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*By Linda Amerighi at 3:13 pm, Jul 29, 2021*

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

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on July 27, 2021 at 5:30PM In-person and via ZOOM at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, John Brett, John & Patee Hecht, Barbara & Brent Prindle, Meghan Flanagan, reporters Hawken & Epstein, Channel 6 and the secretary.

First Selectman Colley called the meeting to order at 5:30. To be added to the agenda; application for Use of the Sharon Green from the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon for a story walk (6a). Mr. Flanagan made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

If anyone wishes to speak on an agenda item, when the Board gets there, just let Mr. Colley know.

Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the 7/13/21 minutes as submitted, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

The Sharon ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Advisory Committee proposal was discussed further. This volunteer Committee needs to really look at what these funds could be used for. Thanks to Jill Drew & Tom Bartram for stepping up to form this Committee. Anyone who would like to work on this Committee should contact either Jill Drew or Tom Bartram. The BOS endorsed the idea of the Adhoc Advisory Committee.

The RFP for the Broadband Infrastructure Feasibility Analysis was discussed. The Town Attorney reviewed the draft and saw no issues with the document. His only concern was the time frame. The Sharon Connect Task Force wanted to propose a process for disseminating the RFP and interacting with potential bidders: post on Town website; have Task Force members call or email contacts at companies that have expressed interest in bidding to let them know the RFP has been issued; and have the Task Force host a one-time online Q & A forum to answer any questions and invite all the companies that might bid. The Board agreed with all of these ideas – it covers all bases. After little discussion, Mr. Flanagan made a motion to proceed with the RFP for the Broadband Infrastructure Feasibility Analysis, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon has submitted an Application for Use of the Sharon Green from August 1, 2021 to August 31, 2021 for a story walk – signs will be placed that will tell a story through the Town. This is a creative way to utilize everything historic from the Library to their temporary quarters at the American Legion Hall. The Historic District Commission did approve the temporary signs. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

Correspondence:

The letter from Jonathan Aakjar concerning 151 Sharon Valley Road was discussed. No other official correspondence has been received. A lot of the items have to do with the State Liquor Commission. A letter sent to Mr. Aakjar by Land Use Administrator Casey addressed the Land Use portions of the letter as well as the handicapped accessibility and noise levels. The only portion of the letter that requires BOS involvement is the traffic and parking. This could be reviewed and addressed at the time of the paving project for Sharon Valley Road. For now, possibly placing some type of signage concerning “approaching traffic” or “cars exiting into traffic” was discussed. Whatever the BOS can do

to improve safety at this intersection should be done. It was also noted that there has been no Application for a Food Truck. Mr. Colley needs to send a reply to Mr. Aakjar.

Community Update:

The storm event last weekend did severe damage to several roads: Lovers Lane, Dug Road, Low Road, Drum Road Hilltop Road. The Fire Department & Ambulance Squad stepped up big time to help as they always do. Mr. Brett complimented the Road Crew for their work. The damaged areas will be corrected as soon time and weather allows.

The Equipment Replacement Plan that the Board of Finance has been asking for should be in place by the next budget cycle.

Bridge repairs that need to be done will be looked at once the road projects are done. Some repairs may be able to be done by the Road Crew while others may not.

The concerts at Veterans' Field have been going well despite the weather. The new playground should be done by September.

Correspondence has been received from the Historic District Commission concerning the parking bumpers placed on Upper Main Street. It was noted that the original email sent July 29, 2020 to Mr. Colley went to an email that no longer existed. The BOS will work with the Historic District Commission so that these bumpers look better. The purpose of the bumpers is to keep the cars off of the sidewalk.

With nothing further, Mr. Flanagan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:02.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary