

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
APRIL 19, 2011
CARLTON FRENCH MEETING ROOM
WORKING MEETING
6:30 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 6:30 pm.

Discussion ensued regarding the 2011 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. It was noted that Special Town Counsel, Kopelman and Paige, has reviewed the Warrant. Discussion ensued. Selectman Wood moved to approve the Warrant containing 32 articles, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood moved to appoint Claudia Martin to the Commission on Disabilities for a term to expire June 30, 2012, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Four letters of interest were received for the position of Animal Control Officer. Administrator Kellogg noted Martin Clark's extensive experience and recommended that he be appointed to the position for a term to expire June 30, 2012. Selectman Wood moved to appoint Martin Clark as Animal Control Officer for a term to expire on June 30, 2012, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed detour route for the Great Barrington 250th Celebration Parade on July 10, 2011, which will route traffic through Sheffield. Chief McGarry has reviewed and approved the proposed route. Selectman Smith moved to approve the detour route for the parade, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood moved to purchase a half page sponsor ad in the Great Barrington 250th Celebration booklet, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

A hearing was opened at 7:00 pm on the petition of Verizon for a Utility Pole Location. Albert Bessette, Jr. from Verizon was present. Administrator Kellogg said that a second application has been received from Verizon for two additional poles at the same location. Mr. Bessette responded that information on the two additional poles was not known at the time he processed the first application. (Selectman Smith left the meeting at this point, 7:05 pm) He advised that

all three poles were needed for their customer's project and approval of just one location would not allow them to proceed. Administrator Kellogg noted his concerns with a number of double pole locations, specifically on Cook Road, and asked Mr. Bessette to look into a proposed schedule for their removal. Selectman Wood moved to continue the hearing until April 25, 2011 at 6:30 at which time both applications will be discussed, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried 2-0.

Administrator Kellogg distributed a revised FY2012 budget which will be discussed at the Finance Committee meeting later this evening. He noted two changes in the budget involving a decrease in the expected revenue shortfall due to an increase in Chapter 70 local aid and a decrease in the amount of Free Cash needed as a result of the Assessors approving a release of Overlay Surplus in the amount of \$65,000. These changes reduce the proposed tax rate from \$13.06 to \$13.04.

Chairman Hannum said that a request has been made by the Sheffield Tree Project to plant a Sycamore tree at the Covered Bridge Park in memory of Anna James. Selectman Wood moved to approve of the planting of a tree in memory of Anna James at the Covered Bridge Park, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried 2-0.

Chairman Hannum said that a five town meeting will be held at the Senior Center on April 20th at 5:30. The purpose of the meeting will be for the Boards of Selectmen of the five member towns of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District and the School Committee to discuss the proposed capital bond

It was the consensus of the Board to hold the Annual Financial Information Session at their next meeting on April 25, 2011 at 6 pm in the Town Hall.

James Kelley was present to ask for the Board's support of the proposed Farmer's Market location change. The change will be discussed at the next meeting on April 25th.

Jared Clayton was present to inquire if there was an update regarding his issue with property along Clayton Road. Administrator Kellogg will contact Mr. Clayton for a site visit.

David West was present with questions about the proposed zoning amendments on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant which were answered by Administrator Kellogg. Mr. West also requested that the format of the Zoning Bylaws be changed to eliminate the intentional blank pages.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard
Assistant Town Administrator