

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MAY 16, 2011  
CARLTON FRENCH MEETING ROOM  
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Rene C. Wood, Chairman  
Julie M. Hannum, 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.

**BOARD REORGANIZATION:**

Chairman Hannum thanked the voters for their support of her candidacy at the recent election and noted that the Board needed to reorganize. Selectman Smith moved to nominate Selectman Wood to serve as Chairman, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously. Selectman Smith moved to nominate Selectman Hannum to serve as Clerk, seconded by Chairman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Selectman Hannum moved to approve the minutes from the March 21, 2011, April 25, 2011, May 2, 2011 and May 9, 2011 meetings, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**FARMER'S MARKET:**

Representatives of the Farmers Market and Agricultural Commission were present to discuss their request to close a portion of the Village Green this summer. Discussion ensued regarding the site visit made last week with Chief McGarry and the Agricultural Commission. It was noted that Chief McGarry has listed several public safety requirements should the Village Green be closed. Two plans have been submitted for review. The Market will open on May 27<sup>th</sup>. The Board suggested a site visit on May 23, 2011 at 4:30 after which the location discussion will continue at the Board's working meeting at 5:00 pm.

**PRIVATE USE OF SENIOR CENTER:**

Members of the Red Hat Society were present to discuss their request to meet at the Senior Center once a month. Administrator Kellogg said that the Board had several requests to use the building from different private organizations and the decision had been made to wait one year before allowing groups to use the building. The reason for the wait is to make sure that all aspects of the building are operating correctly. It was the consensus of the Board to set a policy for the use of the building before giving permission for any group to use it.

**RESIGNATION – PLANNING BOARD:**

The Board reviewed a letter from Chris Tomich, submitting his resignation from the Planning Board. Discussion ensued regarding the process of appointing a member to fill the vacancy. The opening will be posted and the Board will meet with the Planning Board to jointly make an appointment as provided in Chapter 41, Section 11 of the General Laws. Mr. Tomich indicated in his letter his desire to be considered for appointment as Alternate Member for the Planning Board. Selectman Hannum moved to accept the letter of resignation from Chris Tomich from the Planning Board and to send him a letter of thanks for his service, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT – RIVER PARKS COMMITTEE:**

A River Park Task Force is being formed for the Covered Bridge Park to make recommendations on how this and other similar parks should be developed, maintained and used. Chairman Wood noted that several persons have submitted applications for membership on the Task Force and announced their names, including: Sari Hoy, Neal Chamberlain and Dana Cummings. Action on the appointments will take place at the next meeting.

**ONE DAY BEER AND WINE LICENSE:**

Susan Rathbun has applied for a one day Beer and Wine License at the Town Park for June 25, 2011. Selectman Hannum moved to approve a one day Beer and Wine License to Susan Rathbun for an event at the Town Park on June 25th, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**RATIFICATION OF MODERATOR APPOINTMENT TO FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Moderator Bruce Person sent a letter of his appointment of David J. Steindler to the Finance Committee. Selectman Hannum moved to ratify Moderator Person's appointment of David J. Steindler to the Finance Committee, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried 2-1 (Chairman Wood opposed).

**TEMPORARY ROADSIDE EVENT SIGNS:**

**Housatonic Valley Art League:** An application has been received from the Housatonic Valley Art League for a temporary roadside event sign on the Village Green in front of Dewey Hall. The sign would remain in the Green continuously for the summer. Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the Board to continue this discussion at a future meeting.

**Berkshire Choral Festival:** An application has been received from the Berkshire Choral Festival for a temporary roadside event sign on the triangle of Route 7 and Berkshire School Road. The directional sign would be erected on each Saturday morning and removed each Sunday morning beginning July 16<sup>th</sup> for four weeks. Selectman Smith moved to grant the Temporary Roadside Event Sign to the Berkshire Choral Festival, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

**COA DONATION FUND:**

Administrator Kellogg explained the need to set up an account to handle non specific use donations to the Council on Aging. Selectman Hannum moved to establish a donation account for donations to the Council on Aging for any general use, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

**SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:**

Selectman Hannum said that the River Park Celebration was a great success.

Selectman Smith thanked Selectman Hannum for the great job she did as Chairman of the Board.

Chairman Wood stated that the Massachusetts Broadband Institute has sent a list of anchor points and that a request will be made to add the Senior Center to the list.

Chairman Wood said that she attended the all day session regarding the EPA river clean up and is impressed with the commitment to complete the clean up.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

John Arthur Miller, Senior Center Director, was present to remind everyone that there would be a luncheon for volunteers, catered by PJ's on Thursday at noon at the Senior Center. The cost of the luncheon is \$6.00.

Priscilla Cote, Chairman of the Board of Health, was present to discuss an Emergency Dispensing Site (EDS) grant from the Berkshire County Boards of Health Association. The amount of the grant is \$2,500

and could be spent on items for the Board of Health and Police Department to assist in the operations of an EDS. Selectman Hannum moved to support the application for the EDS grant from the Berkshire County Board of Health in cooperation with Administrator Kellogg and Chief McGarry and to authorize the submission of the application, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

David West expressed his concerns with the Town Meeting procedures regarding Articles 31 and 32.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Grace Campbell has requested approval of the planting of a Dogwood Tree by the Sheffield Water Company at the Senior Center in memory of Edith French. The dedication ceremony will take place at the Open House for the Senior Center, which will be held on June 11, 2011 from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Selectman Hannum moved to approve the planting of a Dogwood tree in memory of Edith French, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Kellogg said that the SBRSD School Committee voted on Thursday to certify the same FY12 budget as was previously presented, which requires the Town to hold a Special Town Meeting and he recommended that the meeting be held on June 20, 2011. Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize Administrator Kellogg to contact the Town of New Marlborough to set up a meeting with their Board of Selectmen to discuss the school budget. Selectman Hannum moved to tentatively set a Special Town Meeting for June 20, 2011 at 7:00 pm, seconded by Selectman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Hannum moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining and not return to Open Session, seconded by Selectman Smith. The roll call vote was as follows:

Chairman Wood – Aye

Selectman Hannum – Aye

Selectman Smith – Aye

Executive Session began at 8:45 pm.

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

Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda LaBombard  
Assistant Town Administrator