

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MARCH 7, 2011
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE
WORKING MEETING
6:00 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

Chairman Hannum called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Discussion ensued regarding the FY2010 audit report, which will be discussed at the March 23rd Finance Committee meeting.

It was noted that the School Committee has voted to amend their vote of January 27, 2011, regarding a capital bond, to include that no debt may occur prior to May 24, 2011. This will allow member towns to place the issue on their Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The Long Range Capital Planning Committee will meet on March 10, 2011 to discuss the proposed capital improvements program to be funded by the bond.

The Board discussed the school budget and the possible need for an override. If an override is necessary the Board would need to vote on the questions at their next meeting.

The Sheffield Friendly Union sent a letter stating that the per diem rate for the rent of Dewey Hall would be \$60. Selectman Wood moved to propose that the Town pay the Sheffield Friendly Union \$850, the monthly rent, or \$60 per day whichever is less at the time that the Senior Center moves out of Dewey Hall, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, March 8th at 10 am at the new Senior Center to discuss fabric for the chairs. Discussion ensued regarding a recognition luncheon and the plaque describing the murals.

Discussion ensued regarding proposed amendments to the Zoning Bylaws. The first amendment would be to clarify language in 5.2 and the second amendment to 9.4.2.1 would allow the Zoning Board of Appeals to use the same decision criteria that is used by the Planning Board. Selectman Wood moved to refer both proposed amendments of the Zoning Bylaws to the Planning Board in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 5 of the General Laws, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously. Administrator Kellogg will work with Selectman Wood to develop the exact wording for a warrant article containing the amendments.

Selectman Wood presented a draft letter regarding the adoption of Municipal Health Insurance Reform that would allow cities and towns the same authority as the State to design health insurance plans outside of collective bargaining. Selectman Wood moved to approve and sign the letter as written, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued regarding Town Counsel, Sally Bell, who is out on medical leave. Her partner, Jeremiah Pollard has been filling in for her in the interim, but is not interested in the same arrangement on a long term basis. Discussion ensued about seeking formal proposals from interested attorneys to fill the position. Administrator Kellogg will develop criteria for evaluation and create a list of attorneys for the Board to interview.

Nora Hayes sent a letter of interest for the position of Animal Control Officer. An advertisement for the position will be posted before a decision is made.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard
Assistant Town Administrator