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By Linda Amerighi at 11:12 am, May 26, 2021

SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Draft until approved at the next regular meeting

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on May 25, 2021 at 5:30PM via ZOOM and In-person at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Bill Tingley, reporter Hawken and the secretary.

First Selectman Colley called the meeting to order at 5:30. Mr. Jones made a motion to accept the agenda as submitted, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor. Mr. Tingley's topic will be brought up under Community Update.

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

Mr. Flanagan made a motion to approve the May 11, 2021 minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

In regards to speeding, Mr. Colley commented that the one freebie the town received in looking for an engineer was information on speed cushions vs speed humps. The cushions allow for less time restriction for emergency vehicles. Residents on additional roads have reached out for help with speeding: Sharon Station, Sharon Valley, Mudge Pond, White Hollow, Calkinstown and Fairchild. Mr. Colley put out the idea of an open discussion on this whole topic at Veterans' Field, if available, either June 18 or June 25. The Board agreed that this was a good idea and Mr. Colley will try to get an engineer type person there who could address all the issues, i.e. cost of possible solutions, town liability, etc. It was emphasized that this needed to be a controlled conversation. Mr. Colley will check with Matt Andrulis-Mette on the availability of the area.

The Tax Collector has submitted a real estate tax refund for Nationstar Mortgage in the amount of \$1,024.37. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

Community Update:

Bill Tingley, Sharon's representative and Chairman of the Housatonic River Commission, was present to ask support from the Board in the Commission's decision to seek nomination for Congressional designation as a "Partnership Wild and Scenic River". The Wild and Scenic Designation process began six years ago and was never completed. With the increased use of the river, getting this designation accomplished could help to control activities happening along the river. With the designation there would still be: local control; local management through a Coordinating Committee; no federal land acquisition; and review of federally funded or permitted projects to protect the river's outstanding resources. With the Congressional designation, the current yearly shared cost is \$150,000 which is paid through the National Partnership Fund/National Park Service. The designation also allows for: annual funding of locally developed and controlled work plans; a budget based on a river management plan; and staff assistance is provided. It would also help with solid access points to the river and with appropriate and inappropriate activity in places along the river. The request for nomination will be submitted to Senator Murphy and Congresswoman Jahana Hayes. The Board agreed to have Mr. Tingley work with Mr. Colley in drafting a letter of support to be reviewed and voted upon at their next meeting.

There will be a Memorial Day Parade at 10AM with the children's bicycle decorating contest and group picture to be taken by the Clock Tower. The Tree Warden took down the large dying Maple Tree by the War Memorial in preparation of Memorial Day.

The Town Hall is open to the public following current CDC recommendations.

Beach stickers are available for purchase.

Transfer station forms/stickers are not available yet. Probably the middle of June. The prices will be increased to either \$120 or \$140 for the first regular sticker, \$40 for the second sticker at the same address and \$200 for the transferrable tag.

With nothing further, Mr. Jones made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:56.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary