

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WORKING SESSION
APRIL 27, 2015
TOWN HALL
7:00 PM**

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

Board Members Absent: Nadine A. Hawver, Clerk

Others Present: Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator
Alicia Dulin, Assistant to the Town Administrator
James Collingwood Jr., Planning Board Chairman

Members of the public

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF ONE DAY ALCOHOL LICENSE:

Administrator LaBombard informed the Board that they received a one day alcoholic beverage license application from Nina Pixley for a birthday party to be held at the Town Park on May 9, 2015. Selectman Wood moved to approve the one day alcoholic beverage licenses for Nina Pixley as presented, seconded by Chairman Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF POLL WORKERS:

Chairman Smith stated that the Town Clerk has submitted a list of poll workers to be appointed for the May 11, 2015 Annual Election. Selectman Wood moved to appoint the people on the list as presented for the May 11, 2015 Annual Election, seconded by Chairman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood stated that she has drafted a letter to State Representative Pignatelli regarding the FY16 budget. Discussion ensued. Selectman Wood moved to approve the letter to Representative Pignatelli pending any changes from Chairman Smith and Selectman Hawver, seconded by Chairman Smith. The motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION SESSION ON ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:

Chairman Smith opened the information session and stated that the purpose was for residents to ask questions on any of the warrant articles.

Thomas Marshall thanked the Board for drawing the line on the school budget and not supporting it and asked the Board if it would be too late to make changes to the school budget. Chairman Smith stated that it would be too late to make changes to the budget. Selectman Wood explained that much of the school budget increase is due to salary and insurance increases. She stated that she wanted to send a message to the School Committee to look at these during contract negotiations because she is very concerned about setting the tone for the next few years.

Bruce Person asked the Board to bring him up to speed on where New Marlborough stands regarding the school budget. Selectman Wood stated that she has spoken to two New Marlborough selectmen and they have not changed their opinion.

Catherine Miller asked the Board what the total for the Town operating budget is and what the difference is between last year and this year. Administrator LaBombard stated that the Town operating budget is \$2,985,022 which is an increase of \$108,000 from last year.

Dennis Sears asked what the legal definition of proposed is in relation to Article 7. James Collingwood Jr., Chairman of the Planning Board stated proposed means when the application has been filed with the Building Inspector. Discussion ensued. Mr. Sears stated that he is concerned that the word proposed may be open to interpretation.

Dennis Sears asked if public hearings were held on Articles 9 and 10. Administrator LaBombard stated that Article 9 is a general bylaw change and does not require a public hearing and would require a majority vote at the Annual Town Meeting. She stated that the Planning Board held a public hearing on Article 10 because it is a zoning bylaw and it will require a 2/3 majority vote at the Annual Town Meeting.

Dennis Sears stated that he finds it disturbing that because of the way Article 9 is worded a resident could have a big parcel of land but not even be able to sight in their gun because they can't be 500 feet away from their own house.

Catherine Miller asked if Articles 26 and 27 were two different agreements. Administrator LaBombard explained that the agreements were for two separate properties.

Thomas Marshall asked the Board where they stand on Article 8. Chairman Smith stated that the Board is in support of Article 8.

Joseph Ruggiero asked if Article 7 is trying to promote solar arrays. Planning Board Chairman James Collinwood Jr. stated that they are trying to promote and regulate solar arrays. Mr. Ruggiero stated that Planning Board might want to rethink using the words dense vegetation. He stated that this may deter some people.

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

Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:42 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Alicia Dulin
Assistant to Town Administrator

Documents reviewed at this meeting:
One Day Alcohol License Application
List of Poll Workers to be Appointed
Annual Town Meeting Warrant