Town of Sheffield Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes May 9, 2007 7:00 p.m. Town Hall

Board Members Present: David Macy, Chairman Julie Hannum, Clerk James Collingwood

Others Present: Robert Weitz, Town Administrator Felecie Joyce, Town Clerk Tammy Blackwell, Assessor Rene Wood, Planning Board Tony Gulotta, Planning Board David Steindler, Finance Committee David Smith, Jr. Finance Committee John Pollitt, Sheffield Representative to So. Berkshire Reg. School District Catherine Miller, Sheffield Representative to So. Berkshire Reg. School District Marcia Savage, Sheffield Representative to So. Berkshire Reg. School District

Chairman Macy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

## **School Budget/Assessment:**

Chairman Macy requested the school committee representatives to state what position they planned to take regarding the School District assessment and whether or not they intended to respect and abide by the vote of Town Meeting relative to the District assessment method. Mr. Pollitt stated that he respected, and would abide by, the decision of Town Meeting. Ms. Miller and Ms. Savage both stated that they would not make a commitment at this time regarding the school district assessment and whether they would abide by the Town Meeting decision.

David Steindler made a statement on behalf of the Finance Committee registering their objection to a statement made by a member of the Board of Selectmen which they felt was impugning the integrity of those who disagreed, including the Finance Committee. Selectman Hannum responded that she meant no personal attack on anyone and that her statement was related to the process regarding the school assessment question.

Chairman Macy stated that in his opinion members of boards and committees needed to exercise care when speaking publicly as individuals on matters on which the Board or committee is responsible, or has taken a position. He explained that people often would not make the distinction between a personal position and speaking on behalf of the Board.

## Town Administration

Chairman Macy announced that Robert A. Weitz has submitted his resignation as Town Administrator, and further discussed the office organization and the need for full-time assistant in the office. Discussion ensued with members of the Planning Board and Principal Assessor Blackwell regarding project and administrative needs that they have. Town Administrator Weitz advised the Board that he had made preliminary contact with former Assistant Rhonda LaBombard and that she had indicated that she would be interested in a redefined position. <u>Selectman Hannum moved to have Town Administrator/Assistant to the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and others.</u> <u>Selectman Collingwood seconded. Vote unanimous</u>.

## Interim Town Administrator:

Joseph Kellogg was introduced as a possible Interim Town Administrator. Mr. Kellogg previously served as Great Barrington Town Manager and Lenox Town Manager, and currently is serving as Town Administrator in Chester. Mr. Kellogg advised the Board that he could give the town 20 hours per week serving as the Interim Town Administrator would need to have Health Insurance and would not be precluded from applying for the Town Administrator position. Board members indicated that these conditions were acceptable to them. <u>Selectman Hannum moved to enter into negotiations with Joseph Kellogg as Interim Town Administrator</u>. Selectman Collingwood seconded. Vote <u>unanimous</u>.

## Portable Toilet:

Town Administrator Weitz advised the Board that the Ad Hoc Town Hall Parking Lot Blue Ribbon Study Committee has recommended that a Portable Toilet be rented for the Town Hall Parking Lot in 2007 (until a more permanent solution can be reached) from Mothers Day through Columbus Day. <u>Selectman Hannum motioned to have a portable</u> toilet rented for placement in the Town Hall Parking Lot from Mothers Day to Columbus Day. Selectman Collingwood seconded. Vote unanimous.

Selectman Collingwood moved to adjourn, Selectmen Hannum seconded. Chairman Macy adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Robert A. Weitz, Town Administrator