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*By Linda Amerighi at 9:02 am, Apr 27, 2023*

SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Draft until approved at the next regular meeting

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on April 25, 2023 at 5:30PM at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Bob Loucks, Ray Aakjar, Bob Hock, John Perotti, Jill Drew, Patee & John Hecht, reporter Hawken and the secretary.

First Selectman Colley called the meeting to order at 5:30.

To be added to the agenda: effective date of joining the Housatonic Valley Health District and under Community Update the letter received from the Sharon Green Committee. Mr. Jones made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

No one present made any public comments and as usual, when the Board gets to an agenda item, if someone would like to speak, just as Mr. Colley.

Mr. Flanagan made a motion to approve the minutes of 3/28/23 & 3/30/23 as written, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

ARPA fund: Tri-State Public Communications has submitted an application to the ARPA Committee for \$7,000 to assist them in paying the Town back rent from COVID. The application was discussed. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the allocation of \$7,000 to Tri-State Public Communications for back rent, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor. Mrs. Drew stated that by 4/30/23 the APRA spending report has to be filed with the U. S. Treasury. The Committee felt that it would be a good idea to create a booklet that could be printed and/or be available on line showing how the funds were used. To print/bind 25 copies it would be approximately \$312.50 (\$12.50 per booklet). The Administrative funds allocated is under budget. The latest Administrative Assistant has decided to volunteer her time. The ARPA Committee has recommended that \$200,000 of the remaining funds to set aside for Municipal Technology Projects (COMCAST contract or IT Upgrades) and \$42,000 be held in reserve for next year in case there are new applications. (this figure does not include the just allocated \$7,000 but does include designated funds) As the Board agreed that it makes sense to have copies, Mr. Jones made a motion to allocate \$312.50 for printing 25 copies of the report with appreciation of the work done by this Committee, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor. Members of the American Legion were present to ask the BOS to reconsider the denied request for \$8,000 to install air conditioning in the Legion building at the same time that the furnace is being replaced. Mr. Loucks spoke on behalf of the members reiterating that if the Town ever takes over the building this would be a good amenity and doing it now would be most efficient. It was pointed out that the first allocation, which was for the furnace, covered what the group lost during COVID and although the AC would be a good investment, there is no guarantee that the Town would take over the building. After various questions and comments, taken on faith in the Town taking over the building, Mr. Flanagan made a motion to allocate \$7,650 which is the actual estimate received, seconded by Mr. Jones with all in favor.

Mr. Jones made a motion that the BOS requests the BOF to approve to Town Meeting the allocation of up to \$5,000 for general maintenance of 67 Main Street with the funds to come from that separate rent account, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

Mr. Flanagan made a motion to set the Annual Town Meeting to be held May 12, 2023 for 7PM and to add the Sewer & Water Commission's application for USDA funding to the Warning along with all the normal items, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

The high school referendum vote is May 2, 2023 from Noon to 8PM. When Town Clerk, Linda Amerighi came before the Board about closing Town Offices for Election Day, it was left up to the BOS to remain open or close for referendums and primaries. Mr. Jones made a motion to keep Town Offices open during the referendum, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

The list of eleven companies that fuel bid requests are sent to was reviewed. The Board had no changes to the list so the requests will be mailed out with the sealed bids to be received by June 13, 2023.

As Town has voted to join the Housatonic Valley Health District and they have voted to accept us, the Board needs to vote on the effective date. Mr. Jones made a motion to have May 1, 2023 be the effective date for joining the District, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor. In the near future, the Board needs to appoint a representative to the District Board.

#### Community Update:

The Board received a letter from the Sharon Green Committee emphasizing that they believe it is essential that the BOS be notified by the Sewer & Water Commission or any other entity that is going to disturb the Green prior to the start date of any project. The notification must include the scope of the project and how they plan on remediating the disturbed area. An assurance must be given that the Green will be restored to its original condition and that the entity would return for further restoration if need be. The BOS agreed that this is a valid request.

The budget hearing is this Friday, April 28, 7PM. This is the time for questions on the budgets, not at the Town Meeting vote.

The Sharon Day Care Road Race is May 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Selectmen's newsletter will probably go out Thursday.

The new Green Keeper / Highway Laborer began on April 20<sup>th</sup> and is doing a good job.

With nothing further, Mr. Flanagan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary