

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WORKING SESSION
APRIL 21, 2015
TOWN HALL
4:30 PM**

Board Members Present: David A. Smith, Jr., Chairman
Nadine A. Hawver, Clerk
Rene C. Wood

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

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

Selectman Wood asked about the status of progress in the Treasure/Collector Office. Administrator LaBombard gave an update. Discussion ensued regarding payroll, the Department of Revenue report, Accountant responsibilities, tax title and software.

Administrator LaBombard discussed the reasons why the tax rate is going up in FY16 when the budget is down from last year. The main reason for the increase is the change in property values.

Discussion ensued regarding the current group health insurance options. Selectman Wood stated that she would like to research other health insurance options. It was the consensus of the Board that Selectman Wood contact Berkshire Health Group and Berkshire Insurance Group for further information.

Administrator LaBombard asked the Board what recommendation they would like to make on the citizens petition for an elected Finance Committee. Selectman Hawver stated that she cannot support this article because she is uncomfortable with the thought of five new Finance Committee members that may not have any financial background or understanding of municipal finance. Chairman Smith stated that he does not think that going back to an elected Finance Committee is the way to go. He stated that he would be able to support the Finance Committee being appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Smith also stated that it is already hard to find people to run for the positions that are currently elected. Selectman Wood stated that if this article passes and no one runs for the Finance Committee the Board of Selectmen is the default appointing authority. Selectman Hawver moved to not support the citizens petition for an elected Finance Committee, seconded by Chairman Smith. The motion carried 2-1. Selectman Wood was opposed.

Discussion ensued regarding purchasing cameras for the police cruisers. Selectman Wood moved to support buying cameras for all of the police cruisers and if it cannot be paid for out of the budget authorize the use of the Berkshire School Gift Account, seconded by Selectman Hawver. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the upcoming Annual Town Meeting warrant informational meeting that will be held on April 27, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

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

Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:37 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Alicia Dulin
Assistant to Town Administrator

No Documents were reviewed at this meeting.