

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

A special meeting of the Sharon BOF was held on January 13, 2016 at 7PM at the Town Hall. Present were regular members Dignacco, Flanagan, Bartram, Bancroft, Robertson and Seibold; alternates Duncan and La Roche; Robert Palmer, First Selectman Colley, Selectmen Jones and Fowler, John Perotti, Malcolm Brown, Brent Prindle taping for Channel 6 and the secretary.

Chairman Dignacco called the meeting to order at 7PM. She began by stating that this is a special meeting so there will be no public comment. She stressed that the BOF has total respect for the Transfer Station Building Committee but this Board has a responsibility to the taxpayers of Sharon to do a thorough examination of the proposed transfer station and the funding for it. Also the BOF needs to give this project their due diligence because when the vote was done to purchase the land, the voters were given an estimate for the construction and that amount has since doubled.

First Selectman Colley, who is a member of SSRRA, gave a Power Point presentation. It was basically the same presentation done at our informational meeting plus added information to address some of the concerns already raised by members of this Board.

Some highlights, but nowhere near all that was discussed:

- Private schools fall under the Business Category and their solid waste goes to the TS

- An example of a future need – a composting area

- The operation costs will remain the 60/40 split which is based on population (could be re-visited if need be)

- Commercial haulers fall under the Business Category – they pay a small fee to “register” their trucks. Theirs’ is just a methodology to get the waste to the TS. The amount of waste is still the same no matter how it gets there – hauler or individuals – the User Fees are still collected

- Those with dumpsters, are billed on a volume size of the dumpster. When a dumpster is placed somewhere, the installer notifies Brian Bartram of the location and size

- The Town of Salisbury purchased the whole Luke-Fitting property. Only the portion for the Transfer Station was turned over to the SSRRA. The portion that the Town of Salisbury sold, had nothing to do with the SSRRA. There was a question if an appraisal was done on the property. It was believed that there was

- Could the construction be phased in? - phasing in was mentioned in the Luke-Fitting report if the cost was over 1.5 million. The Building Committee is recommending the whole project as it would be hard phase the construction in with the 2020 deadline fast approaching

- Future budgeting: With the SSRRA, the proposed budget would go to the Board of Selectmen for review and discussion, then on the Board of Finance for review, discussion and recommendation to Town Meeting for approval as part of the Selectmen’s budget. SSRRA will have an on-going financial committee

- The current employees are the Town Salisbury’s employees who will become SSRRA employees. The number of employees was questioned – there are 7 total (4 full time and 3 part time)

- The unexpended funds in the Transfer Station account get applied towards deficits and/if there is any the coming year(s)

- The Governance needs to be clearly spelled out

- The exact dollar amount needed for the project won’t be known until the bidding process is done

- There will be a general contractor to manage the job and a Clerk of the Works

The Howard Randall plan would have an overall saving of \$50,000. It was hoped that it would be more so the plan did not seem feasible. An area of savings may be to use modular blocks for the retaining wall rather than concrete. The Committee has not yet looked this but will be

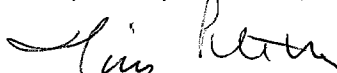
Testing of the soil at the current site has been on-going and will be done before the site is vacated. It is unknown how Hotchkiss School wants the area left. Obtaining a Release of Liability document will be done for the day the site is exited. This process is being worked through by Curtis Rand

The BOF had requested a list of anticipated expenditures/projects of the Town other than the transfer station. Other outside costs that would affect Sharon is the Region 1 budget which based on attendance only will be an additional \$92,000 and their renovation project estimated to be Net 4.3 million of which will have a portion of that debt. Mrs. Dignacco could not get any estimate for any Sharon Center School proposed renovations. The BOS submitted their anticipated expenditure/project list. Some of the items included probably would fall under the general Selectmen's budget.

With all questions answered, Mr. Bancroft made a motion that the Board of Finance recommends the expenditure not to exceed 1.86 million dollars to Town Meeting, seconded by Mr. Flanagan. In the discussion, it was noted that the actual funding still needs to be determined and those details will require an additional Town Meeting. It was suggested to add to the presentation a page on the Governance and the operating costs. As well as have a packet with all the information shown tonight available as well as on the Website. It was strongly suggested to have a Saturday Town Meeting vote with a presentation similar to the one tonight done before the actual vote. Vote taken on motion – in favor 5 (Bancroft, Seibold, Flanagan, Robertson and Dignacco) 1 abstaining (Bartram due to his membership on SSRRA) = motion carried. The Transfer Station Building Committee members present offered their appreciation to the BOF for their thoroughness and efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 9PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Pitcher, Recording Secretary

Next Quarterly Meeting: March 15 7PM

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SHARON TOWN CLERK