

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OCTOBER 20, 2008
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

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

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Selectman Collingwood moved to approve the minutes from the October 6, 2008 meeting, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried 2-0-1, Selectman Macy abstained.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN:

Selectman Macy moved to adopt the Economic Development Plan, dated September 15, 2008, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued regarding a committee to continue with economic development. Selectman Macy moved to establish a committee to work on economic development, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously. Members of the Industrial Development Committee and the Economic Development Task Force will be contacted for interest in joining the new committee.

APPOINTMENTS:

Council on Aging:

Discussion ensued regarding the appointment to the Council on Aging. This appointment will be made at the next meeting on November 3, 2008.

Conservation Commission:

Selectman Macy moved to appoint Don Ward to a three-year term on the Conservation Commission, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Board of Appeals:

Selectman Macy moved to appoint David West to a three-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals and Eric Blackburn to a two-year appointment on the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued regarding an alternate member for the Zoning Board of Appeals; currently there is not an alternate member. Anyone interested in applying for the alternate position should contact the Board.

Cultural Council:

Selectman Macy moved to appoint Amber Spring to a three-year term to the Cultural Council, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

Board of Registrars:

It was noted that a suspension of the appointments policy was needed to fill a vacancy immediately on the Board of Registrars to assist with the upcoming Presidential Election.

Selectman Collingwood moved to suspend the appointment policy and to appoint Elizabeth Smith to the Board of Registrars for a one-year term, seconded by Selectman Macy. The motion carried unanimously.

PARKS COMMITTEE/HOUSATONIC RIVER PARKS:

Discussion ensued regarding the grants for improved canoe access in Town and the possibility of the Park Committee expanding their duties to include overseeing all the Town owned park property. Administrator Kellogg will discuss the possibility with Mike Ovitt from the Park and Recreation Committee.

MARKETPLACE CAFÉ BROWN BAG REQUEST:

The Marketplace has requested permission to allow patrons to bring their own wine and malt beverages into their café on a temporary basis until they obtain a regular wine and malt license.

Administrator Kellogg read the following proposed Brown Bag Policy:

1. Only beer and wine will be allowed.
2. Patrons bringing their own alcoholic beverages must order dinner.
3. All containers and beverages must be removed by the patrons when they leave the restaurant.
4. Restaurant proprietors must post signs advising that patron's use of alcoholic beverages is at their own risk and liability.
5. Only persons who are 21 years of age or older will be allowed to consume any alcoholic beverage.

Discussion ensued regarding the request, hours of operation and consequences for violations.

Selectman Macy moved to grant permission for the Marketplace to allow patrons to bring in and consume malt and wine beverages in their café and to add an additional condition to the policy as follows: #6 Any problems or concerns that arise will result in immediate suspension of the permission., seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

TEMPORARY ROADSIDE SIGN PERMITS:

Kiwanis Club: The Kiwanis Club has requested permission to erect a sign for their Annual Can Walk to be held on October 26, 2008. The sign will be erected on October 21, 2008 and removed on October 26, 2008. Selectman Macy moved to grant a temporary sign permit to the Kiwanis Club for their Annual Can Walk, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

Sheffield Friendly Union: The Sheffield Friendly Union has requested permission to erect a sign for a benefit concert to be held on November 9, 2008. The sign will be erected on October 28, 2008 and removed on November 11, 2008. Selectman Macy moved to grant a temporary sign permit to the Sheffield Friendly Union for a benefit concert, pending approval from the Police Chief., seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

TRANSFER STATION DEP INSPECTION:

The Department of Environmental protection requires an annual inspection of the Transfer Station. Eric Weiss has submitted a proposal to do the inspection for \$450. Administrator Kellogg requested that Eric Weiss also submit a proposal to provide an improvement plan for the Transfer Station. The price for the improvement plan would be \$900. Recycling Coordinator David Steindler recommends accepting both proposals from Eric Weiss. The total of \$1350 would come from the Enterprise Fund. Selectman Macy moved to accept the proposals from Eric Weiss for the annual inspection of the Transfer Station and for the improvement plan, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

EIGHT TOWN MEETING:

A meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Mason Library in Great Barrington for further discussions on regional school issues by the towns of Alford, Egremont, Great Barrington, Monterey, New Marlborough, Sheffield, Stockbridge and West Stockbridge. Each town will have one representative participate in the discussion. Selectman Macy moved to have Chairman Hannum as the representative from Sheffield, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Chairman Hannum discussed the need to study regionalization of services.

Chairman Hannum stated that the Town would be participating in the 6th grade essay contest again this year. Town officials will be at the school to talk to the students on October 27, 2008 at 8:45 am.

Chairman Hannum reminded residents of Election Day on November 4th and anyone in need of transportation to the polls should contact the Senior Center. She also stated that a forum will be held on October 30, 2008 at Mt. Everett High School for residents to meet the candidates for School Committee.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS:

Administrator Kellogg stated that he is working with CET on the possibility of installing solar panels on the Library. The funding would be provided by a grant from Mass Technology Collaborative.

Administrator Kellogg stated that the paving on Hulett Hill Road is complete. Rote Hill Road has a base coat and the finish coat will be put down next fall.

Administrator Kellogg discussed the impact that Question #1, to eliminate the State income tax, would have if passed and recommended that the Board take a vote to oppose Question #1. Selectman Macy moved to oppose Question #1, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda LaBombard
Assistant Town Administrator