

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

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on January 14, 2020 at 3:00PM at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Harding Bancroft, Nancy Green, Jessica Fowler, Betsy Hall, Robert Ensign, Kathleen Marlowe, John & Paree Hecht, Wm. Kelsey, Cody O'Kelly, Linda Amerighi, reporters Hawken and Epstein, Brent Prindle taping for Channel 6 and the secretary.

First Selectmen Colley called the meeting to order at 3PM.

Mr. Flanagan asked to amend the agenda by: introducing Kathleen Marlowe who may be interested in serving on the Sharon Housing Authority so that she may ask some questions about the Board under Community Update and amend Item #6 to only include procedure discussion on the Board of Finance. Mr. Jones stressed that according to the Town Attorney, the BOS is on firm ground to make the appointment. Mr. Flanagan stressed that he would like to table the vote based on his lack of knowledge on the whole situation and the proper procedure. Mr. Colley made a motion to add to Community Update Sharon Housing Authority discussion and remove the appointment of a Board of Finance member under Item #6, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Mr. Colley reviewed the items he will be bringing up during Community Update. Mr. Kelsey wanted to make the public aware of a safety issue – when Knibloe Hill Road was paved, it was done in such a manner that now with plowing and salting the road, there is slush left that the plow doesn't touch.

A minor correction needed to be made in the 12/10/19 minutes, 1st page, 8th paragraph, 8th line, change "as" to "at". Mr. Flanagan made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Two re-appointments need to be made to the Salisbury-Sharon Resource Recovery Authority: Brent M. Colley with a term to January 14, 2023 and Thomas H. Bartram as the Voting Alternate with a term to January 14, 2021. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the appointments, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

Mr. Colley reviewed the Board of Finance vacancy situation when Jessica Fowler and Casey Flanagan switched positions: Fowler from BOS to BOF and Flanagan from BOF to BOS. State Statutes spell out how the vacancy is filled. At the last BOF meeting there were two candidates: one former member of the BOF and one new alternate. When the vote was taken, it was a tied vote. This situation was passed onto the Town Attorney for his opinion on how to proceed. In his opinion based on Statutes and the fact that the vacancy was not filled within thirty days of the vacancy, the BOS may fill the vacancy by a qualified candidate by majority vote of the BOS. Several citizens spoke against this opinion in that they feel the procedure initially followed by the BOF was improper and the decision should be this Board's and not the BOS. Having the BOF re-do the vote was discussed but no decision was made. For the public, Mr. Jones read the opinion submitted by the Town Attorney. Mr. Colley emphasized that all he wants is what is in the best interest of the Town by having the best possible person(s) in place. It was suggested to have the BOF have a meeting with the Town Attorney to discuss the procedures and the BOS could be present but no decision on this could be made by the BOS.

As the BOF approved to a Town Meeting the expenditure of \$14,953.00 from the Parks & Recreation Committee's portion of the Capital Non-recurring Account for tennis court repairs, the BOS needs to set

a Special Town Meeting date. As Bob Whelan has resigned as Sharon's Representative to the Region 1 Board of Education, this position is filled by the electors of the Town at a Special Town Meeting to be held within 30 days of the resignation – February 6, 2020. Town Clerk, Linda Amerighi, explained that at this meeting there would be two type of votes: electors and those qualified to vote on money issues would vote on the expenditure AND only electors would be voting on the Region 1 Board of Education Representative. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to set a Special Town Meeting for Friday, January 31, 2020 at 6:30PM, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

The Tax Collector has submitted a request for a tax refund of \$161.25 for Vault Trust – overpayment of a motor vehicle tax. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

Community Update:

Mr. Colley explained that there a two vacancies on the Sharon Housing Authority. Their next meeting is Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 5PM. Basically this Board oversees Sharon Ridge and Sharon Ridge Expansion. There is a management company who sees to the everyday issues of the complexes, collects the rents and pays the bills. The Authority makes sure that procedures are followed. Mrs. Marlowe had a few questions and offered that she may be interested and will attend the next meeting.

The Sharon Ambulance Squad is beginning fundraise for a new ambulance. There are donation boxes around town and one in the Town Clerk's Office.

The June 30, 2019 audit is complete and is available on the Town Website. Town Clerk Amerighi stated that the annual reports are also on the Website.

Mr. Colley told people that the dirt roads are muddy due to the weather.

The speed sign on Hilltop Road has been moved to different locations on that road. Mr. & Mrs. Hecht commented that it seems to have helped with the speeding.

Mr. Colley reported that Mudge Pond Road is becoming unstable and they are looking at ways to stabilize the road and put guiderails in place in the future. This project would go out to bid once the procedure is decided upon.

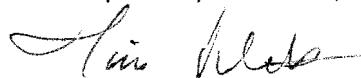
Lewis Tree is all over town helping Eversource with tree trimming and removal. They have been doing some tree work for the Town in lieu of paying rent for parking their vehicles at the Town Garage.

Repairs/replacement of the Town Garage roof if being looked into. Having a solar array done in this area is being considered by the Energy & Environment Commission and the electricity would be used for the Town Garage area as well as the Recreation area.

Linda Amerighi and Marlene Woodman have done a great job getting the new Town Website up and running. It is still a work in progress. Linda wanted to remind people that they need to hit the "notify me" button if they want information on certain Boards and Commissions and they need to put in their email. There is work to be done in Constant Contact with email lists.

With nothing further, Mr. Flanagan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary

RECEIVED

2020 JAN 17 A 10:46

SHARON TOWN CLERK