

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DECEMBER 20, 2010
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Julie M. Hannum, Chairman
Rene C. Wood, Clerk
David A. Smith, Jr.

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

Members of the public

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Selectman Wood moved to approve minutes from the December 6, 2010 and the December 8, 2010 meetings, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

RACE BROOK LODGE ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE HEARING:

Michael Rothstein, from the Race Brook Lodge, was present to discuss noise complaints received regarding entertainment at the lodge. Mr. Rothstein stated that most of the events are inside at the Events Barn and noted that amplified music stops at 11 pm. Discussion ensued regarding the complaint. Administrator Kellogg will contact the neighbor that complained to further discuss her issues to determine any possible solutions. Thomas Carmody, Building Inspector, appeared and stated that he had received complaints regarding noise at the Race Brook Lodge and noted that the Events Barn does not have an occupancy permit and has never been inspected by him. It was the consensus of the Board to table the discussion and issue a temporary entertainment license until more information could be obtained from the Building Inspector regarding the legal status of the Events Barn.

BIKE TOURING MAP ROUTES:

Allison Lassoe was present to request approval of those bike routes previously proposed for inclusion in the Berkshire Bike Path South County Touring Map. Selectman Wood moved to approve the bike touring routes presented at the December 6, 2010 Selectmen's meeting, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

MIIA INSURANCE:

Administrator Kellogg said that MIIA has offered an insurance renewal proposal for 2012 with a 10% decrease for property/casualty, liability, and workers compensation, and recommended that the Board approve the proposal. Selectman Wood moved to accept the insurance proposal from MIIA for 2012 at a 10% decrease, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

KIWANIS – SENIOR CENTER:

David Smith, Sr. from the Sheffield Kiwanis presented three donations to the Town of Sheffield for the Senior Center Building Fund Donation Account in the following amounts: \$500 regular annual donation from the Kiwanis Club; \$5,000 donation from proceeds of the Harvest Brunch; and \$100 donation from Kiwanis Aktion Club to be used for furnishing the new Senior Center. Chairman Hannum thanked the Sheffield Kiwanis for the donations.

SENIOR CENTER CONSTRUCTION UPDATE:

Administrator Kellogg gave the Board an update on the construction progress of the senior center. Discussion ensued regarding the outdoor lighting and furnishings. He noted that it is hoped construction will be completed by the end of January.

SHEFFIELD WATER COMPANY INFORMATIONAL MEETING:

Chairman Hannum noted that the Board will host a public informational meeting regarding the Sheffield Water Company's petition to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) to exempt their proposed water storage tank project from the Town's zoning bylaws. The meeting will be held on December 29, 2010 at 7 pm in Town Hall. It was noted that the DPU will hold a formal public hearing on the petition on January 5, 2011 at Mount Everett Regional School.

2011 LICENSES:

Chairman Hannum read the attached list of proposed license holders for 2011. Selectman Wood moved to approve all the licenses on the list for 2011, with the exception of the Entertainment License for the Race Brook Lodge, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously. Discussion ensued regarding the Entertainment License for the Race Brook Lodge. Selectman Wood moved to issue a one month Entertainment License to the Race Brook Lodge, which will expire on January 31, 2011, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

TIME WARNER – GO GREEN:

Time Warner has sent a letter requesting that all notices to the Board, as required by the Cable License, be sent electronically in place of paper mail. Selectman Wood moved to approve the request from Time Warner to receive all required notices electronically, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

TRANSFER STATION HOLIDAY OPERATIONS:

Administrator Kellogg recommended closing the Transfer Station on Christmas and New Year's Day. Selectman Smith moved to close the Transfer Station on December 25, 2010 and January 1, 2011, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT – ASSISTANT ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR:

The Board received letters of interest for the Assistant Electrical Inspector position from Ken Kushi, Dale Martin, and Carl VanDeusen. Selectman Smith moved to appoint Carl VanDeusen as Assistant Electrical Inspector for a term to expire on June 30, 2011, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Selectman Wood thanked all the Town employees for their hard work and dedication during the past year.

The Board thanked the Highway Department for the great job they have been doing on keeping roads clear during winter storms.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S ITEMS:

Administrator Kellogg said that the Town Hall will be closed on December 23rd and 24th for the Christmas holiday and December 30th and 31st for the New Year's holiday.

Administrator Kellogg said that he has discussed the proposed winter closing of a section of Lower Barnum Street with the Highway Superintendent and Police Chief who are in agreement with the proposal. He noted that the Fire Chief has provided a conditional approval subject to first driving a fire truck over the alternate route. The road will remain open until a final decision is made.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard
Assistant Town Administrator