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By Linda Amerighi at 1:16 pm, Dec 14, 2023

SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Draft until approved at the next regular meeting

A regular meeting of the Sharon BOS was held December 12, 2023 at 3:00PM at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Tracey Abut, Carol Flaton, John & Paree Hecht, Jill Drew, reporter Hawken and the secretary.

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

No one present had any public comments on the agenda items nor any other item.

Ms. Kearcher made a motion to adopt the agenda as written, seconded by Mr. Brett, with all in favor.

Mr. Brett made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/14/23 & 11/27/23 as written, seconded by Ms. Kearcher, with all in favor.

Tracey Abut, Human Resource from Xcelerate Talent, was present to give a high-level overview of her findings. She will provide a detailed DRAFT to the Board, with recommendations, for their review and this document will be discussed in executive session before it is released as a public document. It was agreed that Mrs. Abut will submit the salary survey to CCM before the end of the year. This will give ballpark figures for the future. Along with the Draft, Mrs. Abut will submit a funding proposal for the budget outlining future items for her to be involved with.

Casey Flanagan has submitted his resignation from the Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station Advisory Committee. Mr. Brett made a motion to accept the resignation, seconded by Ms. Kearcher, with all in favor.

Paul Bacsik has submitted a letter of interest in serving on the Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station Advisory Committee. Mr. Flanagan stated he spoke to Mr. Bacsik and gave the Board a brief background. Mr. Brett made a motion to appoint Paul Bacsik to this Committee, seconded by Ms. Kearcher, with all in favor. There are no terms on this Committee.

Alfonse Tortorella has submitted a letter of resignation from the Sharon Parks & Recreation Committee and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mr. Brett made a motion to accept the resignation, seconded by Ms. Kearcher, with all in favor.

The Parks & Recreation Committee has submitted a request that the BOS appoint Scott Eldridge to their Committee. Mr. Flanagan stated that he spoke to Mr. Eldridge and gave the Board a brief background along with the ideas that Mr. Eldridge has for bringing various activities to the town. Mr. Brett made a motion to appoint Scott Eldridge to this Committee with his term going to November 18, 2025, seconded by Ms. Kearcher, with all in favor.

With vacancies on the Sharon Housing Authority, Brent Colley as First Selectman has been serving on the Board. He would like to continue on the Authority so he needs to be officially appointed by the BOS. Mr. Brett made a motion to appoint Brent Colley to the Sharon Housing Authority with his term going to October 29, 2024, seconded by Ms. Kearcher, with all in favor.

Mr. Brett gave an update on the TRIP application for our sidewalk replacement project. He is taking over the project from Mr. Jones. Just recently, the State DOT had a few questions on the application which are being addressed. It was the sentiment of the Board that any grant amount the State would give us would be appreciated and the cost different could be found elsewhere if necessary. Mr. Brett is going to follow-up with RAR on their cost estimate received to see if it still stands. He was thanked for taking over this project.

Mr. Flanagan wanted the Board to begin the discussion on reforming the Long-Range Planning Committee. Areas for this group to look at would be: town owned properties with their current uses and possible future uses; town resources; roads and bridges; town structures; and possibly how the town is growing/changing. This would be an advisory group to

the BOS. It was pointed out that some of the issues raised by the previous Committee have been taken care of or are in the process of being taken care of. It was suggested to have a meeting among the Chairmans of Boards & Commissions to discuss the topics of their group. It was suggested to see if any of the individuals who served on this group before would be interested in serving again. Also, Mr. Flanagan can put an item in the newsletter having anyone interested to contact the Board and give them a brief background on themselves. Ms. Kearcher and Mr. Brett offered to serve on this Committee.

The Housatonic River Commission has submitted an application to Use the Town Hall for a meeting on July 9, 2024. Mr. Brett made a motion to approve the request with the condition that a Certificate of Insurance is given to the Town, seconded by Ms. Kearcher, with all in favor.

The Tax Collector has submitted two motor vehicle tax refund requests: Toyota Lease Trust \$503.37 and VW Credit Leasing LTD \$441.17. Ms. Kearcher made a motion to approve the requests, seconded by Mr. Brett, with all in favor.

Community Update:

Mrs. Drew gave the Board update on the COMCAST project. They anticipate the project to be 50% complete by the end of December and will be requesting the first payment. This \$800,000 has already been approved. The BOS and BOF will need to start figuring out where the funds will come from for the second \$800,000. The ARPA Committee is anticipating applying for a grant from the ARPA Capital Project Fund.

Mr. Brett gave a report on the Region 1 referendum to be held January 8, 2024 from 6AM to 8PM on the \$5.6 million dollar bonding package for 12 projects at the high school. Each town's assessment is based on students attending the high school.

Ms. Kearcher gave an update on the Mudge Pond study. The good news is that no hydrilla was found but the lake is impacted with milfoil, curlyleaf pond weed, common stonewort and waterlily. Three protected species and two endangered species were found. A private lake study was done in 2010 and this has been forwarded to Northeast Aquatic. When the final report is submitted, it will be shared with Town Officials, Board of Finance and the community. An immediate goal is to find options for a moratorium on boat launching at the state location, and/or acquiring equipment to wash off boats to keep hydrilla out of the lake. Ms. Kearcher will speak with DEEP as they have control over the State boat launch area.

Just a reminder that there is a referendum January 5, 2024 from Noon to 8PM on the solar array project at 64 Hilltop Road. The Power Purchase Agreement is on the website.

With nothing further, Mr. Brett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Kearcher, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:23.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary