

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 19, 2014
TOWN HALL – 2ND FLOOR
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: David Smith, Jr., Chairman
Nadine A. Hawver, Clerk
Rend C. Wood

Others Present: Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator
Jill Hughes, Recording Secretary

Members of the Public

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

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Selectman Wood made a motion to approve of minutes from April 18, 2014 (2 sets), April 22, 2014, April 28, 2014 and May 2, 2014 (2 sets), seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion passed 2-1. Selectman Hawver abstained because she was not present on those dates.

PUBLIC HEARING UTILITY POLE INSTALLATION – HULETT HILL ROAD:

Chairman Smith opened a public hearing for a utility pole installation on Hulett Hill Road. A representative from National Grid was present to explain to the Board that they would install two new poles #13 and #14 for a new residence on Hulett Hill Road. Discussion ensued. Selectman Wood made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Hawver made a motion to approve the installation of poles #13 and #14 on Hulett Hill Road as presented, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion passed unanimously.

RETIREMENT – FIRE CHIEF: Chairman Smith read a letter from Fire Chief Richard Boardman indicating that as of June 30, 2014, after serving for eleven years, he would be retiring as Chief. He will remain on the Fire Department. Selectman Wood made a motion to accept the retirement letter from Chief Richard Boardman and send him a letter of thanks for his years of service, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE: Administrator LaBombard informed the Board that she met with Kevin Joyce, Chairman, of the Park and Recreation Committee to discuss the rules and regulations for the Town Park. She explained to the Board the changes that she made and a discussion ensued. The Board decided to further review the document and discuss it at another meeting. Selectman Wood asked if the covered bridge park/canoe launch was part of the Parks Committee. The Board will discuss that later when they meet with the Park and Recreation Committee.

AWARD PAINTING BIDS: Administrator LaBombard read the following list of bids received for the painting of the Town Hall, Police Department and Library:

O Byrne Painting and Contracting	\$44,140
Northeast Painting Associates	\$98,400
Fox Painting	\$46,600
Gentlemen Painting	\$72,100
Cornerstone Building Services	\$69,461

Selectman Wood made a motion to accept and award the bid to the lowest bidder O Byrne Painting and Contracting in the amount of \$44,140, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously. A discussion ensued about awarding the bid to an alternate contractor in the event that the original contractor cannot fulfill his contract. Selectman Wood amended her prior motion to include accepting the bid of the second lowest bidder, Fox Painting in the amount of \$46,600, in the event that O Byrne Painting and Contracting cannot fulfill the contract, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously.

REQUEST FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION: Chairman Smith stated that the Board received another request for a student to attend Housatonic Valley. The deadline for those requests was April 1, 2014. Administrator LaBombard informed the Board that the budget has already been set and would not support another student. Discussion ensued. Selectman Wood made a motion to deny the request from Mr. and Mrs. Stoddard for their son to attend the Agricultural program at Housatonic Valley, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously.

THE BIKENFLY RIDE APPROVAL: Administrator LaBombard informed the Board that they received a request from the Great Barrington Rotary for a bike race which will be held on August 16, 2014. There are two routes which are the same route as last year. The event does not require services from the Town. Selectman Wood made a motion to approve the Great Barrington Rotary's BikeNfly routes as presented, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously. Selectman Wood pointed out that the Gravity Car Race poster looked like the Town sponsored it and does not want the BikeNfly to look that way.

ONE DAY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES – BERKSHIRE SCHOOL: Administrator LaBombard informed the Board that they received two alcoholic beverage license applications from Berkshire School for their alumni weekend June 6-8, 2014. The licenses would be for June 6th and 7th. Selectman Wood made a motion to approve the one day alcoholic beverage licenses for Berkshire School as presented, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously.

TEMPORARY ROADSIDE EVENT SIGNS: The Sheffield Friendly Union has applied for a Temporary Roadside Event Sign for their annual Father's Day Pancake Breakfast held at Dewey Hall. Selectman Wood made a motion to approve the Temporary Roadside Event Sign to be erected on June 8, 2014 on the Village Green and taken down on June 15, 2014 for the Father's Day Pancake Breakfast, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Parish Church has applied for several Temporary Roadside Even Signs for their annual Sheffield Antique Show to be held at Mt. Everett High School on August 8th -10th. The signs will be placed on the Village Green, the intersection of Route 7 and Berkshire School Road, the intersection of Berkshire School Road and Route 41 and in front of the cemetery across from Root Lane.

Selectman Wood made a motion to approve the temporary roadside event signs as follows: The first signs to be erected on 7/24/14 at each end of the Village Green and removed on 8/12 or 8/13. The second sign to be erected on 8/5/14 at the triangle by the police station and the west end of Berkshire School Road (Rt. 41) and removed on 8/10/14 or 8/11/14. The third sign to be erected on 7/25/14 on Route 7 South across from Root Lane and removed on 8/11/14, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously.

FY15 STATE BUDGET LETTER: Selectman Wood presented a draft letter to be sent to our legislators regarding several issues including Chapter 90 and other budgetary issues. She asked the Board for their comments, both other members agreed with the letter. Selectman Wood made a motion to accept and send the letter as presented, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion passed unanimously.

COMCAST AND TIME WARNER MERGER: Administrator LaBombard informed Comcast and Time Warner have plans to merge and due to our Cable Contract notification of that merger as well as a public hearing have to take place. The Board agreed to have Selectman Wood work with Administrator LaBombard to research all the requirements before making any decision.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPRESENTATIVE TO BYLAW REVIEW

COMMITTEE: Chairman Smith stated that since Julie Hannum is no longer on the Board, there is no representation from the Board on the Bylaw Review Committee. Selectman Hawver stated that in her opinion Selectman Wood would be very good serving as a representative because she is very knowledgeable on this issue, Chairman Smith agreed. Selectman Wood stated that she would serve as the Board's representative. Selectman Hawver made a motion to appoint Selectman Wood as the Board of Selectmen representative to the Bylaw Review Committee, seconded by Chairman Smith. The motion carried 2-1, Selectman Wood abstained.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Selectman Wood reminded residents that the Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday at 8am in Ashley Falls and at 11am in Sheffield.

Selectman Wood informed residents that the Southern Berkshire Regional School District on Parade will be held on 5/21 from 4-9pm at the school.

Selectman Wood stated that the next meeting on Rest of River will be on 6/17/14.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS:

Administrator LaBombard stated that letters of interest for FY15 appointment are due on or before June 9, 2014. Appointments will be made on June 30, 2014.

Administrator LaBombard stating that she is working with Inspector Carmody regarding the Harvey property and as soon as there is information to share she will bring it forward.

Administrator LaBombard stated a letter has been received from Jeff Browne resigning from the Council on Aging effective immediately. Mr. Browne will be moving out of town. Selectman Wood made a motion to accept the letter of resignation from Jeff Browne and thanked him for his service and asked the Board to send him a letter of thanks, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator LaBombard stated she attended a reception for the volunteers of the Sheffield Senior Center. A total of 3,507 volunteer hours has been calculated, which would amount to \$24,000.00 in wages that the Town did not have to pay. A total of 57 different people volunteer their time.

Selectman Wood made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jill Hughes
Recording Secretary

The following documents were reviewed during the Board's meeting and have been retained as required by the Massachusetts Public Retention Policy: Meeting agenda;
Application from National Grid for Utility Pole Installation
Resignation Letter from Richard Boardman
Draft Rules and Regulations for Town Park
Painting Bid Result Sheet
Letter Requesting Vocational Education
Letter from Great Barrington Rotary
Applications for Permit from Berkshire School
Temporary Roadside Event Sign Applications
Draft Legislative Letter
Resignation Letter from Jeff Browne