

RECEIVED

By Linda Amerighi at 7:47 am, Apr 29, 2022

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

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on April 26, 2022 at 5:30PM at the Town Hall In-person and via ZOOM. Present were the three Selectmen, Mr. & Mrs. Hecht, Jim Krissel, Brent Prindle, Robert Lindgren, reporters Hawken and Epstein and the secretary.

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

To be added to the agenda – request to Use town roads and beach parking lot by the Tour of Litchfield Hills. Mr. Jones made a motion to adopt the agenda with this addition as 6a, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

Mr. Flanagan made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/12/22 as written, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Mr. Colley reported that he has been in contact again with the Certified Traffic Engineer from Meriden – Kermit Hua of KWH Enterprises, regarding Hilltop Road. The cost of \$7,000 for 50 hours of work including travel time still stands. Board members all emphasized that as this is a public safety issue, they want to be sure whatever is done, either speed humps, signage, the location thereof, etc. is done correctly. Mr. Colley reviewed what the scope of the project would be: visit the site and meet with Town representatives; prepare preliminary recommendation document on traffic humps, including description of speed humps, pros and cons of traffic humps and similar installations in other towns; attend meetings, online or in the field, to present recommendations and respond to comments and questions from Town representatives and residents; and prepare final recommendation document including schematic figures showing locations for humps, pavement markings, and signs that are tied to field objects such as utility poles, and speed hump, pavement marking and sign details for contractor based on designs from other towns, CT COT and other engineering sources. The Board agreed that the Engineer should be hired, but the question is where the funds to pay for this is to come from: ask Board of Finance for funding OR spend out of the Highway Budget. The Highway Budget will be looked at and reviewed with the Foreman. At the next meeting the BOS will decide. This item was tabled til next meeting – to move this forward the fastest way possible – the plan would be either (a) use current Highway budget funds or (b) ask BOF for funding.

The solar project at Sharon Center School was discussed. There has been activity at the proposed location. This still needs to go before Planning and Zoning for a report and then Town Meeting. How the votes need to be at Town Meeting depends on P & Z's report – a favorable report – just a majority of yes – unfavorable report – 2/3's approval. The site map needs to be done for P & Z. Mr. Colley stated that he has not yet signed the Power Purchase Agreement also the BOS passed the Resolution for him to do so. After some discussion, Mr. Flanagan made a motion that the BOS presents to the P & Z Commission the plans for SEEC's proposed solar project at Sharon Center School, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

The Tax Collector has submitted a real estate tax refund request for Delbert Auray in the amount of \$225.73. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

The Cancer Care Fund of the Litchfield Hills, Inc. has submitted a request to use certain town roads for their 19th Annual Tour of the Litchfield Hills – Rt. 4, Rt. 41, Rt. 361, Rt. 343, Sharon Valley Road, Mudge Pond Road, Williams Road, Calkinstown Road and West Cornwall Road. This is a ride and not a race. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the request pending proof of liability insurance and that signs be removed immediately following the Tour, seconded by Mr. Flanagan. Also in the request was permission to place a porta potty in the Beach parking lot as a rest stop. They would like to place it there on Friday before the Tour and remove it the Monday after the Tour. Mr. Jones and Mr. Flanagan agreed to amend the motion to approve the placement of porta potty at the Beach. Vote taken on amendment, all in favor. Vote on original motion – all in favor.

Community Update:

The engineering plans for the Town Hall Parking Lot expansion are almost done: the car charging stations will be Level 2; conduit will be run so they can be upgraded if possible; the lighting design is being looked at; conduit will be run for fiber and Comcast so that the wiring will be directly into the building to better protect the wires from the weather; and types of drainage and asphalt are being reviewed. The plans should be done for May 2. Once approved by the BOS and various Boards/Commissions, the engineers will put the project out to bid.

Mr. Colley stated that he sat down with the Sewer & Water Commission to go over the list of areas where their water/sewer line project would affect any sidewalk project. There is no time line for their project. Sidewalk areas that could be addressed are: from the Congregational Church towards the War Memorial; patch Upper Main Street and Hilltop Road to the Methodist Church. The Board discussed doing a complete project vs repairing spots for now as safety needs to come first. The Board will find a contractor to at least patch the bad areas for now.

Mr. Colley reported that he met with Trooper Duncan and Trooper Pease at the intersection of River Road and Dawn Hill. If Troop B knows where the Town right-of-way is with a defined area, they will ticket cars. It has been emphasized that where the parking has been done, it is outside the Town right-of-way so the Town can't regulate it. We could put up signs showing where to park or "No Parking" signs in the proper areas. When asked about the rocks placed in the right-of-way, Mr. Colley stated that he spoke to the individual today and he stated that he will remove them. Mr. Flanagan stressed that if this is not done, the Road Crew should be directed to remove them. It was the surveyor's recommendation to take the center of the road and measure back 25 feet – that is the Town's right-of-way.

With nothing further, Mr. Jones made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:08.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary