

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
JUNE 13, 2011  
CARLTON FRENCH MEETING ROOM  
7:00 PM**

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

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

Members of the public

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Selectman Hannum moved to approve two sets of minutes from the June 1, 2011 meetings, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**KEEP FARMING INITIATIVE:**

Andrea Burns, the regional representative from Glynwood's Keep Farming Program, was present to explain the Keep Farming Initiative. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission attended an Agricultural Commission meeting to present the program. The program is an 18-24 month program of gathering data on the multiple benefits that farming provides to the community and then an action plan is created. Sheffield is currently in the gathering phase of the program and anyone interested in working on the program should contact the Town Administrator's office for information.

**SUSAN AND ROBERT BUTLER - ZONING:**

Susan and Robert Butler were present to discuss their recent letter of complaint on the non compliance with the zoning bylaws regarding a Private Restricted Landing Area (PRLA) on Galvin Farm Trail. Ms. Butler read her letter. It was the consensus of the Board to take the issue under advisement. Ms. Butler requested that she be added to the next meeting agenda to continue the discussion.

**AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION RESTRICTION – BOARDMAN STREET:**

The Department of Agricultural Resources sent a letter of notification of the State's intent to purchase property on Boardman Street, indentified as Assessor Maps 32-1-14; 32-1-11; 21-1-8; 31-1-3. It is required that this intent be announced at a public hearing.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**River Parks Task Force:** Selectman Hannum moved to appointment Sari Hoy, Bill Connell, Dana Cummings and Dennis Regan to the River Parks Task Force, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**Council on Aging:** Selectman Hannum moved to appoint Michelle Harwood to a 3 year term and Jeff Browne to a 1 year term to the Council on Aging, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**TEMPORARY ROADSIDE EVENT SIGNS:**

**Old Parish Church:** Three applications have been received from the Old Parish Church for Temporary Roadside Event Signs for their Antique Show to be held on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at the Mount Everett

Regional High School. The signs would be erected on August 5<sup>th</sup> and removed on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Discussion ensued regarding the requested locations for the signs. Selectman Hannum moved to grant the Temporary Roadside Event Signs for the following locations:

Village Green

Triangle at the Route 7 end of Berkshire School Road – directional only

Root Lane Cemetery

seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **FY 2012 APPOINTMENTS:**

Chairman Wood recused herself from the appointment of BRPC Delegate Alternate and Selectman Smith recused himself from the Zoning Board of Appeals appointment to avoid a conflict of interest. It was the consensus of the Board to hold on the appointment of the Building Inspector until further discussion.

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint Louis Aragi, Morvin Allen and Kathy Orlando to three year terms to the Agricultural Commission, Dominic Palumbo to a one year term as Agricultural Commission, Alternate, Richard Swiatek and Peter Rawson to three year terms to the Ashley Falls Historic District Commission and Robert Weitz to a three year term to the Board of Assessors, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint Rene Wood to a one year term as BRPC Delegate Alternate, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried 2-0, Selectman Wood abstained.

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint Joel Weiss and Richard Kirchner to three year terms to the Board of Health, Elizabeth Smith and Patricia Sadera to three year terms to the Board of Registrars, Donald Ward to a three year term to the Conservation Commission, Bruce Person and James McGarry to one year terms as Constables, Grace Campbell to a three year term to the Council on Aging and Sally Cook to a three year term to the Cultural Council, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint David Wells to a three year term to the Commission on Disabilities, Richard Cappadona to a one year term as Electrical Inspector, Carl VanDeusen to a one year term as Assistant Electrical Inspector, Edward McCormick to a one year term as Emergency Management Coordinator, Robert Krupski to a one year term as Gas and Piping Inspector, Robert Gennari to a one year term as Assistant Gas and Piping Inspector, Edward Lord to a three year term as Highway Superintendent, James McGarry to a one year term to the Local Emergency Planning Commission, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimous.

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint Felecie Joyce to a one year term as Parking Clerk, Chris Tomich to a one year term as Planning Board Associate Member, Robert Krupski to a one year term as Plumbing Inspector, Robert Gennari to a one year term as Assistant Plumbing Inspector, James McGarry, Michael Pezzee, Patricia Gillespie, Clifford Twiss and Kole Quagliano to one year terms as Public Weighers, David Steindler to a one year term as Recycling Coordinator, James McCormack to a three year term as Town Accountant and Rhonda LaBombard to a three year term as Assistant Town Administrator, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint Michael Ovitt to a three year term as Treasurer/Collector, Barbara Roraback to a three year term as Assistant Treasurer/Collector, Edward Lord to a one year term as Tree Warden, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint Bart Elsbach to a three year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Chairman Wood. The motion carried 2-0, Selectman Smith abstained.

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint David West to a three year term to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The motion died for a lack of a second.

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint Greig Siedor to a one year term as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Chairman Wood. The motion carried 2-0, Selectman Smith abstained.

**FY 2012 APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Chairman Wood read the following list of applicants for FY2012:

Agricultural Commission, Alternate – Ruth Ziegler

Council on Aging – George Oleen

5 Town Cable Advisory Commission – Paul O’Brien and George Oleen

Health Inspector – George Oleen

Southern Berkshire District Veterans Service Delegate – Richard Kirchner

Action on the above appointments will take place at the next meeting.

**REQUEST FOR USE OF COVERED BRIDGE:**

Karina Thomas has requested permission to hold a private party at the Covered Bridge on June 25, 2011.

Administrator Kellogg recommended that the Board deny the request based on prior policy not to allow such events due to liability concerns. Selectman Hannum moved to deny the request from Karina Thomas for permission to hold a private party at the Covered Bridge, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING/ELECTION:**

A Special Town Meeting will be held on June 23, 2011 at 7pm in the Mount Everett Regional High School auditorium to act on two articles regarding the FY2012 SBRSD operating budget. The SBRSD School Committee voted on May 12, 2011 to certify a budget in the same amount that was turned down at the Annual Town Meeting. A Special Election will be held on July 25, 2011 for a Proposition 2 ½ Override question in the amount of \$83,000 to fund SBRSD FY2012 operating budget.

**VOTER INFORMATIONAL SESSION:**

An informational session will be held on June 20, 2011 at 6 pm in Town Hall to give voters the Town’s perspective on the SBRSD budget.

**UPDATE ON TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH:**

Administrator Kellogg will become Interim Town Administrator effective July 11, 2011. The administrator position has been advertised in The Berkshire Eagle, The Republican and on the MMA website. To date 15 resumes have been received. The selection committee will consist of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee Member Colin Smith.

**OSRP UPDATE:**

Kathy Orlando and Jenny Russell have been working on the Open Space and Recreation Plan. A tentative date of June 20 was set for public review of the plan. Discussion ensued regarding the notice for the review session.

**SELECTMEN’S ITEMS:**

Selectman Hannum congratulated the Council on Aging for their successful Open House.

Chairman Wood stated her appreciation for everyone that helped during the recent storms.

Chairman Wood stated that she recently attended the MMA Leadership Conference.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS:**

Administrator Kellogg said that he is working to tie up loose ends before his retirement. Chairman Wood said during the interim period Administrator Kellogg will work on specific projects.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Catherine Miller inquired how the process works for hiring the Town Administrator. The Board will rank the applicants and then conduct public interviews. Residents may submit potential questions for the candidates to the Board of Selectmen for consideration.

Sari Hoy inquired on which Town services may be cut depending on the outcome of the override vote. Discussion ensued.

David West inquired about the reason that Chairman Wood did not second the motion for his appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Chairman Wood responded and detailed her reasons for not supporting his reappointment to the ZBA.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

At the working session earlier this evening the Board approved sending a letter to the SBRSD School Committee inquiring on the time line for answers to questions on the proposed bond. After the meeting it was realized that the School Committee will meet on Wednesday, June 15, 2011, and the questions will be discussed at that meeting. Selectman Smith moved to rescind the vote to send the letter to the SBRSD School Committee, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard  
Assistant Town Administrator