

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

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on December 12, 2017 at 2:00PM at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Felicia Jones (NW ConneCT), Ed Wilbur, Jamie Casey (EMS Captain), Harding Bancroft, Bobby Carberry (Road Foreman), reporter Hawken, Brent Prindle taping for Channel 6 and the secretary.

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

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

There was no public comment.

Some corrections needed to be made in the minutes of 11/18/17: first page, 5th paragraph, the motion was seconded by "Mr. Jones"; 6th paragraph 4th line – change "notify" to "notified"; second page, 1st paragraph 4th line, change "Property" to "Premises". Ms. Fowler made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

EMS Captain Jamie Casey was present regarding the Town's EMS plan which has to be submitted to the State. Mr. Jones and Ms. Fowler offered thanks to Jamie for doing just a great job on the Plan and for going over the draft individually with them so that they now have a better understanding of the plan and the updates. Ms. Fowler also commented that the Plan points out challenges that the BOS will have over the next couple of years. Ms. Fowler made a motion that the BOS approves the draft EMS Plan for the Town of Sharon to be submitted to the State with a big Thank You to Jamie Casey, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Felicia Jones, the Project Coordinator, for Northwest ConneCT was present to give the Board an overview of their project. She reviewed their Mission and objectives to get fiber optics to all existing residences in 25 towns. Their hope is to have a private company/public partnership with the Towns paying for half of the infrastructure costs. How this would be funded is unknown at this point. Having fiber optics available would be good for economic development. The group will be sending out Request for Proposals (RFPs) early next year in order to select a vendor to install the infrastructure. Information on Northwest ConneCT can be found on their website northwest-connect.org. The Board asked various questions and asked that Mrs. Jones come back to the Board in April after the RFPs are received to give them an update. They thanked Mrs. Jones for her presentation.

As the highway fleet is aging, a replacement plan has been drawn-up by the Road Foreman with the help of the Road Crew. With this information, Mr. Colley drafted spreadsheets showing replacing one truck or two trucks the next budget year and how that would affect the balance in the Equipment Replacement Account. The Board was also given a sheet showing what funds out of this Account are already committed for the next four years after the completion of the 17/18 fiscal year. Road Foreman Carberry reviewed the advantage of purchasing two trucks vs one truck. The two oldest trucks have had a lot repairs and with purchasing two trucks at a time there would be more space on the replacement schedule – 13 years for replacements. Various issues were discussed. The Board asked Mr. Carberry to get together the repair costs on the two oldest trucks and to see if he can find savings in the Highway budget where these savings then could be added to the allocation to the Equipment Replacement

Account. He was also asked to review crew productivity and the use of subcontractors in the future. The Board thanked him for his information.

The Board reviewed a draft Authorizing Resolution pertaining to the Memorandum of Agreement for the 2017 State Homeland Security Grant. Mr. Jones made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented, seconded by Ms. Fowler, with all in favor.

The Board reviewed the response received from Attorney Dixon on her review of the list the BOS did on October 27, 2017 pertaining to the existing Ordinances. With the overall project of working on the Ordinances, the agreed that the final proposals will be taken in 2 groups to Town Meeting: 1) the revisions to the existing Ordinances along with the two new proposed for Placement of Snow in the Public Right of Way and Trees, Shrubs and Woody Vegetation; and then 2) the new ones proposed that need further discussion by the BOS.

The Tax Collector has submitted a Tax Refund request for an overpayment of a motor vehicle bill in the amount of \$225.97 for Toyota Lease Trust. Ms. Fowler made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Jones with all in favor.

Community Update:

Carl Chalet has placed his custom made menorah on the Green. There will be a lighting service tonight at 5PM.

There will be a show "History of the Chair" at the Historical Society this Saturday at 2PM.

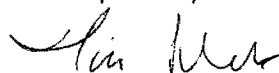
There will be a show "History of the Guitar" at the Hotchkiss Library this Sunday 4PM.

Working around the Town Clock Steve Wasley noticed that the mortar needs attention. Greg Farmer of the CT Preservation Trust and Pino Lodevole looked at the Clock with Mr. Colley. The Town could request an assistance grant for an engineering structural analysis. This would assist in obtaining costs to replace/seal the cracks. Mr. Colley is to email Mr. Farmer to get all the grant information and fees involved for the Town. This will all help with the budgeting process.

Eversource is in Town working on trees. They are aware of our scenic roads. They will be marking new areas in order to plan their work. They will be notifying landowners of their proposed work. If the landowner has any concerns, they are to contact Eversource before the work starts. The next areas of work are along Mudge Pond Road, Low Road, Modley Road and Sharon Valley Road. With all the tree work being done by Eversource, areas are not losing power as much.

With nothing further, Ms. Fowler made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:20.

Respectfully submitted,



Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

RECEIVED

2017 DEC 13 A 11:11

SHARON TOWN CLERK

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION OF THE
TOWN OF SHARON – BOARD OF SELECTMEN

CERTIFICATION:

I, Linda R. Amerighi, the Town Clerk of Sharon, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Selectmen at its duly called and held meeting on December 12, 2017, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, and that the resolution has not been modified, rescinded, or revoked and is at present in full force and effect:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Sharon may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

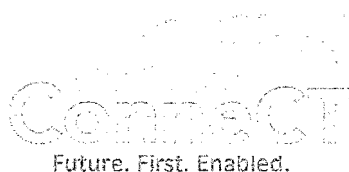
FURTHER RESOLVED, that Brent M. Colley, as First Selectman of the Town of Sharon, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Sharon and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

The undersigned further certifies that Brent M. Colley now holds the office of First Selectman and that he has held that office since November 17, 2015.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: The undersigned has executed this certificate this 13th day of December 2017.

Linda R. Amerighi, Town Clerk, CCTC





Northwest Connect is a non-profit corporation formed in the fall of 2015 by state and local elected officials to create a universal fiber-optic network for the northwest corner of Connecticut, enhance our mobile network, and promote economic development made possible by these new networks.

We had discussions with Frontier over several months regarding Frontier provisioning the fiber-optic network, but they failed to produce an agreement. We then set our sights on a public/private partnership in which a private partner would construct and manage the network and provide a portion of the required capital. As the dominant cost of any new network is fiber optic cabling strung along telephone poles, our sparse housing footprint makes a fully private business proposition infeasible. Our communities must share in the capital costs.

While these costs cannot be determined exactly before a full engineering study, we can reasonably estimate the costs for connecting all 67,000 homes in our target region at \$175 million, or \$2600 a home. If the private partner provides half the capital, the cost per home can be estimated at \$1300. If each home paid for this cost over twenty years at 4%, the cost per month per home would be \$7.20. The final number depends upon many variables but even at twice the rate it seems manageable. It is all but certain that anyone subscribing to the new network will save more than \$7.20 per month in fees for the same services now obtained from Frontier or one of our CATV companies.

In 2016 Northwest Connect obtained \$250,000 in grants from the State of Connecticut to develop an information website, create the legal foundations for a community-sponsored network, conduct mobile and CATV surveys, and engage in programmatic community outreach. All these efforts are now in progress.

We have a roadmap and a timetable.

2017—early 2018. Web site and legal package concluded, visits to all 25 regional communities, broad distribution of information and questions being answered. RFIs and RFPs to select vendors.

June 2018. A major regional conference to explain everything to elected officials and community stakeholders

June—October 2018. Community engagement and community votes on subsidies

Summer 2018—Spring 2019. Network engineering.

Early 2019. Head-end build, first community build

Late 2021. Completion of fiber network, installation of mobile antennas.

This is a heavy lift. In the end a fiber-optic network is the only infrastructure capable of enabling realistic economic development while delivering a host of benefits in health care, safety, real estate, government information, education, and population growth. We are committed to its realization; we know how to get there; and we are accumulating the resources, one at a time, to achieve the first regional community-sponsored fiber-optic network in the country.

David A. Johnson

PO Box 703, Sharon, CT 06069 • northwest-connect.org

- Northwest Connect is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation