

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
DECEMBER 7, 2009  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: David D. Macy, Chairman  
Julie M. Hannum, Clerk  
Rene C. Wood

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

Members of the public

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The approval of the minutes for the November 16, 2009 meeting was passed over until the next meeting.

**MARKETPLACE CAFÉ REQUEST FOR EXTENDED HOURS:**

Dan Jimmerson from the Marketplace Café was present to request extended hours for two events. The first event would be on December 11, 2009 from 5 pm to 9 pm. The second event would be on December 17, 2009 and December 18, 2009 from 7 pm to 11 pm. Selectman Wood moved to grant the following extensions to the Marketplace Café: December 11, 2009 to 9 pm and December 17 and 18, 2009 until 11 pm, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

**HOUSATONIC RIVER CHARTER SCHOOL:**

Chairman Macy asked the Board to take a position to support the School Committee in opposing the opening of a charter school in Housatonic. Discussion ensued regarding the charter school and the budget impacts. There is a meeting at the Lenox Community Center on December 8, 2009 for public comment. Selectman Hannum moved to go on record to oppose the charter school, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously. Selectman Hannum moved to have Selectman Wood represent the Board at the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting in Lenox, seconded by Chairman Macy. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPOINTMENTS – HIGHWAY GARAGE DESIGN STUDY COMMITTEE:**

Selectman Hannum moved to appoint Jeffrey Collingwood to the Highway Garage Design Study Committee, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESIGNATION:**

**Commission on Disabilities and Zoning Board of Appeals** – Jack Pollitt submitted his resignation from the Commission on Disabilities and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Selectman

Hannum moved to accept the resignations with regret and send Mr. Pollitt a letter thanking him for his many years of service to the Town, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING:**

Administrator Kellogg requested that the Board schedule a Special Town Meeting on January 11, 2010 at 7 pm for the following three issues:

1. Zoning By-law changes proposed by the Planning Board to allow several uses, not currently allowed in the General Business District and Commercial District by Special Permit from the Planning Board.
2. Easement from the American Legion to allow installation of a septic system for the Senior Center on their property.
3. Home rule petition for Special Legislation to allow Chief McGarry to continue as Police Chief past the age of 65.

Selectman Hannum moved to set a Special Town Meeting for January 11, 2010, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **2010 LICENSES:**

Chairman Macy read the list of licenses renewals for 2010. Selectman Wood moved to approve the renewal requests as read pending no outstanding taxes are owed by the license holder, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **WIND ENERGY SITING REFORM:**

Selectman Wood updated the Board and distributed a draft letter regarding the Wind Energy Siting Reform Legislation. The Board will review the letter and act on it at the next meeting.

#### **TEMPORARY ROADSIDE EVENT SIGN:**

**Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Women's Club** – An application was received for a temporary roadside event sign for an event at Our Lady of the Valley Church on December 5, 2009. Selectman Wood moved to grant the temporary roadside event sign to Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Women's Club and to remind the applicant that approval is required before the event, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **SELECTMEN ITEMS:**

Selectman Hannum stated that the Ashley Falls and Sheffield tree lighting ceremonies were a success and thanked the Highway Department and Kiwanis for the installation of the street light decorations.

Selectman Hannum stated that she has been attending meetings held by the Housatonic Heritage Association and discussed their plans to provide assistance to Towns.

Selectman Hannum stated that the Berkshire Bank Foundation is offering scholarships to non profit organizations and the Sheffield Association has asked for support in obtaining a scholarship.

Selectman Wood stated that the Sheffield Kiwanis is also seeking a scholarship from the Berkshire Bank Foundation.

Selectman Wood attended the senior luncheon held at Mt. Everett High School last week. She congratulated the students for the wonderful job they did.

Selectman Wood stated that she attended the Solid Waste Task Force this afternoon and was asked to discuss an extension for the Task Force with the Board. It was the consensus of the Board to extend the deadline for the final report from the Solid Waste Task Force until January 22, 2010 and that the report format should include all options with an evaluation of each one and one recommendation from the Task Force.

Chairman Macy reminded residents that there is no overnight parking in the Village Green in the winter.

Chairman Macy stated that the Highway Department was out during the last storm because parts of the town needed attention.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:**

Administrator Kellogg said that he is again seeking pictures or paintings for the cover of the annual Town Report. Any resident wishing to have a picture considered should submit it to the Town Administrator's office.

Administrator Kellogg said that the tax rate is usually set by this time of year, but the State is behind in certifying the tax rates, and with the December 31<sup>st</sup> mailing deadline approaching, third quarter preliminary bills will be mailed out instead.

Administrator Kellogg said that he has discussed installation of a street light at the intersection of Route 7 and Sheffield Egremont Road with National Grid, but the exact location for the pole has not been determined.

Administrator Kellogg thanked Tammy Blackwell and Barrett Tree Service for their work stringing lights on the Christmas tree in the Village Green.

Administrator Kellogg noted that the State Primary to fill the vacancy in the U.S. Senate would be held tomorrow, December 8, 2009 from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm and urged voters to get out and vote.

Selectman Hannum moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Macy adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard  
Assistant Town Administrator