

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OCTOBER 15, 2007
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

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

Other Staff Present: Joseph A. Kellogg, Interim Town Administrator
Rhonda LaBombard, Assistant Town Administrator

Chairman Hannum called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Selectman Macy moved to approve two sets of minutes for the October 1, 2007 meetings, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS:

Administrator Kellogg noted that the Cultural Council is a 5-member council, and currently has one vacancy. Steven Hyer, Council Chairman, would like to increase the council membership to 7, and recommends appointing all three applicants to the council.

Selectman Macy moved to expand the Cultural Council membership from 5 members to 7 members, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Macy moved to appoint the following:

Paul O'Brien – Broadband Access Committee

Anne Dunn – Cultural Council

Trudy Weaver Miller – Cultural Council

David Reed- Cultural Council

Vito Valentini – Park and Recreation Committee

Selectman Collingwood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The list of board/committee vacancies will continue to be posted in the Town Hall Lobby and on the Town Website.

SENIOR CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Administrator Kellogg gave an update on the Senior Center Building Committee. A consensus of the Committee has been reached for a building design. An informational session will be held in Town Hall on October 24, 2007, at 7 pm. A brief presentation will be given and public input will be received. The informational session has been posted on the Town Website and will be sent to the newspapers as a press release.

RESIGNATION OF BILL BROWNE:

Selectman Macy moved to accept the resignation of Bill Browne from the Senior Center Building Committee and to send Mr. Browne a letter of thanks, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAPTER 61A RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL – SILVER STREET:

This discussion was tabled to the next meeting in order to obtain more information from the Sheffield Land Trust.

SBRSD MEDIATION:

Chairman Hannum noted that a mediation session would be held at Berkshire South Regional Community Center on October 25, 2007 at 5 pm . The Massachusetts Office of Conflict and Dispute Resolution has been asked, by Representative Pignatelli, mediate the session. This meeting will be an Executive Session with representatives from Alford, Monterey, New Marlborough and Egremont. Selectman Macy moved to participate in the mediation, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

BERKSHIRE SCHOOL CLEAN-UP PROJECTS:

Chairman Hannum read a letter from Jane Piatelli, Co-Director, Fifth Form Experience Program regarding clean-up projects that they would like to do on October 29, 2007. Chairman Hannum would like to ask Ms.Piatelli to attend a meeting to discuss the projects. Selectman Macy moved to approve the request and thank Berkshire School for their clean-up projects, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion passed unanimously.

SURPLUS VEHICLE BIDS:

The following bids were received for two surplus vehicles:

2000 Crown Victoria	\$459 from Bay Ridge Motors
	\$424 from Jersey One Auto Sales

1996 Ford F350	\$325 from Ronald Bassett
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Selectman Macy moved to accept the bid from Bay Ridge Motors for \$459 for the 2000 Crown Victoria and the bid from Ronald Bassett for \$325 for the 1996 Ford F350, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH UPDATE:

Chairman Hannum announced that 18 applications were received for the Town Administrator position. The Search Committee reviewed the applications and has recommended that the Board of Selectmen appoint Joseph A. Kellogg as Town Administrator, pending contract negotiations. Selectman Macy moved to appoint Joseph A. Kellogg as Town Administrator pending, contract negotiations, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Chairman Hannum noted that the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board were planning a joint meeting to discuss the IAC Housing Committee recommendations. The Board of Selectmen will meet with the Sheffield members of the SBRSD School Committee on the first Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. The meeting with the Planning Board will be scheduled for November 19, 2007 at 6 pm, pending availability of the Planning Board members.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Vito Valentini submitted copies of 5 questions that he requested answered by the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Hannum provided the following responses:

1. The District is operating with a failed budget because two towns did not accept the budget by the statutory method of assessment. The School Committee voted to send the budget back to the Superintendent for budget cuts. If a budget is not approved before December 1, 2007, the Department of Education will take over fiscal control of the District.
2. There is the possibility of a Special Town Meeting to vote on the Senior Center in December or January.
3. All five towns have agreed to attend a mediation session. This meeting will be closed to the public.
4. It is anticipated that all four Sheffield members of the School Committee will be present to discuss the FY 08 budget situation.
5. The Sheffield School Committee members represent the interests of Sheffield voters.

Selectman Collingwood moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Selectman Macy. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda LaBombard
Assistant Town Administrator