

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
NOVEMBER 20, 2006
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
6:00 PM**

Board Members Present: David D. Macy, Chairman
Julie M. Hannum, Clerk
James T. Collingwood

Other Staff Present: Robert Weitz, Town Administrator
Rhonda LaBombard, Recording Secretary

Chairman Macy called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR SEARCH – INITIAL SCREENING:

Pauline Schumann, Chairman of Council on Aging, was present. The purpose of this meeting is to select 3 – 4 applicants to interview for the Senior Center Director position. It was decided to interview John Arthur Miller, Penelope Carey and Beth Harlan for the position. The interviews will be scheduled for Thursday, November 30, 2006 beginning at 4:00 pm. After the interviews Administrator Weitz will check references and the Selectmen will meet on December 4, 2006 at 6:30 at Mt. Everett High School to appoint the Senior Center Director.

Chairman Macy moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, seconded by Selectman Hannum the roll call vote was as follows:

Chairman Macy - Aye

Selectman Hannum – Aye

Selectman Collingwood – Aye

Executive Session began at 6:30 pm

Open Session continued at 6:50 pm

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Selectman Hannum moved to approve the minutes for the November 6, 2006 and November 15, 2006 meetings, seconded by Chairman Macy. The motion carried unanimously.

GRAVEL BED REPORT:

Beverly Kradel and Joe Wilkinson were present to review the report from Tighe and Bond. Chairman Macy read the topics of the review. *The quarterly reports from White Engineering have been late and inconsistent.* Joe Wilkinson will contact White Engineering to discuss the quarterly reports. Quarterly reports should be submitted even when there is minimal activity and might simply be a state to that effect. *Spill*

contingency materials not on site. Joe Wilkinson stated that each of his trucks contains a spill package. *Discussion ensued on gravel drive.* The Selectmen are satisfied with the driveway based on their site visit. Discussion ensued on the storm water prevention plan. Joe Wilkinson will check with White Engineering regarding the plan. The Selectmen requested that the quarterly reports be kept up to date and requested a letter from Wilkinson stating that his trucks contain spill packages. Discussion ensued regarding the amount of the invoice from Tighe and Bond. Joe Wilkinson requested that a local engineer be hired for the next review to minimize the cost of the review. Selectman Macy stated that he was impressed with the operation of the gravel bed.

FIRE CHIEF RICK BOARDMAN – RR BARN:

Fire Chief Rick Boardman was present to discuss the use of the RR barn behind Town Hall. The Selectman and Town Administrator Weitz agreed that the use of the barn has been with the expectation that it is exclusively for the Fire Department. A warrant article will be placed on the Annual Town Meeting warrant for the voters to approve a dedication of use. Administrator Weitz and Chief Boardman will meet to discuss the article.

Chief Boardman gave an update on the four students attending the vocational agricultural program at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. The town pays the tuition and the parents provide the transportation. Selectman Hannum suggested that these students get in touch with the Agricultural Commission.

MAIL OF NOTE:

Mass Highway Dept. – Crosswalk at Library:

A letter was received from Mass Highway regarding the Town's request to move the crosswalk at the Library Driveway. Administrator Weitz read the letter. Mass Highway will not move the crosswalk at this time because it does not meet current accessibility criteria but is grandfathered and the thermoplastic markings are nearly impossible to remove. The next time that Route 7 is resurfaced the crosswalk will be moved.

So. Berk. Reg. School District – Building Evaluation Report:

Administrator Weitz read a memo from Catherine Miller, School Committee Chairman, regarding the District Buildings Evaluation Report. A meeting will be held on Thursday, December 7 from 6:00 – 7:00 in the Library at Mt. Everett to discuss the report and any actions that should be taken. Discussion ensued on the building report. Chairman Macy stated that it was important issue and he would like the entire board to attend the meeting. The meeting will be posted as a Selectman's meeting.

Notice to Abutters Forest Cutting – Water Farm Road:

A notice was received from Douglas MacDonald regarding a forest cutting that will take place in the vicinity of Water Farm Road. The town owns an abutting piece of property. Discussion ensued regarding the location of the cutting.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Selectman Hannum has received some of the essays written for the MMA essay contest. Copies will be made and distributed to the Tara White from New Marlborough, John Sylbert from Monterey and Representative Pignatelli because they all attended the informational session.

Selectman Collingwood has been contacted regarding junk cars. No action to be taken at this time.

Chairman Macy would like to begin holding joint Selectmen meetings with the five surrounding towns. This was done in the past and was very productive. Discussions were held regarding all phases of town government and the school district. After the holidays Chairman Macy would like Sheffield to host the first one. Selectman Hannum was in favor of the meetings.

Selectman Hannum stated that the Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee would hold a meeting on November 29, 2006 at 7:30 pm. A final report for the Smart Growth Grant will be submitted to the Selectmen and Planning Board.

A Special Town Meeting will be held on December 4, 2006 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held at Mt. Everett.

The Town Hall will be closed on Friday 11-24-06.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pauline Schumann, Chairman of the Council on Aging, requested that the new Senior Center Director be appointed as a member of the Senior Center Building Committee. The Selectmen will take this under advisement.

Chairman Macy asked Carl Schumann for an update on the Senior Center Building Committee. Carl stated that the committee would be meeting on November 30, 2006. The funding for the Senior Center will not be on the warrant for the Town Meeting that will be held on December 4th. The funding will be on a future Town Meeting.

Selectmen Hannum moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Selectman Collingwood.. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Macy adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda LaBombard
Recording Secretary