

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

A **special meeting/budget workshop** of the Sharon BOS was held on February 28, 2017 at 3:30PM at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Lorraine Kerr Faison, Gretchen Hachmeister, Bobby Carberry, Casey Flanagan, Harding Bancroft, reporter Hawkins and the secretary.

First Selectman Colley called the meeting to order at 3:30.

Mrs. Faison and Ms. Hachmeister were present to discuss and explain the Hotchkiss Library's request for an increase in Town contribution from \$60,000 a year to \$75,000. It was explained that the Library is an association library that operates as a public library; their fund raising, annual appeal and grants covers 65% of their budget. They are planning program expansions and need to do some building maintenance. They provided the Board with a chart showing what area towns contribute to their libraries. Mrs. Faison commented that the library is becoming more and more a resource area. Ms. Fowler asked if the Board had a 5-year plan with the way that technology is changing. Mrs. Faison will get this to the Board. When asked if they would be seeking another increase the following budget year, Mrs. Faison commented, possibly. The Board thanked Mrs. Faison and Ms. Hachmeister for coming to further explain the Board's request.

Next the Board worked further on the proposed budget. Just to get an idea of a bottom line budget amount, a 2% increase in wages, other than the Road Crew which is Union and the departments that asked for higher, was figured in. The Secretary was asked to do a budget with a 3% increase, just to see the difference. The Grand List is up 1.35%. In going through the draft budget, draft 2, some additional changes were made and there are some Line Items that more information is needed in order for the Board to make a decision (12a, 13b, 14 f & m & 32k). Road Foreman Carberry explained to the Board the proposed idea of adding a Road Crew member who would also take care of the Green and the sidewalks during the winter. It is felt that there would be better management of the Green laborer. This idea has been talked about for several years. The job description needs to be written and approved by all involved. It would be a 40 hour a week, year-round, Union-Non CDL with benefits position, less pay per hour than the Road Crew itself as this would be a "labor only" position (\$17.50). The individual would take care of all the Green work and primarily the sidewalks during the winter with working with the Road Crew in between. Maybe even adding in the mowing & weed whacking of Memorial Park. This proposal is incorporated in the draft budget. It was commented that the next new town truck would not be purchased until the 2018-2019 budget. Mr. Colley was asked to get information on other Town's websites – their cost and usage. There will be discussion on possible additional workage of our current website. A list of building issues, their priorities and estimates is needed for 67 Main Street. Some of these issues would be dealt with when the back parking lot expansion/work of this building and Town Hall are done.

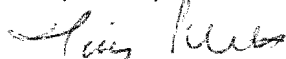
With nothing further, Ms. Fowler made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:21.

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Mrs. Faison, T.C.

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Respectfully submitted,



Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary