

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MARCH 17, 2008
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, 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 March 3, 2008 meeting, seconded by Selectman Macy. The motion carried unanimously.

PAULINE SCHUMANN:

Pauline Schumann was present representing the Friends of the Senior Center. She provided information on a music and dance program being held on April 4th and 5th.

LIQUOR LICENSE PLEDGE – LIMEY OF SHEFFIELD, LLC:

Attorney Nicholas Parsenios was present to discuss the application of Limey of Sheffield, LLC for a pledge of their liquor license. The request is part of the original loan application as collateral for the business. No changes are proposed. Selectman Macy moved to allow Limey of Sheffield, LLC to pledge their liquor license to Legacy Bank, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMON VICTUALLER'S LICENSE APPLICATION – MARKETPLACE OF THE BERKSHIRES:

The Marketplace of the Berkshires has applied for a Common Victualler License for their location at 18 Elm Court. Selectman Macy moved to grant a Common Victualler License to the Marketplace of the Berkshires, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

FIRE CHIEF STIPEND:

Fire Chief Rick Boardman has requested a \$2,400 annual stipend. The paperwork required for the Fire Chief has increased. Selectman Macy contacted surrounding towns and Sheffield is the only one that does not pay a stipend to the Fire Chief. Selectman Macy also noted that the members of the Fire Department are in support of the stipend. Selectman Collingwood moved to pay the Fire Chief an annual stipend of \$2,400, seconded by Selectman Macy. The motion carried unanimously.

SBRSD BUDGET – MASSACHUSETTS DOE:

The Board of Selectmen received a letter from Jeff Wulfson of the Department of Education regarding the FY09 school budget, which was not certified by the School Committee. Mr. Wulfson will accept comments from the District, Towns and School Committee before recommending a budget for FY09. Discussion ensued regarding the budget the Finance Sub-Committee recommended, which put Sheffield over the levy limit by \$17,000. A new budget has been presented that has an additional \$100,000, which puts Sheffield over the levy limit by \$75,000. Selectman Macy moved to support the original budget submitted by the Finance Sub-Committee, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Kellogg noted that the budget recommended by DOE will use the statutory assessment method and would need to be approved by 4 of the 5 towns in the District. Sheffield would need to place an override question on the ballot and if it fails town services would have to be cut. Vito Valentini questioned the additional \$100,000 added to the budget. Selectman Macy stated that the Board of Selectmen is committed to looking for a long-term solution to the school issue. A letter will be sent to Mr. Wulfson reflecting the vote to support the original budget.

PERMISSION TO HUNT TOWN OWNED LAND:

Todd Clay has requested permission to hunt on town owned land. Selectman Macy moved to grant permission to bow hunt only at the Town Park and to hunt with no restrictions at the Town Forest, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

SOLID WASTE USER FEE ABATEMENT:

The property at 1375 North Main Street was billed in error for a solid waste user fee. Selectman Macy moved to grant a full abatement to 1375 North Main Street, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

E-MAIL SHEFFIELD UNITED KINGDOM:

Chairman Hannum read an e-mail received from Sheffield, England regarding forming a relationship between the two Sheffield communities. Peter Rowntree volunteered to be the liaison. Selectman Macy moved to have Peter Rowntree contact John Errington to discuss a relationship between the two communities, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously. Administrator Kellogg said he would like to work with Peter on this project.

APPOINTMENTS:

Economic Development Task Force: Selectman Macy moved to appoint Dennis Duff and William Kistler of Sheffield Plastics to the Economic Development Task Force, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

VILLAGE GREEN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE:

Administrator Kellogg gave an update on the Village Green Improvement Project. The construction will begin in April and is anticipated to end in September. Petricca Construction will do the work. A meeting will be set up between Petricca Construction, the Town and local businesses to discuss the project. Chief McGarry has been working with Petricca Construction to develop a traffic pattern during the construction. Discussion ensued regarding the Farmer's Market, the difficulty with the parking, access to the market and possible alternative locations for the market. Administrator Kellogg will keep in contact with Barbara Davidson, manager of the market, to keep her updated on the project.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Selectman Collingwood discussed the paper compactor box that was damaged. It appears as though it may be damaged beyond repair. Discussion ensued regarding renting the boxes for the Transfer Station.

Chairman Hannum reminded residents that the Town Hall Parking Lot Committee is continuing to sell name bricks to raise funds for the parking area.

Chairman Hannum noted that the annual appointment process would begin soon for the appointments that will expire in June.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS:

Administrator Kellogg noted that the Town Hall would convert to a new phone system on April 2, 2008. An auto attendant would answer the new system and each department will have extensions. The main phone number for the Town Hall will be 229-7000. It is possible that there would be some delays on the first day of the conversion.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Sheffield Friendly Union has requested a sign permit for a sandwich board sign to be placed on the Village Green in front of Dewey Hall, to advertise the music and dancing program to be held on April 4th and 5th. Chief McGarry has approved the sign permit. Selectman Macy moved to grant the sign permit to advertise the music and dance program to be held on April 4th and 5th, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

The Massachusetts State Lottery Commission sent a letter regarding the new lottery game **Keno To Go**. Administrator Kellogg explained that the Board has a right to oppose the new game if they wish. It would be installed in the three locations that now sell lottery in Sheffield, namely, Gretta's Market, Silk's Variety and PJ's. Selectman Macy moved to grant permission for the installation of Keno To Go in the three establishments that sell lottery in Sheffield, seconded by Selectman Collingwood. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hannum noted that the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee met earlier this afternoon. It was decided at that meeting to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that a committee be formed to explore the Community Preservation Act. Selectman Collingwood moved to form a committee to explore the Community Preservation Act, seconded by Selectman Macy. The motion carried unanimously. Anyone interested in serving on the committee should send a letter of interest to the Board.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda LaBombard
Assistant Town Administrator