

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
AUGUST 19, 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 7:00 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

Selectman Wood moved to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2013 meeting, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE SBRSD SUPERINTENDENT:**

Chairman Hannum introduced and welcomed David Hastings the new superintendent for Southern Berkshire Regional School District. Mr. Hastings thanked Chairman Hannum and stated that he is very excited to be here and looks forward to working with the great staff and students. He also distributed the Audit Report to the Board.

**SOUTH COUNTY ASSIST – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:**

Administrator LaBombard explained that Community Health Program is looking for a new signed agreement for calendar year 2014 for the South County Resource List which is posted on the Town's Website and in the Town Clerk's Office. The list is available to help local residents find human services. Selectman Wood moved to endorse the memo of understanding as presented and authorize the Town Administrator to sign, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

**UPDATE ON ROUTE 7 CROSSWALKS:**

Administrator LaBombard stated that she has spoken to MassDOT and they need a final decision on which crosswalk on Route 7 will be eliminated sooner than originally planned because work will be moving forward sooner than first anticipated. Selectman Wood stated that the Selectmen need to meet with MassDOT because there are still some questions that the Selectmen need answered and a meeting with MassDOT will also give the Selectmen a chance to explain what they would like done. Laura Grunfeld from the Commission on Disabilities thanked the Board for moving forward with this and stated that the crosswalk situation is very complicated and asked the Board to call Chris Beck from the Massachusetts Office on Disability to come and look at the crosswalks and offer his advice.

**ONE DAY ALCOHOL LICENSE:**

Bill Heaton, owner of Black Sheep Brewing Company was present to request a one day beer and wine license for the Uke and Brew event to be held on September 21, 2013 at the Town Park. Chairman Hannum asked Mr. Heaton what the hours would be, Mr. Heaton replied that the event would take place from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM Selectman Wood moved to grant the one day beer and wine license to Black

Sheep Brewing Company for the Uke and Brew Event to be held on September 21, 2013 at the Town Park, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

**TEMPORARY ROADSIDE EVENT SIGN PERMIT:**

Tabled because application was never received.

**2014 APPOINTMENTS:**

Chairman Hannum stated that the Board of Health has recommended Richard Kirchner and Scott Smith as Sanitation Inspectors for a term to expire on June 30, 2014. Selectman Wood moved to appoint Richard Kirchner and Scott Smith as Sanitation Inspectors for a term to expire on June 30, 2014, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood moved to appoint Carol Sica to the Council on Aging for a term to expire on June 30, 2016, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

**INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT – REST OF RIVER:**

Selectman Wood explained the intermunicipal agreement that spells out a framework of how the six Rest of River communities will work together. She stated that if a town does not feel comfortable with the percentage that they will contribute it can be presented to the Committee and as long as another community is willing to pick up the extra percentage the town will not have to contribute as much as the other communities. Selectman Wood also stated that if a settlement is received it will be shared proportionally between the six communities and each municipality would receive a minimum of 5%. All of the communities that use Kopelman and Paige will do a joint cost share to have the agreement reviewed.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY UPDATE:**

Selectman Wood stated that there has been a change in date for the public session, it will now be held on September 9, 2013 at 7:00 PM. She stated that the Community Development Strategy Public Session will introduce the process to the Community and gather public input. She also stated that if anyone is interested in volunteering for this Committee they should contact the Town Administrator.

**POLICY FOR ACCESS TO LEGAL COUNSEL:**

Selectman Wood explained the draft policy for access to legal counsel. Selectman Wood moved to adopt the policy as presented. Bernard Berkholtz asked if the Selectmen would make the policy available for residents to view before voting on it. Selectman Wood withdrew her motion. Chairman Hannum stated that the draft Policy for Access to Legal Counsel will be made available for residents to view on the Town Website and in the Town Administrator's Office and will be voted on at the next meeting.

**ANNUAL MUMBET WALK TO FREEDOM:**

Ann-Elizabeth Barnes has submitted a request for support for the proposed route for the Elizabeth Freeman Center's Annual "Mumbet Walk to Freedom" to be held on August 24, 2013. Chairman Hannum asked if the Police Department has been notified of the route. Administrator LaBombard stated that the Police Department has been notified Selectman Wood moved to approve the request as presented, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

**SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:**

Selectman Wood stated that the new website has gone live and it looks very nice and she still hopes that at some point all of the meeting agendas will be able to be posted on the Town Website. Administrator LaBombard stated that she will look into posting agendas and stated that any minutes that have been submitted will also be on the website.

Selectman Dobson stated that one of his neighbors came to him with concerns regarding the street lights on Main Street being too bright. Selectman Dobson stated that he would like to know who made the decision to put up these street lights and why. Chairman Hannum stated that it was part of the MassDOT construction redesign and that lighting is needed there for safety reasons. Selectman Wood asked if maybe we could look into getting some softer bulbs for those lights.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS:**

Administrator LaBombard stated that a check in the amount of \$1,967.55 was received from the Springfield MRF for our recycling.

Administrator LaBombard reminded residents that they need a FY 2014 Transfer Station Sticker for access to the station.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Bernard Berkholtz stated that he would like the Board of Selectmen to think about the impact that traveling out of Sheffield to go to a grocery store has on people with limited means.

David West presented a portion of a petition to the Board of Selectmen with signatures of residents who object to the legal expenses to defend the Primax Properties appeal. He also stated that he has still not seen the 900 signature petition and asked that it be presented.

Susan Butler stated her dissatisfaction with the lack of response from the Building Inspector regarding the Harvey case. She also thanked the Selectmen for the update on the Hanlon case and presented the Selectmen and Town Administrator with a letter.

Bernard Berkholtz stated that if people in Sheffield don't want a Dollar General store in Sheffield that perhaps those who don't want it should put up the money for the legal fees themselves.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

The Berkshire Community Radio Alliance submitted an application for a one day beer and wine license for a fundraising film screening event to be held on August 31, 2013 at Dewey Hall. Selectman Wood moved to grant the one day beer and wine license to the Berkshire Community Radio Alliance for the fundraising film screening event to be held on August 31, 2013 at Dewey Hall pending receipt of the liquor liability insurance certificate, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously

Administrator LaBombard stated that Borestone LLC/Four Corners LLC has agreed to split the profit 50/50 with the Town from the sale of the lot in the Sheffield Business Park. All Improvement costs will be deducted before the proceeds are split. Administrator LaBombard recommended approving the agreement. Selectman Dobson moved to approve the agreement pending comments from the Board, seconded by Selectman Wood. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Chairman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Alicia Dulin  
Assistant to Town Administrator

Documents reviewed at this meeting:

South County Assist Memorandum of Understanding  
One Day Alcohol Permit Application – Black Sheep Brewing  
Letter of Recommendation of Sanitation Inspectors form the Board of Health  
Intermunicipal Agreement  
Community Development Strategy Public Workshop Agenda  
Draft Policy for Access to Legal Counsel  
Mumbet Walk to Freedom Request  
One Day Alcohol Permit Application – Berkshire Community Radio Alliance