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*By Linda Amerighi at 11:06 am, Oct 18, 2021*

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

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on October 12, 2021 at 3:00PM In-person following COVID guidelines and via ZOOM at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Matt Andrulis Mette, Donna Christensen, Brent Prindle, Jill Drew, Jerry & Jean Calabrese, Daniel Kallman, reporter Hawken and the secretary.

First Selectman Colley called the meeting to order at 3PM.

There were several additions to the agenda: Minutes of 10/7/21; Use of the Green by the Sharon Fire Department/Ambulance Squad (5c); contract with Sertex (5a); and six ARPA items (5b) – website, resident survey, applications, information card, SFD/Ambulance request of funds; and commitment to spend certain percentage of funds. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to accept 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.

Corrections to the 9/28/21 minutes – page 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, 1<sup>st</sup> line, change “offed” to “offered” and 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph, 9<sup>th</sup> line, change “as” to “asked”. No corrections to the 10/7/21 minutes. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to approve both minutes with the corrections made to the 9/28/21 minutes, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Donna Christensen, Chair of the Parks & Recreation Committee, and Matt Andrulis Mette, Recreation Director, were present to request the BOS to take to the Board of Finance their plan for interior renovations of the Community Hall building. The proposed budget for the project was reviewed as well as possible future use of the building, i.e. rent out for use by the public. A verbal revised estimate due to the increase cost of materials is \$300,000. There are no plans for renovations of the second floor at this time. The BOS was in favor of the overall plan but had concerns about getting the actual materials. The Board discussed going out to bid first, then deciding on making a recommendation to the Board of Finance. An actual bid packet will need to be put together so that all bidders are bidding on the same thing. Mr. Andrulis Mette will get this information together. Mr. Jones made a motion that a formal bid be put out with an itemized bid packet for the Sharon Parks & Recreation Committee’s interior renovation work to the Community Hall building, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

The Sharon Connect Task Force has submitted a request that the BOS take the next steps needed to approve the draft contract with Sertex for the Broadband Feasibility Analysis. They submitted a suggested change to the contract. The final revised version of the contract will be sent to the Town Attorney – Mr. Colley will do this.

The six items requested for approval submitted the ARPA Advisory Committee were discussed. Reaching out to the public via the website, the survey and the Selectmen’s newsletter was discussed. The urgent request from the Sharon Fire Department – Ambulance Squad to purchase PPE and fund other COVID related needs was briefly discussed. The Committee was applauded for their quick thinking in processing this request. Mr. Jones made a motion that the BOS approves all six items requested by the ARPA Advisory Committee: the website; a resident survey; the application for individuals, businesses and organizations to apply for funding; an information card to mail to all residents; the funding request of \$19,110.52 from the Sharon Fire Department – Ambulance Squad; and the commitment to spend no

more than \$40,000 - \$80,000 (5-10% of the town's total ARPA allocation for fund urgent needs documented before the resident survey is complete and they hold a Dec. 1 community meeting, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

The Sharon Fire Department/Sharon Ambulance Squad has submitted an application for Use of the Sharon Green to line the Green with Luminaria's from December 4<sup>th</sup> to December 6<sup>th</sup>. An insurance certificate has been received. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Mr. & Mrs. Calabrese and Mr. Kallman were present regarding a letter received from several residents of River and Dawn Hill Roads concerning existing and future "public access" to trail heads and parking areas etc. that significantly change the nature of both roads and negatively affect the ability of all its residents to quietly enjoy their homes and properties. It is felt that the proposed new public access recreational area to be located on private property would not only increase traffic on River and Dawn Hill Roads, but exacerbate the already parking problem, as the new site will have limited parking capacity, forcing overflow cars to park on the road. They are concerned with enforcement for this public access. They have been told that there is a Management Plan filed with DEEP as part of the Sharon Land Trust's application for funding the project for Dawn Hill that addresses all their concerns but have been told they can't see it. If they saw the Plan, this may eliminate some of their concerns. Mr. Calabrese asked the Board if they could help the residents with this issue – maybe get the Sharon Land Trust to talk to the residents or give them a copy of the Management Plan. The Board agreed to do some research on what is available and get as much information as possible. The issue will be re-addressed at the next regular Selectmen's meeting and any information will be shared prior to that if obtained.

Now that the Grant and contract documentation has been worked out concerning the Sharon Housing Plan, the Steering Committee needs to be selected. Mr. Jones has offered to represent the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Colley will reach out to Planning & Zoning, the Housing Authority as well as others to see who would be interested in serving. The Board should be ready to select the committee at their next regular meeting.

The Board reviewed the yearly Homeland Security Grant Documents – Memorandum of Agreement and the Authorizing Resolution. This authorizes the First Selectman to sign any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Sharon in regards to the State of CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. The Grants are administered through the NW Hills COG. After a few questions, Mr. Jones made a motion that the Board adopts the Resolution as presented authorizing Brent M. Colley to sign on behalf of the Town, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

A Special Town Meeting needs to be called to deal with the Sharon Housing Authority promissory note pertaining to the HVAC project at Sharon Ridge. This was discussed at the last regular meeting – the town meeting needs to authorize the change of the payee from Eversource to Salisbury Bank & Trust, as approved by the Board of Finance. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to schedule a Special Town Meeting for Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 3:30PM here at the Town Hall, seconded by Mr. Jones. In the discussion it was noted that no new amount of money is being allocated for the Reserve – this just changes the payee of the promissory note. Vote taken on motion – carried unanimously.

Only one resume was received for the Social Service Agent/Municipal Veterans' Service Representative position. The Board set the interview for October 21, 2021 at 3PM.

Sharon Hospital has submitted an Application For Use of Town Hall Chapin Room for meetings to discuss the Sharon Hospital transition plan. They asked for three dates – 10/27/21, 11/5/21 & 11/9/21. On 10/27/21 the room is not available. They stipulated that the attendance would not exceed 18 people including Nuvance staff for each meeting. After a short discussion, Mr. Jones made a motion to allow the Use of Town Hall's Chapin Room by Sharon Hospital on 11/5/21 @1-2:30PM and 11/9/21 @ 6-7:30PM, with the attendance not to exceed their request, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

The informational meeting with Troop B is set for Friday, October 15, 2021 at 3PM at the pavilion. Residents can ask any questions on any topic of their concern.

Community Update:

The letters to go out to the various groups pertaining to the speed humps on Hilltop Road. The groups were asked to respond by Friday, November 5, 2021. Responses to the survey in the newsletter resulted so far – 60% against and 40% in favor. Mr. Calabrese asked about the actual procedure.

The food scraps program at the transfer station has been extended. Mr. Flanagan stated that TRAC is working on another grant for this program.

Mr. Colley stated that Maria Horn has been great by getting involved with the Hospital's transition plan. Individuals are trying to work together to keep what services we have at the hospital as other hospitals are too far away.

With nothing further, Mr. Jones made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:09.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary