

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

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on May 11, 2021 at 3:00PM via ZOOM and In-person at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Barbara & Brent Prindle, Harding Bancroft, Channel 6 and the secretary.

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

Mr. Flanagan made a motion to adopt the agenda as written, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

As usual if anyone wants to speak when the Board gets to an item, just let Mr. Colley know.

Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the 4/27/21 minutes as submitted, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

Mr. Colley wanted a discussion with the Board on the Road Crew working a four day work week for the summer (Monday – Thursday 10 hour days). This has been done for a few years and he has not seen a big benefit from the Town's point of view. Initially this was done to get caught up on big road projects and to get them completed in a better time frame. For certain projects this has worked but in some instances it did not – with a five day work week more gets accomplished overall. He can see this work week being done for certain weeks and projects but not for the whole summer. Residents have commented on the early start time, hearing the truck traffic and then no one being around on Fridays to deal with an issue if one should arise. The Board discussed various issues and circumstances. Mr. Flanagan was concerned that this change would have a negative impact on the crew as some members plan their summer around the four day work week but the decision should be what works best for the First Selectman and the Road Foreman. The Road Foreman needs to be able to plan the work week with the various projects. Mr. Colley offered that this has been in discussion with the Road Crew since February. Mr. Jones offered that the Board's first consideration is to the taxpayers who expect the maximum value from the Road Crew. It appeared the consensus was to leave the decision up to the First Selectman and the Road Foreman.

The Tax Collector has submitted a real estate tax refund in the amount of \$1,128.96 for Courtney & Adam Brammer. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to grant the request, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Two applications for Use of the Green have been submitted – Standard Space Gallery for a one-person musical performance for either 7/2/21 or 7/3/21 and Sharon Parks & Recreation Committee for the Crafts Fair on the Green for 8/7/21. Both applications have been given to the Sharon Green Committee. The Sharon Green Committee wants a copy of all applications but the ultimate decision for approval or denial is up to this Board. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to approve both applications, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Mr. Colley advised the Board that the speed signs have been moved to Mudge Pond Road and White Hollow Road. The University of CT has been made aware of this move and although the signs are not flashing the speed, they are still collecting the data, i.e. speed traveled, traffic volume, etc. The Town will get a report. Mr. Colley commented on his three-hour course on speed calming. If we had a police force available, it would be more helpful but we are doing things in the right sequence. We really need

a traffic engineer to look at roads to see what we need where. The one engineer Mr. Colley contacted wants \$7,000 for 50 hours of work. He will continue to try to find the right individual to get us the information we need not only for Hilltop Road but for all our roads. After the budget season is completed, the Board would like to have an on-site informal meeting to get public input on what they would like the Board to pursue.

A request to use Sharon Valley Road, Mudge Pond Road, Williams Road, Calkinstown Road and West Cornwall Road for The Tour of Litchfield Hills charity bicycle ride and walk on Sunday, August 1, 2021 has been received. They would also like to be able to place a porta potty at the Beach and use the Beach parking lot as a rest stop for the cyclists. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the request as long as they provide traffic control where needed and that they remove any signs that are put up, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

The request for fuel bids will go out this week to eleven companies to have them back by June 8, 2021.

Community Update:

The Annual Town Meeting is this Friday at 6:30PM at the Sharon Center School.

The Household Hazardous Waste Collection day is May 22, 2021 from 9AM to Noon at the Falls Village Public Works location. The deadline to get a ticket is May 21, 2021. Mr. Jones offered a "thanks" to the crew who handles this collection as they do a good job in keeping the lines moving.

With nothing further, Mr. Flanagan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:34.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary