

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MARCH 23, 2011
FRENCH MEETING ROOM
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
David J. Steindler, Finance Committee Chairman
David D. Macy, Finance Committee
Herb Abelow, SBRSD School Committee Chairman
Stephen Willig, SBRSD School Committee

Chairman Hannum called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

It was noted the Board was meeting at the request of Herb Abelow, Chairman of the SBRSD School Committee regarding their proposed capital improvements bond voted by the School Committee in January. Mr. Abelow said he realized there has been some confusion about their proposed capital plan and offered to attend a meeting of Selectmen from the five member towns to talk about the matter. Discussion ensued and Board members expressed concern about the manner the bond was being presented and how the proceeds from the bond will be used. A specific concern was stated regarding the large number of technology items such as televisions and computers that would be purchased with long term financing. It was noted that these items would likely be obsolete and/or dysfunctional by the time the bond would be paid off in 12-15 years.

Chairman Hannum suggested the School Committee work with the Long Range Capital Planning Committee to break out those items which were more appropriate for long term financing and those that should be purchased outright. When Mr. Abelow responded that an outright purchase of needed technology items could not fit within a reasonable annual budget, Board members suggested that they be funded with one time capital exclusions in order that interest expenses not be accrued. That way, voters would have an opportunity on an annual basis to determine if they were in support of the specific purchases. The bond could then be presented as funding only those long term improvements which had a 20 year or more economic life.

Messrs. Abelow and Willig agreed to bring the suggestions to the School Committee and to meet with the Long Range Capital Planning Committee to create the short term and long term plans. The Board agreed to host a five town Board of Selectmen meeting in April at which these plans could be presented to receive input and hopefully support for the proposal.

In other business, Administrator Kellogg requested that the Board approve a change order to the contract with Salco Construction for the new Senior Center. The change involves changing the ceiling in the Great Room and Lounge from acoustical tile to drywall and installation of a motorized damper in the elevator shaft for a total increase of \$3,434.31. Selectman Wood moved to approve Change Order #6 to the contract with Salco Construction in the amount of \$3,434.31, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Joseph A. Kellogg
Town Administrator