

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 13, 2014
TOWN HALL
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Julie M. Hannum, Chairman
Rene C. Wood

Others Present: Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator
Alicia Dulin, Assistant to Town Administrator
Patricia Mullins, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

Chairman Hannum called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Selectman Wood moved to approve the meeting minutes from the December 9, 2013, December 12, 2013 and December 16, 2013 meetings, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION HEARING--7:00 PM:

Chairman Hannum opened the public hearing at 7:02 PM. Patricia Mullins from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission was present to discuss the Community Development Block Grant application that Sheffield will be submitting with the Town of Great Barrington for housing rehabilitation and repairs and ADA compliant entrances at the Town Hall. She stated that the application needs to be submitted by February 14th and the Town should start gathering residents who are interested in the housing rehabilitation and repair portion of the grant. She also stated that a windshield survey would need to be done, Administrator LaBombard stated that Martin Mitsoff has worked with Selectman Wood to draft a letter regarding a Windshield Survey for the Board's approval. The letter stated that the Windshield Survey would consist of Mr. Mitsoff doing a survey by car of a sampling of residential structures in Sheffield and Ashley Falls and documenting them by photo or written description. The letter states that the survey will be done completely from the road and that no private properties will be entered. Chairman Hannum asked that the line stating that photos may be taken be taken out of the letter. Chairman Hannum asked that the letter also be put on the Town website. The public was given an opportunity to comment on the grant application and ask questions. Chairman Hannum closed the public hearing at 7:35 PM. Selectman Wood moved to approve the letter for Martin Mitsoff to conduct the Windshield Survey as amended, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

HUNTING ON TOWN PROPERTY:

Administrator LaBombard stated that there had been a request to hunt on town property but the person was not present to discuss. It was the consensus of the Board if the person was still interested to have them put their request in writing and they would discuss at a future meeting.

APPOINTMENT – ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Chairman Hannum stated that she thought there needed to be more diversity on the Boards and that is why she suggests Marie Massini-Reynolds. Selectman Wood stated that she favors Jeff Waingrow because she believes that this position requires some experience. Selectman Wood stated that she filed a conflict of interest form with the Town Clerk because he has offered to give her rides to some of her appointments. It was the consensus of the Board since they were not in agreement to seek additional applicants for the position and if it could not be resolved before the Special Election then it would be resolved after it.

MICHAEL HARVEY – ZBA MEETING 12/12/13:

Michael Harvey read a letter addressing his concerns over the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) handling of the issue regarding his property. His main concern was that the ZBA did not review the original 1997 file. Chairman Hannum stated that the Board of Selectmen would have a response to Mr. Harvey’s concerns within two weeks.

PLANNING BOARD AND ZBA BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES:

Chairman Hannum stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals has recommended Eric Carlson for appointment to the Bylaw Review Committee. Selectman Wood moved to appoint Eric Carlson to the Bylaw Review Committee as the Zoning Board of Appeals representative for a term to coincide with his term on the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hannum stated that the Board is still looking for a Planning Board member. Chairman Hannum stated that she has read Selectman Wood’s draft charge for the Bylaw Review Committee and there were a few changes that she would like to discuss. She stated that she would like to see the number of days that a member is able to miss taken out and replaced with excessive absence or absence that significantly impacts the committee. She also stated that she was not sure that the Board of Selectmen should be appointing a chairman to this committee. Selectman Wood stated that she would be happy to say subject to the approval of the Committee. Chairman Hannum stated that her last concern was regarding the Board of Selectmen providing clerical support for the Bylaw Review Committee. Selectman Wood stated that she included that because she wants to make sure that accurate minutes are taken and that they are approved in a timely manner but there is no reason why someone on the committee can’t take them. Thomas Carmody asked the Board if there had been any interest from the Planning Board in recommending a member for appointment to the Bylaw Review Committee and he stated that he does not agree with the Board of Selectmen appointing a chairman. Chairman Hannum stated that the Board would finalize the charge at their next meeting and if the Planning Board has not recommended a member for appointment by next week the Board of Selectmen will make that appointment.

FIRE DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS – PROPATIONARY TO PERMANENT:

Chairman Hannum stated that Fire Chief Richard A. Boardman Jr. has recommended permanent appointment of Robert Kilmer, Joseph Glaszcz and Michael Ramella to the Fire Department. Selectman Wood moved to appoint Robert Kilmer, Joseph Glaszcz, and Michael Ramella as permanent members of the Fire Department with indefinite terms, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously. Selectman Wood and Chairman Hannum thanked them for their service.

2014 LICENSE RENEWALS:

Chairman Hannum read the following list of license renewals:

Antique and Second Hand Goods:

- Antique Center of Sheffield
- Ole T.J.’s Antique Barn
- Cupboards and Roses Antiques
- Falconwood Antiques
- Frederick Hatfield Antiques
- Angus Books
- Yesterday’s Treasurers and Gifts
- LeTrianon
- Susan Silver Antiques
- Dovetail Antiques
- Corner House Antiques
- May’s Everything Shop
- Campo de’ Fiori, Inc.

Great Finds
Hill House Antiques
Painted Porch Antiques LLC
Robert Davis Antiques
The Manor Store
Tribeca Antiques and Collectibles
Samuel Herrup Antiques
Sheffield Wine Cellar, Inc.

Linda Rosen Antiques
Mix on Main
Babies in Bloom
Shirley Snyder
Wray Gunn
The Magpies Closet
The Sheffield Collection
Antiques on the Green
Gallery 315 Home Furnishings
Bargain Barn

Lodging House:

Ramblewood Inn
Staveleigh House
Orchard Shade, Inc.
Berkshire School Dormitories

Innholders:

Race Brook Lodge
Howden Farm
Stagecoach Tavern
Berkshire Manor

Storage of Inflammable Materials:

Carlson Heating and Air Conditioning
Pete's Sales and Service
Gulotta's Brothers, Inc.
John B. Hull, Inc.
Lane Construction Corp.

Class I Motor Vehicle:

Berkshire GMC
Pete's Sales and Service

Class II Motor Vehicle:

Commonwealth Automotive Restoration
New England Autobody
Watson Automotive
Bachetti's Auto Sales – 2 locations

Class III Motor Vehicle:

Watson Automotive

Custom Classics Repair and Restoration
New England Autobody
Bachetti's Auto Sales
George Mielke, Sr.
Ray's Auto Parts, LLC
Casivant Repair

All Alcoholic Beverage – Restaurant:

The Bridge
Sheffield Pub, Inc.
Barn Space Catering

All Alcoholic Beverage – Inn/Hotel:

Stagecoach Tavern

Wine and Malt – Innholder:

Racebrook Lodge

Wine and Malt – Package Store:

PJ's Convenience Store

Wine and Malt – Restaurant:

The Marketplace Café
The Village Green Restaurant

All Alcoholic Beverage – Package Store:

Sheffield Wine Cellar
Silk's Variety

All Alcoholic Club:

American Legion Post 340
Sheffield Kiwanis

Amusement/Entertainment:

Sheffield Pub, Inc.
The Sheffield Friendly Union
Stagecoach Tavern/Race Brook Lodge/Barn Space Catering

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Selectman Wood stated that it was nice to be back and thanked everyone for their support. She also stated that she would like to thank Catherine Miller for her donation towards the refinishing of the historical signs entering Sheffield and asked that a letter of thanks be sent to her.

Chairman Hannum stated that the Board met with the Zoning Board of Appeals in Executive Session and agreed on language for a proposed settlement letter to Primax Properties.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS:

Administrator LaBombard apologized to Catherine Miller for overlooking her when she was thanking people for their donations towards the refinishing of the historical signs entering Sheffield.

Administrator LaBombard stated that starting on January 20th the bridge on Route 7A will be closed for about a year for repairs.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Nadine Hawver stated that she thought it would be a good use of the Town's reverse 911 system to tell residents about the Community Development Block Grant application. She also stated that

she does not think the Board of Selectmen should name a chairman for the Bylaw Review Committee.

Susan Butler asked the Board if they would be meeting with the Building Inspector, Thomas Carmody, in a regular meeting or if it would be at a working meeting. Chairman Hannum stated that she thinks the Board will most likely meet with Mr. Carmody in a working meeting. Ms. Butler also stated that she believes that under the law there is only one way for Mr. Harvey to be in compliance and that would be for him to dismantle his buildings.

Nina Anderson handed out a sheet regarding smart meters. She stated that there would be a film about the use of smart meters at the Bushnell Sage Library on January 31, 2014 at 7:30 PM. She stated that the Town might want to start thinking about opting out of the use of smart meters.

David West asked the Board if they had discussed the Building Inspector's request for access to Town Counsel. Chairman Hannum stated that they would be setting up a meeting in the near future with the Building Inspector to discuss his request. Mr. West also stated that the Chairman of the ZBA is continuously late to meetings and he thinks that a review should be made of the ZBA's actions.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Sheffield Friendly Union has submitted an application for a Temporary Roadside Event sign to be erected on the Village Green for the Crafters Stash Sales to be held at Dewey Hall on February 2nd, February 15th, March 2nd and March 30th. The signs will be erected on January 27th, February 10th, March 24th, and February 24th and removed the same day of each event. Selectman Wood moved to approve the Temporary Roadside Event Sign for the Crafters Stash Sales to be held at Dewey Hall on February 2nd, February 15th, March 2nd and March 30th pending approval from the Police Department, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator LaBombard explained that Charles Joyce has submitted a letter resigning as a snow plow contractor for the Town. Administrator LaBombard recommended accepting his resignation and sending him a letter of thanks. Selectman Wood moved to accept Charles Joyce's resignation and send him a letter of thanks, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Alicia Dulin
Assistant to Town Administrator

Documents reviewed at this meeting:

Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing Document

Windshield Survey Letter from Martin Mitsoff

Letter of Interest for Zoning Board of Appeals – Jeffrey Waingrow

Letter of Interest for Zoning Board of Appeals – Stephen Leining

Letter of Interest for Zoning Board of Appeals – Marie Massini-Reynolds

Letter of Interest for Zoning Board of Appeals – George Oleen

Letter of Interest for Zoning Board of Appeals – Benno Friedman

Letter of Recommendation from Fire Chief for permanent appointments

2014 License Renewal List

Temporary Roadside Event Sign Permit – Sheffield Friendly Union
Charles Joyce Resignation Letter