

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JULY 6, 2010
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

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

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

Members of the public

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Selectman Wood moved to approve minutes from the June 7, 2010 Executive Session, the June 10, 2010 working meeting and the June 21, 2010 meeting, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

VERIZON PUBLIC HEARING – UTILITY POLE INSTALLATION – PIKE ROAD:

Chairman Hannum opened a public hearing on the application of Verizon to install a utility pole on Pike Road. Al Bessette from Verizon was present and stated that there are two poles on Pike Road that have a large span, which that has resulted in the wires hanging too low. Verizon would like to install one pole in between. The pole number would be T 2 ½. Selectman Wood moved to grant permission to Verizon to install a utility pole numbered T 2 ½ on the northerly side of Pike Road as shown in the application, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

FY 2011 APPOINTMENTS:

Selectman Smith moved to increase the size of the Council on Aging from 9 members to 11 members, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Smith moved to appoint the following to the Council on Aging:

Gail Ullman - 3 years

Dorris VanDeusen – 2 years

Grace Campbell – 1 year

The motion was seconded by Selectman Wood and carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood moved to appoint the following:

Brece Honeycutt - Emergency Services Staff - indefinite

Cyndi Bush-Morehouse – Emergency Services Staff – indefinite

Kayla Morehouse – Emergency Services Staff – indefinite

John James – Ashley Falls Historic District Commission – 3 years

The motion was seconded by Selectman Smith and carried unanimously.

TEMPORARY ROADSIDE EVENT SIGNS:

Old Parish Church: The Old Parish Church has applied for several temporary roadside event signs. The event will be on August 6th, 7th and 8th. The signs will be erected on July 26, 2010 and removed on August 9th or 10th. Discussion ensued. Selectman Wood moved to grant permission to Old Parish Church to place temporary roadside event signs for the Antique Show on Town owned property only, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Berkshire Choral Festival: Berkshire Choral Festival has applied for a temporary roadside event sign to be placed in the triangle at the intersection of Berkshire School Road and Route 7. The event will be held on each Saturday from July 17 through August 8. The sign will be erected and removed on the day of each event. Selectman Smith moved to grant permission to Berkshire Choral Festival to place a temporary roadside event sign on the triangle of Berkshire School Road and Route 7, as requested, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

EECBG GRANT - BRPC:

Administrator Kellogg stated that the Town has received a \$20,000 EECBG grant to update insulation in the Town Hall and Police Dept, to wrap pipes and to install storm windows in the Police Department. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) has agreed to administer the grant for a 10% administration fee, which will be paid from the grant funds. Selectman Wood moved to authorize Administrator Kellogg to enter into a contract with BRPC to administer the EECBG Grant for a 10% fee to be taken from the grant funds, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

COVERED BRIDGE CANOE LAUNCH:

Administrator Kellogg updated the Board on the canoe launch project. Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) is ready to enter into a contract for the work on the canoe launch and need permission from the Town to do the work. Selectman Wood moved to authorize Administrator Kellogg to enter into an agreement with HVA to enter the Covered Bridge property and install a canoe launch as approved on the plan, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

TRAFFIC CONCERNS – ROUTE 7:

Chairman Hannum read a letter from Hope and Howard Swanson regarding safety issues at the intersections of Clayton Road and Route 7 and East Stahl Road and Route 7. Discussion ensued. Administrator Kellogg, Chief McGarry and Highway Superintendent Ed Lord will investigate the concerns and report back.

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION – RIGHT TO FARM SIGNS:

The Agricultural Commission would like to install signs at all entrances to Town stating that Sheffield is a Right to Farm community. Discussion ensued. Selectman Smith moved to grant permission for the Right to Farm signs to be installed at the north and south ends of Route 7 and Route 41, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

Chairman Hannum read a letter from Moderator Bruce Person stating that he has appointed Judith Schnurr and David Macy to the Finance Committee each for a three year term. Selectman Smith moved to ratify Moderator Person's appointment of Judith Schnurr and David Macy to the Finance Committee for three years, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Selectman Wood stated that the Local District Technical Assistance program passed Governor Patrick's budget and that Library funding was also included in the Governor's budget.

Selectman Wood stated that she attended the MMA Selectman's conference at which Governor Patrick spoke.

Selectman Wood stated that she and Paul O'Brien attended the Wired West meeting as representatives for the Town.

Selectman Wood stated that the Marketplace is expanding into the Beacon Cinema in Pittsfield.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

Administrator Kellogg said that the FY11 billing letters for the Transfer Station Stickers were mailed today. The fee has decreased to \$185 for residents and \$130 for senior citizens. He reminded all residents to return the bottom portion stating how their trash is disposed of or to purchase a sticker. The current stickers will expire on August 16th and anyone without a new sticker after that date will be denied access to the Transfer Station.

Administrator Kellogg said that the Sheffield Water Company has installed two water fountains for public use in the Village Green and at the Town Park. Chairman Hannum requested that a letter of thanks be sent to the Sheffield Water Company for this donation.

Administrator Kellogg said that the Town is out to bid for a backhoe in conjunction with the Town of Lee. He hopes that joining with the Town of Lee will result in better pricing.

Administrator Kellogg said that the Open Meeting Law now requires all meetings to be posted in a place that the public may access 24 hours a day. Meetings will be posted on the board outside Town Hall, while help wanted, invitations to bid, etc. will be posted on the inside board across from the Tax Collector's office.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Billie Best, Farmers Market Manager, was present to submit an application for signs to be installed at various locations for the Farmer's Market. Discussion ensued. Selectman Wood moved to grant permission for a temporary roadside event sign to be placed at the cemetery across from Root Lane, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard
Assistant Town Administrator