



**Town of Sherman  
Board of Selectman  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
December 15, 2016  
7:00 p.m.  
Mallory Town Hall**

**DRAFT**

**Members Present:** First Selectman C. Cope, Selectman B. Ostrosky and Selectman D. Lowe

**Members Absent:** None

**Audience and Invited:** E. Holub, M. Cohen, F. Fratini, A. Mace, G. Linkletter, J. Wrenn, K. Fazzino, S. Greenbaum, T. Zinn, D. Kristy, M. Viola, P. Shaer, G. Maletz, and S. Maletz

**Video Taping:** N. Mastrocinque and A. Mace

**Call to Order:** First Selectman C. Cope Called the Meeting to Order at 7:01 pm

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to re-order the Agenda to move Administrative Items F, Volunteer Recognition and Item H Appointment of Douglas Cushnie as delegate to the Candlewood Lake Authority and under Information & Discussion Items, Item A. Progress Report on Town projects, item a. Water Issue regarding elevated sodium content to be heard in that order first.

Seconded by: D. Lowe

Vote: For: Unanimous

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS I:**

**Volunteer Recognition:**

First Selectman Cope presented certificates of special recognition to the following Commissioners, Board Members and volunteers for serving the community of Sherman:

Thomas Zinn was recognized for serving on the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Art Van Plachecki was recognized for serving on the Housing Commission.

Tony Gwyther was recognized for serving on the Conservation Commission.

Alice Schneckenberger was recognized for serving on the Historic District Commission.

Howard Berger was recognized for serving as a Sherman Candlewood Lake Authority Delegate.

Linda Berger was recognized for serving on the Inland Wetlands Commission.

**Appointments:**

First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Appoint Douglas Cushnie to serve as a Sherman Delegate on the Candlewood Lake Authority.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky

Vote: For: Unanimous

**INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS: I**

**Progress Report on Town projects**

**Water Issue regarding elevated sodium content:**

Marc Cohen presented the BoS with a power point report entitled "Water Source Protection Plan for Sherman, Connecticut. November 2016 Prepared for: The Town of Sherman by Atlantic States Rural Water & Wastewater Association". The Sherman Health Department (SHD) became aware of the high sodium levels in early 2015. The CT Department of Health (CTDPH) was contacted for guidance. In May of 2015 CT DEEP conducted well sample tests within the Town center. Twenty four wells were tested in mid-May 2015 and the results, along with a fact sheet on Sodium Chloride and Health Effects were mailed to each property owner. The CT DPH requested that the SHD continue sampling on a quarterly basis for the remainder of 2015 and on a monthly basis during the winter of 2016. Topographical maps were shown to illustrate the flow of water around the wells. Graphs were shown that track the sodium fluctuation of those wells through-out the year. Mr. Cohen explained specific actions that are available to protect these wells from continued contamination. This report will be posted on the Town website under the Health Department section . The BoS discussed requesting the CT Department of Transportation use different ice control products within the Town center. Tim Simpkins, Sherman Health Department Director recommended continuation of well monitoring and requested the BoS form an Ad Hoc Committee.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

First Selectman C. Cope: Requested if the BoS objected to the request to tape the meeting from A. Mace. (There was no objection.)

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Jonathan Gordon: writing in objection to the solar farm that is proposed in neighboring town of New Milford.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS II:**

**Approval of Minutes**

**First Selectman C. Cope Moved** to Approve the Minutes of November 17, 2016 as written.

**Seconded by:** D. Lowe

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

**Tax Refunds**

**Selectman B. Ostrosky Moved** to Approve the refund of motor vehicle taxes in the amount of \$ 211.68.

**Seconded by:** D. Lowe

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

**Monthly Financial Summary Review**

No comments were made regarding the monthly report.

## **Financial Controls**

Selectman Ostrosky shared a draft Mileage Reimbursement form for discussion. He would like to share it with those who will be submitting the form for feedback. The BoS agreed it was a much better form, providing clarity.

## **Parks & Recreation Issues**

### **ASP Review**

J. Wrenn and F. Fratini were invited to come forward to speak. J. Wrenn reported that the average attendance since September has been 3.3 children a day. The income so far is \$ 5,200.00 and the line is operating at \$ 1,400 in the red. They were happy to report there are two new enrollees. F. Fratini stated with the addition of two children, it should allow the program to break even. ASP Director, Danielle Christy provided a basic attendance report there are four children that attend daily, one child attends three days a week, and three children attend intermittently. The BoS requested P&R utilize advertizing more effectively, to draw larger attendance to their programs including special events. The BoS stated they will continue to track the success of the ASP program to assure it is not costing more that it is bringing in. From the Audience, Mary Lou Viola spoke: she has utilized the ASP program for five years now, she and her husband work full time and rely heavily on the after school care P&R offers. She stated she hopes BoS will "allow outside of the box thinking" to continue the program.

### **Dog Ordinance**

The BoS asked the status of the Dog Ordinance, it was left a few meetings back that the P&R Commission would make a few final revisions and bring it back to the BoS for a Town Meeting. The BoS agreed if it is ready , they will bring it for a vote at the next Town Meeting.

### **Tennis Courts**

Stan Greenbaum spoke on behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee that was formed to determine the most cost effective repairs. Mr. Greenbaum submitted a report in favor of the post and tension construction. Mr. Greenbaum requested the BoS approve the Bid Spec format, which will not include new fencing. The existing vertical fence posts can be salvaged . The BoS agreed the best option would be the post and tension construction and requested Mr. Greenbaum send a digital version of the bid spec for further review.

### **Resolution for extension of Fox Run Detention Basin STEAP Grant**

**Selectman Ostrosky Moved to Approve** the Resolution that it is in the best interests of the Town of Sherman to enter into contracts with the Department of Energy & Environmental protection. In furtherance of this resolution, Clay Cope, the First Selectman is duly authorized to enter into and sign said contracts on behalf of the Town of Sherman. Clay Cope currently holds the title of First Selectman and has held that office since January 1, 2012. The First Selectman is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as required by the State or Federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto. The Town Clerk is authorized to impress the seal of the Town of Sherman on any such document, amendment, rescission, or revision.

**Seconded by:** D. Lowe

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

## **INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS II:**

### **Housing Commission**

Selectman Ostrosky stated the survey results are posted on the Town website under the Housing Commission Department. Chair A. Van Plachecki has submitted an article in the local paper. Mr. Ostrosky reported that Tax Assessor, A. Garzi has recommended the tax relief Ordinance that New Fairfield has adopted. The BoS discussed adding discussion regarding the proposed Tax relief ordinance to the January Agenda. First Selectman Cope reported he has a potential new member for the Housing Commission to meet.

### **Happy Acres Farm Report**

First Selectman Cope stated he has received a herd inventory report dated December 1, 2016 showing a final count of 49 head. One bull was processed on November 30, 2016

### **Residents for Reliable Cell Service in Sherman**

G. Maletz was present to report. The status has not changed regarding lease agreement between property owners and Homeland Towers. Ray Vergatti continues to negotiate but has not received a signed agreement. A visual impact balloon will be flown the last week in January on the Northern end of town. The possible location at the Southern end of town has not come to any agreement, and it is unclear if the one location will provide enough coverage. Ms. Maletz encouraged the First Selectman reach out to the landowner to see what their thoughts are.

### **Technology and Communications**

Selectman Ostrosky presented to the BoS a power point outlining the benefits from NIXLE which would allow information to be shared to the community via cell phone texts or email if they opted to subscribe. Official notifications can be sent out, weather notifications; road closures, accidents etc. can be shared with large communities quickly. The website as it exists today is not efficient and information can only be updated through a single source. The BoS has discussed redesigning the Town website to allow departments to update materials and content as needed. E- notifications can be sent directly to folks who sign up regarding Meeting Notices, Referendums, Agendas, etc. Mr. Ostrosky plans to meet with Town departments to discuss needs. This discussion will be continued on the January Agenda.

### **FY 2017/ 2018 Budget**

The BoS discussed implementing a specific format for future budget requests to be presented.

### **2009 Senior van sale update**

There is a potential buyer who is getting an appraisal done on the van.

### **Solar power proposal for Town owned buildings**

First Selectman Cope is in receipt of a proposal from Greenskies Executive Vice-President Andrew Chester showing a roof mount array on the firehouse. Town buildings that will be assessed are the Public Works Building and the school.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

First Selectman Cope stated he intends to recognize additional volunteers in the near future. He also mentioned that there will be a Volunteer symposium held at the ESF building this winter where Town Boards and Commissions along with local boards will be able to present information on their boards to attract new members.

The BoS agreed they would like to look at the proposed Septic Ordinance at the next Meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

S. Greenbaum: requested the BoS consider purchasing the solar equipment outright.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**First Selectman C. Cope Moved to Adjourn the Meeting at 8:52 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:



Christine Branson, Board Clerk  
December 27, 2016