

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JULY 22, 2013
TOWN HALL
7:00 PM**

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

Others Present: Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator
Alicia Dulin, Assistant to Town Administrator

Members of the public

Chairman Hannum called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Selectman Wood moved to approve the minutes from June 24, 2013 and July 9, 2013 meetings, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY:

Patricia Mullins from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission was present to request that the Board of Selectmen appoint a Community Development Strategy Committee to write a Community Development Strategy which would be a seven page document that will prioritize the Town's goals and objectives for future development. She explained that it would consist of about four 1 ½ hour sessions. She stated that a public session will be held, which would introduce the process to the community and gather public input. Discussion ensued regarding having one member from the Board of Selectmen, Housing Commission, Planning Board, Finance Committee, Council on Aging and Highway Department to serve on this committee and then seek interest from any residents that might like to serve. A public session will be held on August 20, 2013 or August 21, 2013.

Selectman Dobson arrived at 7:15 PM

FY 2014 APPOINTMENTS:

Selectman Wood moved to appoint the following

Michael Ovitt to a three year term on the Park and Recreation Committee

Annie Ryder to a three year term on the Council on Aging

Peter Stiglin to a three year term on the Conservation Commission, seconded by Selectman Dobson.

The motion carried unanimously.

ONE DAY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE:

Passed over because no applications were received.

SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LIASON:

Chairman Hannum stated that she can no longer serve as a liaison to the Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce and asked the other Board members if they had any interest in this. Both Selectman Wood and Dobson stated that they were not interested at this time. Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the Board that Administrator LaBombard would serve as the liaison for the Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce.

RANNAPO ROAD UPDATE:

Administrator LaBombard stated that the estimated engineering costs for the repair of Rannapo Road is \$36,500 and the total project cost should be coming soon. Administrator LaBombard stated that she would continue to give updates as she gets them.

LITIGATION UPDATE:

Chairman Hannum read into record a letter from Kopelman and Paige regarding the role of the multiple Town parties named as defendants in the complaint that has been filed. Chairman Hannum also stated that Selectman Wood has written a letter to the Attorney General regarding the Anti-SLAPP support which has been signed by the Board and mailed.

SELECTMEN’S ITEMS:

Selectman Wood stated that she would like to thank Tomich Landscaping for cleaning up the Town Parking area.

Chairman Hannum stated that she would like to remind residents of the new Board of Selectmen meeting schedule which is the 1st, 3rd and 4th Monday of every month at 7:00 PM

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS:

Administrator LaBombard reminded residents that they can call Mosquito Control at (413) 447-9808 if they would like to have their property sprayed for mosquitoes.

Administrator LaBombard stated that the new flag pole at the Town Park is up. She thanked Jim Collingwood Jr., Greg Marlowe from Century Acquisitions, the Highway Department and the Police Department for their help with it.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Peter Cherneff asked if anyone had talked to the owner of the property that abuts Rannapo Road about the possibility of selling some of his property and moving Rannapo road over instead of repairing it.

David West read a letter to the Board of Selectmen regarding his concerns about the Town contesting the appeal that has been filed. Chairman Hannum stated that they would take Mr. West’s letter under advisement.

Susan Butler read a portion of her letter regarding the Harvey property. She will read the remainder of the letter at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chris Weld, Owner of Berkshire Mountain Distillers, was present to request a Tax Increment Financing Agreement (TIF) from the Board of Selectmen for property located at 354 South Main Street. It was the consensus of the Board to approve his request pending the outcome of a Special Town Meeting. He explained relocating and expanding Berkshire Mountain Distillers to this property.

Selectmen Wood moved to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation strategy concerning Primax Properties and to not return to Open Session, seconded by Selectmen Dobson. The motion carried as follows:

Chairman Hannum-Aye

Selectmen Wood-Aye

Selectmen Dobson-Aye

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

Selectman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Alicia Dulin
Assistant to Town Administrator

Documents reviewed at this meeting:

Letter from Patricia Mullins, BRPC
List of Appointments
Letter from Kopelman and Paige
Letter from David West