

**RECEIVED**

*By Linda Amerighi at 9:27 am, Nov 12, 2021*

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

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on November 9, 2021 In-person and via ZOOM at the Town Hall at 3:00PM. Present were the three Selectmen, Jack Flanagan, Barbara & Brent Prindle, Gretchen Hachmeister, Thomas Trowbridge, Doug Rick, Fiona Stewart & Emily Basham of the CT Green Bank, reporter Hawken and the secretary.

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

Mr. Flanagan made a motion to adopt the agenda as written, 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 minutes of 10/21/21 & 10/26/21 as written, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

Fiona Stewart and Emily Basham of the CT Green Bank and Doug Rick of the Sharon Energy & Environment Commission were present for clarification of the draft Power Purchase & License Agreement for the potential solar array project at the Sharon Center School. The array would be on Town property in the field with the system running into the school for their electricity. The Board of Education wants to meet with this group in order to get more information as this would affect their utility bills as the customer. The Board wanted to go over the next steps in this whole process to keep the project moving along. The Board has reviewed the lengthy document and had some questions. Ms. Stewart reported that: this is a preliminary project so far and they did do a site visit; they put out a RFP for Sharon along with 9 other towns – they have 26 towns engaged statewide analyzing the cost which is key to the EPA rating for the project; the cost numbers should be ready by Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>; the final project should be ready by the end of Nov.; after the Town signs the Power Purchase Agreement, the contractors will be hired, which should be in January or February 2022 and then the contractor does the design specs, all the required permits meeting with the necessary Boards/Commissions. The ultimate contract is with the Town and with the coordination of the Board of Education which will need town meeting approval as the final step per State Statute as this is an improvement to Town property. There will need to be a lease agreement for the actual construction of the project. Brent Prindle questioned the proposed location with potential fiber optic project. This will have to be checked with the Sharon Connect Task Force. As this project progress, more information will be forthcoming.

Lyman (Bob) Whelan is interested in serving on the Sharon Housing Plan Steering Committee. He would represent Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Jones made a motion to appoint Lyman Whelan to this Committee, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

Carl Chaiet has submitted an Application for Use of the Sharon Green. It is for the menorah lighting for the duration of Nov. 26 to Dec. 8, 2021. As these types of events have a “light use of the Green” the Sharon Green Committee has voted that in place of an insurance certificate, they will require the applicant to sign a document stating “The activity for which I am applying is a light use of the Sharon Green. In lieu of having to provide a Certificate of Insurance, I shall be personally responsible for any damage done to the Sharon Green because of this activity.” Mrs. Hall will obtain a signed document from Mr. Chaiet. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to grant the request, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Gretchen Hachmeister and Thomas Trowbridge were present to discuss with the Board a request from The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon for the consideration of the Town donating \$50,000 towards their Capital Campaign in connection with their expansion/renovation project. To date they have raised approximately \$2,760,624 but need approximately \$200,000 more. Their fundraising phases were reviewed and they stressed that the Library Board feels that it is important for the Town to take part in the project by showing their support in making a donation outside the budget cycle. BOS members asked various questions. Mr. Flanagan questioned the possibility of using the Silly Putting funds for this request – this would be a discussion with the Board of Finance. Mr. Flanagan made a motion that the BOS approves the request to the Board of Finance a contribution to The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon for \$50,000 towards their expansion/renovation project, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

There are various appointments that need to be made as the terms in these positions expire November 16, 2021. Mr. Colley read the list (attached) and stated all are willing to serve. There was an addition to the Parks & Recreation Committee – Raymond Aakjar III. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the appointments as read with the terms to November 21, 2023 unless otherwise noted, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor.

There are various Resolutions (attached) that the Board needs to adopt that authorizes Brent M. Colley, as First Selectmen, to sign on behalf of the Town various documents and contracts. The list was read. Mr. Flanagan made a motion to adopt the Resolutions as read, seconded by Mr. Jones, with all in favor.

Letters were received from the Sharon Fire Department Ambulance Squad and the Road Foreman speaking on behalf of the Highway Department pertaining to the speed humps on Hilltop Road. Both groups have expressed concerns. As a hearing is required, the School has said that their facility could be used any day after 4PM. No date was set by the BOS.

#### Community Update:

Representatives from the hospital did hold their meeting with public officials from both CT and NY on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Colley expressed that the conversation is a step in a positive direction.

The Rally to Save Sharon Hospital held on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> was well attended with individuals from CT, NY and MA being vocal and very thoughtful with their points raised.

The Millerton Road end of Sharon Valley Road was finished being paved. The Amenia Road end will need drainage work etc. done before that can be paved.

With nothing further, Mr. Jones made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Flanagan, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary