

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
APRIL 1, 2008  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
6:30 PM**

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

Other Staff Present: Joseph A. Kellogg, Town Administrator  
Rhonda LaBombard, Assistant Town Administrator  
David Steindler, Finance Committee Chairman  
John James, Finance Committee Member  
James McGarry, Police Chief  
Felecie Joyce, Town Clerk

Chairman Hannum called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**PROPOSITION 2 ½ OVERRIDE:**

Administrator Kellogg gave a brief explanation on the need for a Proposition 2 ½ override. The SBRSD budget for FY09 has not been certified, however, the last budget presented from the School Committee would put Sheffield \$75,000 over our levy limit. Administrator Kellogg explained the levy limit calculation and stated that his recommendation would be to request a total of \$100,000 due to a slow down in new growth. The Department of Education will provide a FY09 budget for the School District, but has not notified the Towns of what that amount will be. The Board needs to make a decision on the override tonight to allow enough time for the ballots to be printed. The additional \$100,000 would add \$.18 to the tax rate and would add \$50 increase to the average tax bill. Discussion ensued regarding the actual number needed for the override, the probability of needing an override next year, capital debt exclusions, finding a solution to the District problems and educating the public on Proposition 2 ½. Selectman Macy expressed his concerns for taxpayers that are having trouble affording their taxes without the increase. Selectman Macy moved to place the following Proposition 2 ½ override referendum question before the voters at the Annual Town Election on May 12, 2008: "Shall the Town of Sheffield be allowed to assess an additional \$100,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Operating Budget assessment for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008?", seconded by Selectman Collingwood. Discussion continued regarding the increase in the Town budget at 4% and the increase in the School budget at 6.5%, the process for budget approval for the Town and the process for the School and the additional \$100,000 added to the school budget. The motion carried unanimously.

**COOP PLAN:**

Ed McCormick, Will Brinker and Chief McGarry were present to discuss the Continuation of Operation Plan (COOP). This plan is a management tool to list replacements for essential

positions to allow the continuation of local government in the event of an emergency. There is a \$750 grant available to pay for the plan development. This plan would be reviewed annually in July. Administrator Kellogg will set up a working meeting with the Board and Mr. McCormick, Mr. Brinker and Chief McGarry to set up the administration portion of the plan. Worksheets will be provided for review before the meeting.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda LaBombard  
Assistant Town Administrator