

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 20, 2013
TOWN HALL
7:00 PM**

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

Others Present: Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator
Alicia Powers, Assistant to Town Administrator
Karen Lindquist, Library Director

Members of the public

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

Selectman Hannum stated that she would like to thank David Smith Jr. for his generosity and service to the Town.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Selectman Wood moved to approve the minutes from April 10, 2013, April 17, 2013, April 22, 2013, and April 25, 2013 seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously

PLAQUE PRESENTATION – RICHARD BOARDMAN:

Selectman Hannum presented Richard Boardman with a plaque and thanked him for his more than 40 years of service to the Town. Mr. Boardman stated that he enjoyed his years as Animal Inspector and really enjoyed getting to know the residents of Sheffield.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR KAREN LINDQUIST:

Selectman Hannum welcomed and introduced the new Library Director Karen Lindquist. Ms. Lindquist stated that she looks forward to working for the Town of Sheffield.

BERKSHIRE CYCLING CLASSIC:

Administrator LaBombard stated that the Berkshire Cycling Classic has requested permission for a ride to be held on June 9, 2013 to pass through Sheffield on County Road, Maple Avenue and South Main Street. Selectman Wood moved to approve the Berkshire Cycling Classic request for permission to pass through Sheffield on County Road, Maple Avenue and South Main Street on June 9, 2013 and authorize the Town Administrator to draft a letter and sign it on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

TIFF AGREEMENT FOR BERKSHIRE DISTILLERS:

Administrator LaBombard stated that Berkshire Mountain Distillers has submitted an application for a Tax Increment Financing Agreement (TIFF). The application has to also be approved by the Massachusetts Office of Business Development, which meets in June and September. Mr. Weld's application will not be ready for the June meeting. Discussion ensued. Selectman Wood moved to

approve the Tax Increment Financing Agreement for Berkshire Mountain Distillers as presented, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

TEMPORARY ROADSIDE EVENT SIGNS:

Barry Emberlin from the Sheffield Friendly Union was present to request permission for a Temporary Roadside Event Sign for the 1890 flag viewing to be held at Dewey Hall on May 27, 2013. The sign will be erected on the Village Green on May 20, 2013 and will be removed on May 27, 2013. Selectman Wood moved to approve the Temporary Roadside Event Sign for the 1890 flag viewing to be held on May 27, 2013, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

The Housatonic Valley Art League has submitted an application for a Temporary Roadside Event Sign for an Art Show to be held at Dewey Hall from July 5, 2013 through August 28, 2013. The sign will be erected on the Village Green on July 5, 2013 and will be removed on August 28, 2013. Selectman Wood moved to approve the Temporary Roadside Event Sign for the Housatonic Valley Art League Art Show to be held from July 5, 2013 through August 28, 2013, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PLAN:

Administrator LaBombard stated that she would like to table the agreement but the letter to release usage is ready to be signed. Selectman Wood move to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the letter to release the usage, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

SHEFFIELD FARMERS MARKET – SIGNS, LINK ON TOWN WEBSITE:

Amelia Wolfe from the Sheffield Farmer’s Market has requested permission to leave two of the Farmer’s Market signs up for the duration of the Farmer’s Markets. The two signs will be located at each end of the Village Green. Selectman Wood moved to approve the Sheffield Farmer’s Market request to leave two signs up for the duration of the Farmers Markets with the understanding that the Selectmen can review and revisit this issue pending feedback, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

Amelia Wolfe from the Sheffield Farmer’s market has also requested that the Sheffield Farmer’s Market link be added to the Town’s website. Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the Board to not add the Sheffield Farmer’s Market link onto the Town’s website.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY LAW ENFORCMENT COUNCIL MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT:

Administrator Labombard stated that this was an agreement between 15 towns and that Interim Police Chief Munson has approved this agreement. Selectman Wood moved to approve the Berkshire County Law Enforcement Council Mutual Aid Agreement as presented and authorize the Town Administrator to sign the agreement, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

TIME WARNER CABLE CONTRACT:

Selectman Wood stated that the Time Warner Cable Contract is finished and it has been reviewed by Town Counsel. Selectman Wood moved to approve the Time Warner Cable Contract as presented and allow new Selectman Edwin Dobson to concur or abstain, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

RESIGNATION – FIVE TOWN CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Selectman Hannum stated that Selectman Wood has submitted a letter of resignation from the Five Town Cable Advisory Committee. Selectman Hannum moved to accept Selectman Wood’s resignation from the Five Town Cable Advisory committee and thanked her for her hard work, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously. Administrator LaBombard stated that there are still vacancies on the Five Town Cable Advisory Committee.

RECYCLING HAULING CONTRACT:

Administrator LaBombard stated that a proposal has been received from JTC & Sons Inc. for the recycling hauling contract. She stated that the proposal is for an increase of \$13.80 per haul. JTC is also requesting a clause be added to the contract that states if gas prices reach \$4.99 per gallon the contract may be reopened to discuss hauling costs. Administrator LaBombard recommended giving JTC & Sons Inc. the increase as requested. Selectman Hannum stated that she thinks this is a very reasonable request. Selectman Wood stated that she would like to know what surrounding towns are paying for their recycling hauling. The contract was tabled until some research is done to find out what surrounding towns are paying.

CURB CUT:

Selectman Wood moved to approve the curb cut application submitted by Kay Lindsay for 674 Rannapo, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

REST OF RIVER UPDATE:

Selectman Wood stated that the six rest of river communities have selected an attorney to enter into negotiations with GE. She stated that the six communities are still concerned about the DEP proposed amendments to the wetland and waterway regulations. Selectman Hannum thanked Selectman Wood and stated that she appreciates the time that Selectman Wood spends working on this issue.

SHEFFIELD BUSINESS PARK RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL:

Administrator LaBombard stated that Town Counsel would like to know if the Selectmen want to sign off on the right of first refusal for the Sheffield Business Park property or purchase the property. Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the Board that that an updated appraisal be obtained for the property, that Administrator LaBombard find out what the time frame is for a decision to be made and find out what steps would need to be taken in order for the Town to purchase the property.

LEGAL COUNSEL FOR FY2014:

Administrator LaBombard stated that the Town Counsel and Special Town Counsel appointments expire on June 30, 2013. Selectman Wood moved to send a letter seeking interest for Town Counsel for Fiscal Year 2014 to Kopelman and Paige and to D.M. Moschos for Special Town Counsel and to retain Brackett & Lucas for the Hanlon ZBA appeal in FY2014, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Selectman Wood thanked David Smith Jr. for his hard work and services on the Board of Selectmen.

Selectman Wood stated that the School on Parade was a great event and it will be held annually.

Selectman Wood invited residents to come to one or both of the Memorial Day Parades. She stated that the Ashley Falls Parade starts at 8:00 AM and the Sheffield Parade starts at 11:00 AM.

Selectman Hannum stated that she would also like to thank David Smith Jr. for his hard work and service to the Town.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David West stated that he thinks that the way that public hearings are posted on the Town Website can be confusing and misleading. Administrator LaBombard stated that she would look into this issue.

Susan Butler submitted and read a letter to the Board of Selectmen regarding an ongoing issue that she is having with her neighbor Michael Harvey. She then requested to be but on the agenda for the Board of

Selectmen meeting on June 3, 2013. Selectman Hannum stated that someone would be in touch with her when this issue is put on an upcoming agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Administrator LaBombard stated that Claudia Martin has submitted a letter of resignation from the Commission on Disabilities. Selectman Wood moved to accept the resignation and to send a letter of thanks to Ms. Martin, seconded by Selectman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator LaBombard read the following list of vacancies for FY 2014:

Agricultural Commission	4 vacancies
Agricultural Commission, Alternate	2 vacancies
Animal Control Officer	1 vacancy
Ashley Falls Historic District Comm.	4 vacancies
Board of Assessors	2 vacancies
BRPC Delegate, Alternate	1 vacancy
Board of Health	3 vacancies
Board of Registrars	1 vacancy
Conservation Commission	1 vacancy
Constable	2 vacancies
Council on Aging	4 vacancies
Cultural Council	3 vacancies
Commission on Disabilities	4 vacancies
Electrical Inspector	1 vacancy
Asst. Electrical Inspector	1 vacancy
Emergency Management Coordinator	1 vacancy
5 Town Cable Advisory	2 vacancies
Gas & Piping Inspector	1 vacancy
Asst. Gas & Piping Inspector	1 vacancy
Health Inspector	1 vacancy
Historical Commission	3 vacancies
Housing Commission, Alternate	1 vacancy
Local Emergency Planning Comm.	6 vacancies
Park and Recreation Committee	6 vacancies
Parking Clerk	1 vacancy
Planning Board Assoc. Member	1 vacancy
Plumbing Inspector	1 vacancy
Asst. Plumbing Inspector	1 vacancy
Police Officer-Reserve/Interm.	4 vacancies
Public Weigher	4 vacancies
Recycling Coordinator	1 vacancy
Senior Center Director	1 vacancy
S. Berk. Dist. Veterans Delegate	1 vacancy
Town Counsel	1 vacancy
Town Counsel-Special	1 vacancy
Tree Warden	1 vacancy
Veteran's Agent	1 vacancy
Veteran's Grave Officer	1 vacancy
Zoning Board of Appeals	2 vacancies
Zoning Board of Appeals, Alter.	1 vacancy

Administrator LaBombard stated that appointments would be discussed at the June 17, 2013 Board of Selectmen meeting.

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

Selectman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Alicia Powers
Assistant to Town Administrator