

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MARCH 17, 2014
TOWN HALL
7:00 PM**

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

Members Absent: Julie M. Hannum, Chairman

Others Present: Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator
Alicia Dulin, Assistant to Town Administrator

Selectman Wood called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Selectman Wood wished everyone a happy Saint Patrick's Day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Selectman Smith moved to approve the meeting minutes from the February 25, 2014 and March 3, 2014 meetings, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

TEMPORARY ROADSIDE EVENT SIGNS- CONTRA DANCE:

Neal Chamberlain submitted an application for Temporary Roadside Event signs to be erected on the Village Green for a Contra Dances to be held at Dewey Hall on March 22nd, June 28th and September 27th. The signs will be erected on March 14th, June 20th and September 19th and removed on March 24th, June 30th and September 29th. Selectman Smith moved to approve the Temporary Roadside Event Signs for the Contra Dances to be held at Dewey Hall on March 22nd, June 28th and September 27th, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

FARMERS DISTILLERS POURING PERMIT – BERKSHIRE MOUNTAIN DISTILERS:

Administrator LaBombard explained that according to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission if the Board determines that giving samples does not constitute a sale then the business would not need a pouring permit. Administrator LaBombard stated that a letter was received from Chris Weld, owner of Berkshire Mountain Distillers stating that he would like to pour samples and that he will not charge for samples. Selectman Smith moved to make a determination as per Chris Weld's letter that samples do not constitute a sale and authorize the Town Administrator to draft a letter to the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

SOLAR PILOT PROGRAMS:

Kirt Mayland was present to discuss a solar PILOT program on East Stahl Road. He distributed a sample of the PILOT agreement to the Board. Selectman Wood stated that the Town Counsel has not reviewed the contract for the PILOT and the Board was not prepared to make a decision at this time since one Board member is missing. She stated that a decision would be made at a future meeting when all Board members are present.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE – LETTER OF INTENT:

The Board looked at a letter of intent and proposed budget for FY2015 from the Southern Berkshire Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. Selectman Smith moved to approve the letter

of intent and the proposed budget for FY2015 seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

DEMOLITION DELAY BYLAW:

Dennis Sears from the Historical Commission was present to discuss the proposed Demolition Delay Bylaw and to ask the Board to put this bylaw on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Selectman Smith stated that he thought this decision should be made when the full Board is present. Mr. Sears stated that he was concerned that they may run out of time if they have to wait until the full Board is present. Selectman Smith moved to accept the Demolition Delay Bylaw and put it on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

SOUTH COUNTY TRANSIT REVIEW:

Selectman Wood explained that she drafted a letter to Berkshire Regional Transit Authority identifying five specific locations in Sheffield that would be best for a bus stop. Selectman Wood stated that she would like to go to the Senior Center and see what their thoughts were on this issue and then contact each specific location to gauge interest.

PASSENGER RAIL STATION LOCATIONS:

Selectman Wood stated that a letter has been drafted to Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) regarding citizens' thoughts on passenger rail locations and the possibility of a stop in Sheffield. Laura Grunfeld from the Commission on Disabilities stated that she wants to make sure that if there were to be a stop in Sheffield that it would be accessible to everyone. She also wanted to let the Board know that she supports a train station in Sheffield. Selectman Wood stated that the letter can be amended to include Ms. Grunfeld's comments and also encouraged Ms. Grunfeld to write a letter to BRPC Selectman Smith moved to approve the passenger rail station location draft letter as amended, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

RANNAPO ROAD UPDATE:

Administrator LaBombard stated that she is still waiting to see if the Town will be awarded a FEMA grant.

EPA MONITORING LETTER:

Selectman Wood explained that she drafted a letter to Curt Spalding, Regional Administrator of the EPA to request re-sampling of the Housatonic River below Rising Pond Dam. Selectman Smith moved to accept the letter as presented and send to Curt Spalding, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAPTER 90 FUNDS LETTER:

Selectman Wood explained that she drafted a letter to state legislators requesting that Chapter 90 funding for FY 2015 be at the \$300 million level and that the funds be released in a timely fashion. Selectman Smith moved to accept and send the letter as presented, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Selectman Wood thanked the Fire Department for their response to the two fires that occurred recently. She also congratulated the Mount Everett Robotic team for advancing to the championship.

Selectman Wood congratulated Hunter Lucy and Demetri Casivant for being inducted into the Eagle Scouts. Selectman Smith moved to send Hunter Lucy and Demetri Casivant congratulatory letters, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood reminded residents that March 21, 2014 is the last day to take out nomination papers for the Annual Town Election.

Selectman Wood congratulated the Kiwanis on their 60th anniversary and stated that she would like to send them a congratulatory letter. Selectman Smith moved to send a congratulatory letter to the Kiwanis for celebrating their 60th anniversary, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bonnie Silvers stated that she would like to write a letter to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and would like to reference the Boards letter regarding passenger rail station locations. Selectman Wood stated that Administrator LaBombard would get her a copy of the letter.

Dennis Sears expressed his concern regarding a PILOT solar program and the rate that technology is changing.

David West asked if there was any update on the Primax Properties appeal. Selectman Wood stated that there was no update at this time.

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

Selectman Wood adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Alicia Dulin
Assistant to Town Administrator

- Documents reviewed at this meeting:
- Temporary Roadside Event Sign Application – Contra Dance
 - Letter from Berkshire Mountain Distillers
 - Solar PILOT Samples
 - Household Hazardous Waste – Letter of Intent
 - Daft Demolition Delay Bylaw
 - South County Transit Review Document and Chairman Hannum’s Comments
 - Passenger Rail Station Locations Draft Letter
 - EPA Monitoring Draft Letter
 - Chapter 90 Funds Draft Letters
 - Rest of River Communities Draft Letters