

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

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on February 13, 2019 at 2:00PM at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Donna Christensen, William Kelsey, Nancy Green, reporter Hawkins, Brent Prindle taping for Channel 6 and the secretary.

First Selectman Colley called the meeting to order at 2PM.

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

Mr. Kelsey commented on Item 7 of the agenda pertaining to pay-as-you-throw. The Board emphasized that pay-as-you-throw is not being discussed for use at the transfer station at this moment in time.

Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the 1/22/19 minutes as submitted, seconded by Ms. Fowler, with all in favor.

Donna Christensen, Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Committee, was present to make a request to the BOS. The Parks & Recreation Committee would like to purchase and install new playground equipment at the Beach. They are asking now rather than waiting for the budget cycle, as they would like to get the equipment installed in time for the summer season. Plans for the equipment were reviewed. The model that the Committee chose with installation and mulch is \$18,800 but they are requesting up to \$25,000 to cover any extra expenses. The current playground equipment is over 40 years old. Matt Andrulis-Mette has talked to the Road Foreman about removing the old equipment and doing the excavating. The Committee did obtain 2 other quotes for the equipment but they were higher and the Committee liked the appearance of the one they chose better. There are funds available in the current budget to cover this project. The Committee does have funds in the State & Local Account but those funds are earmarked for other things, i.e. rent for the pool at Hotchkiss School. The Town Secretary asked if the area would be handicapped accessible – the Committee will look into this – Donna will check with the Building Office. Ms. Fowler made a motion to approve forward this project, seconded by Mr. Jones. In the discussion, it was noted that there has been discussion in past about improvements to our recreation facilities. The request will need to go before the Board of Finance and if approved then to Town Meeting. Vote taken on motion = carried unanimously.

William Kelsey requested to be placed on the agenda to discuss preserving properties v.s. land for affordable housing for young families in town. The Board and Mr. Kelsey discussed various issues and Mr. Colley commented that he has received a letter from Chris Clow, of the Sharon Land Trust, asking for discussion on this topic. There is an Ordinance in place since 2007 “Affordable Housing – Land Use” that has never been taken advantage of. Mr. Kelsey commented that discussion and action are two different things. The Board emphasized that the discussion has just started and Mr. Kelsey needs to be patient. Mr. Kelsey commented that he doesn’t want the town to do anything but rather the private sector and not-for-profits. Mr. Colley commented that every town in the region have the same affordable housing issues.

As discussed at the last meeting, DEEP has requested that towns prepare a Municipal Waste Reduction Initiatives Compliance Plan. Sharon and Salisbury do a good job with their solid waste and recycling. Brian Bartram, the Manager of the Transfer Station, is trying hard to show DEEP how we process solid waste and what our tonnage numbers are. At this point, nothing different can be done other than how

individuals handle their solid waste. The towns are below the numbers being asked for by DEEP. An area is planned for at the new transfer station for a food digester and composting area. Mrs. Green asked if a ban on plastic bags is being considered. The legislators are looking into this and this would be a talk for the future. As TRAC has not met since the request from DEEP came in, Ms. Fowler will report back once they have met.

Thomas Casey Sr. has submitted his letter of resignation from the Sharon Center School Building Committee. One more resignation will be forthcoming. William Kelsey is currently an alternate member. Mr. Kelsey stressed that this is the most non-functional Committee. This Committee was to make recommendations to the Board of Education on repairs but the BOE has been making decisions without the Committee’s input or recommendations. There was a brief discussion on how long would or should this committee continue for. Ms. Fowler made a motion to accept the resignation with much regret and thanks for his service to the Town, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

The Tax Collector has submitted three requests for MV tax refunds: Kealan Rooney \$78.78; Elizabeth Gilderdale \$72.25; and BMW Financial Services \$274.32. Ms. Fowler made a motion to approve the three requests, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Mr. Jones reported that two of the complaints before the Authority Having Jurisdiction are being resolved. The other three will take longer.

Community Update:

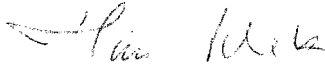
Anthony Lorenzetti, P.E. from UConn came to Town to discuss programs available to the town concerning speeding on our roads. Mr. Colley took him around town and pointed out areas where different types of signs could be used, i.e. yellow speed signs and yellow curve signs. We could also use a manual traffic counter that would provide data on speed and the number of cars on a road. He also had pointed out that if a delivery truck makes a delivery anywhere in town, “No Thru Trucks” areas are not enforceable. Mrs. Green asked out having a Trooper sit on Calkinstown Road. It was pointed out that this probably won’t help as the presence of a Trooper would be limited. The Board agreed that additional signage is a good place to start.

The Board will be starting their budget workshops next week.

There is an event at the Track at Veterans’ Field this Sunday, 2/17/19 at 1PM with the 169 Group but it is open to the public.

With nothing further, Ms. Fowler made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:03.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary

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