

SHARON BOARD OF FINANCE
Draft until approved at the next regular meeting

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOF was held on March 16, 2021 at 7:00PM via ZOOM. Present were regular members Bartram, Duncan, Robertson, Fowler, Bancroft, O'Kelly; alternates Ensign and Flaton; the three Selectmen, Betsy Hall, Marlene Woodman, Doug Cahill, Karen Manning, Cindy Webb, Kitty Visconti, Barbara Prindle, Gretchen Hachmeister, Jill Drew, reporter Hawken and the secretary.

Interim Chairman Bartram called the meeting to order at 7PM.

Agenda Item 7a needs to be amended – the amount that the Board of Selectmen voted to request is \$1,794.32 which is for the conduit put in last year when the water line replacement project was done at the Library. Ms. Fowler made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. O'Kelly, with all in favor.

Mrs. Drew asked that she have the opportunity to speak when the Board gets to Line Item 41m in the Selectmen's proposed budget – so noted.

Ms. Fowler made a motion that the minutes of 12/8/20, 2/2/21, 2/16/21 & 3/3/21 be approved as written, seconded by Mrs. Robertson, with all in favor.

Betsy Hall and Marlene Woodman, of the Sharon Green Committee, were present as a follow-up to the last meeting and the request from the BOS/Green Committee to authorize the use of the unexpended 2019 (\$105,432.89) funds from the Capital Non-Recurring Account, towards Phase 2 of the Green Rehabilitation Project. The "use" would be to earmark the funds specifically to the Green Project. Mr. Bartram asked for general discussion before a motion. The Green Committee sent a letter addressing the Board's concerns, of which each item was discussed. Mrs. Hall emphasized that it takes quite a bit of time to get through the various Town Boards & Commissions, then Town Meeting approval and ultimately the State DOT. The engineer will need to do plan specifications for the State permit and the Committee would like to have all these approvals in place for when the State decides to mill/re-pave Main Street. It was noted that the State does not have a specific date for the work. After some discussion, the BOF members agreed that there is no need to re-bid for Phase 2 as this would be an extension of the Project. Everyone was completely satisfied with RAR's work. There is a question as to the timing of the purchase of the granite curbing as the prices and availability can change – this will be looked into. Mrs. Hall commented, if necessary, there are funds in the Green Rehabilitation Account that could be used to purchase the granite. Mrs. Hall stated that the Committee sees no problem in waiting to purchase the granite until it is feasible but they would like to have the Town's overall approval of the concept. The Board believes that getting the actual expenditure approved at a Town Meeting can be done fairly quickly. After some discussion, Mr. O'Kelly made a motion that in order for the Green Committee to be able to proceed with Phase II of the Green Rehabilitation Project, this item with a spending cap of \$150,000 be placed on the Five Year Capital Improvement Plan for Town Meeting approval, seconded by Mrs. Robertson. In the discussion it was explained that this would in essence get Town approval for the project, just not approval for the actual expenditure. The Plan should note the amount of the unexpended and the funds available in the Green Rehabilitation Account. Vote taken on motion = carried unanimously.

Board of Education Chairman Doug Cahill presented the BOE's proposed 2021-2022 budget. An overview sheet had been provided to each BOF member which was reviewed. The Board went through

First Selectman Colley along with Selectmen Jones and Flanagan, presented the BOS's proposed 2021-2022 budget. Their budget process taken this year was explained – looking at salary/wage increases first. It was emphasized that the Board feels that all the increases are warranted. Especially those with special circumstances – these were explained in depth with the BOS. The BOF again raised the idea of salary/wage ranges for town positions – this will be looked into. As the BOF will be holding a special meeting, it was agreed to have a representative come and discuss the position increase request for the: Zoning Enforcement Officer, Building Official/Fire Marshal, Historic District Commission Secretary and the Wetlands Commission Enforcement Officer. The budget was then taken page by page with various questions. It was noted that at a recent meeting, the Town of Salisbury suggests that we increase our line item for the Transfer Station by \$20,000. Mr. Flanagan raised the concept of increasing the sticker fees next year – this is in the beginning discussion stages. The Hotchkiss Library request for funding towards the expansion was discussed. The BOS chose not to fund this request at this time. A request can be made again either later in the year or in the next budget cycle. BOF members had questions on the financial information submitted, which Ms. Hachmeister addressed. The request from the Sharon Historical Society was discussed. It was explained that the chimney work is already being done so the request is basically to reimburse them for the work. It was recommended that additional electrical bids be obtained. It was agreed to have someone from this organization attend the special meeting. Also, someone from the Playhouse would be asked to attend as well as members had questions on the financial data submitted. Mrs. Drew explained the request for Line Item 41 - Sharon Connect Task Force to commission a Broadband Engineering Plan.

The Selectmen's financial report ending February 28, 2021 was reviewed with some questions asked and the anticipated overages noted. The Tax Collector's report was reviewed. Any questions should be addressed to the Tax Collector. The tax sales are scheduled for June 11, 2021.

With nothing further, Ms. Fowler made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Robertson, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:48.

J. M. Webb

Tina Pitcher, Recording Secretary

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

2010年12月10日