that the Town is a member of the Berkshire County Mosquito Control program and residents may call them to spray their properties.

Chairman Hannum noted that a Home Composting Workshop will be held at the Bushnell Sage Library on Saturday, May 22, 2010 at 2 pm. Anyone interested in learning more about home composting is invited to attend.

#### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:**

Administrator Kellogg stated that Town Reports are in and may be picked up at the Town Hall. The on-line version will be available soon.

Administrator Kellogg noted that Tony Gulotta and Chris Tomich have begun a Sheffield Business Association. The first meeting was held on Saturday, May 15, 2010. The tentative date for the next meeting will be June 16, 2010 at the Bridge. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Tony and/or Chris.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Erna Lampman has applied for a Common Victualler's License to sell hot dogs and snacks at the Sheffield Farmer's Market. Health Inspector, George Oleen, has inspected and approved the mobile cart. Selectman Wood moved to grant Erna Lampman a 2010 Common Victualler license for use at the Sheffield Farmer's Market each Friday from May 21, 2010 to October 8, 2010, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

An application was received for a Temporary Roadside Event Sign for the Sheffield Farmers Market. Billie Best was present to represent the Farmer's Market. Four signs will be put up each Friday morning between Berkshire School Road and Maple Ave. and removed each Friday at the close of the market. The signs have been approved by the Police Chief as long as they do not block the sight of drivers exiting the Village Green. Discussion ensued regarding wireless access for the market. Selectman Smith moved to approve the Temporary Roadside Event Signs for the Sheffield Farmer's Market, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Joan Brooks asked questions about the location of the proposed Highway Garage. She would like to see it built, if approved, on Route 7. Discussion ensued regarding her concerns.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard  
Assistant Town Administrator