

Town of Sherman
Board of Selectmen
Regular Monthly Meeting
28 June 2018

7:00 p.m. Mallory Town Hall

DRAFT

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Don Lowe, Selectman Bob Ostrosky, Selectman Kevin Keenan

ALSO INVITED: P. Korsant, L.LaVia, E.Holub

Audience: An audience of approximately 20 were in attendance.

CLERK: Linda Whitney

CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman Lowe Called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter from Sherman Conservation Commission Chairman, B.McCann, was read outlining the negative effects of Cricket Valley and asking for the Board of Selectmen to approve the commission's draft of a town resolution against Cricket Valley. First Selectman D.Lowe will share his response with the other Selectmen and put it on the July BoS agenda.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

A. Motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes from 24 May 2018 made by D.Lowe.

Seconded by B.Ostrosky

Abstained by K.Keenan

Motion to approve the Special Meeting minutes from 2 June 2018 made by D.Lowe .

Seconded by K.Keenan.

Vote: Unanimous

B. Monthly Financial Summary Review

L.LaVia presented the summary review. As the town is still operating under budget by approximately \$94,000.00 it is not necessary to move any funds between departments at this time.

C. TAX Refunds:

A Motion to Approve the tax refunds of:

1 property tax refund of \$2,082.64

1 motor vehicle tax refund of \$370.53 was made by B.Ostrosky.

Seconded by: K.Keenan

Vote: Unanimous

D. Social Services Assistant Job Description Discussion/Approval:

Motion to Approve the Social Services Assistant Job Description was made after discussion clarifying that this is an existing position that has been lacking a formal job description **by K.Keenan.**

Seconded by:D.Lowe.

Vote: Unanimous

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

A. Town Green Improvements Presentation:

P.Korsant presented plans to improve the Town Green which included working with the Naromi Land Trust and improving access to Mallory Trails. The plan will support town merchants and include the addition of a small filling station that will have charging stations for electrically powered vehicles. The plan will increase the width of the entrance to the Town Green and incorporate a one-way traffic flow that will increase safety. The Green will include a gazebo and flowering gardens with walkways, gas lighting and outdoor seating.

Public Comment:

F.O'Rourke, 6 Jane Lane, asked if there would be increased retail space and if there would be a decrease in parking spaces.

P.Korsant responded that there is room for some increased retail space but no plan for it at this time and that the parking would not be decreased as the space would be wider.

B.McCann, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, asked if the area around the planned gazebo would be grass.

P.Korsant responded affirmatively and that through the area there would be walkways and lighting.

J.Burruano, Planning and Zoning Chairwoman, asked if the state would regulate the size of the gas price signs.

P.Korsant responded that the signs would not be large or offensive as his goal is to keep the filling station in a style fitting for a small town green but that the prices would be competitive and include a diesel pump.

R.Martin, Barlow Farm Road, asked if the plan could include a bird watching area.

P.Korsant replied affirmatively and welcomed any ideas from the town residents.

E.Holub, town treasurer, asked if the gas station would be unattended.

P.Korsant responded that the pumps could be directly accessed with a debit/credit card, cash customers can pay inside the IGA. The filling station will operate the same hours as the IGA, 6:00 AM-8:00PM.

B. Emergency Services Communications Progress Report:

C.Fuchs reported that the north end of town tower has been up and running for the past 4 months. It has been working very well. The south end of town was stalled due to the failure to negotiate a reasonable rate with New Fairfield to use the Tower Hill tower. New Fairfield was asking for nearly \$20,000.00 per year to add our equipment to the tower. A new location on Timber Trails, owned by Aquarion, has been investigated. The Emergency Services have reached out, with positive results, and are preparing drawings

to show how the housing and electricity for our equipment will be. The initial cost of the set-up may be about \$25,000.000 but the annual fee paid to Aquarion for a spot on their tower will be about \$1,000.00 annually. This will provide vastly improved cell service for Sherman.

C. LOCIP:

Ideas were discussed for the appropriation of the \$47,740.00 Local Capital Improvement Grant. Ideas included: Fix the heating and air-conditioning problems at the Firehouse, building a sidewalk in front of the firehouse and funding the installation costs for the Emergency Services equipment on the Aquarion tower.

D. LOTCIP:

The Local Transportation Capital Improvement Grant for \$750,000.00 that was applied to for improvements to Wakeman Hill Road had been cut from the state budget but has now been reinstated. D.Lowe will work with the town engineer to make corrections to the original application and submit it to WESTCOG. It will then go to the state to join a queue.

E. Happy Acres Farm Report:

J.Motsinger sent in a letter that was read reporting that there have been 24 new calves born and 1,000 bales of hay collected. Happy Acres participates in a farmers market each Saturday in Pawling, NY and hosts one each Sunday at Happy Acres. He and his family welcomed a baby boy this past Friday.

F. Happy Acres Barn Repairs:

D.Lowe, M.Lord and J.Motsinger surveyed the hay barn. The support beams are weakening and the barn is leaning. D.Lowe will get a proposal from M.Lord for an appraisal of the repairs needed and call for a special meeting of the BoS. The funds for the repairs will come from the Happy Acres Restricted Fund and will go to Town Meeting for approval.

G. Happy Acres/T-Mobile update:

There are still two items to be completed before the T-Mobile lease can be finalized:

T-Mobile has drafted an addendum confirming that the tenant farmer is in agreement that the payment originally offered to the tenant farmer by T-Mobile will instead be made as a donation to the Friends of Happy Acres with impunity. The addendum has to be signed by the tenant farmer for the agreement to proceed.

On 5 July 2018, Planning and Zoning will look at the application for a new type of equipment that T-Mobile plans to put on the tower.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Suggestions for the July BoS agenda:

Report on the Fox Run Detention

A Tax Deferment Proposal

False Alarm Ordinance

Policy on Workshop Approval

Sidewalk by the Firehouse

Telecommunications Update

PUBLIC COMMENT

S.Maletz, 2 Pepper Pond Road, asked for information on the opening of the Audubon Preserve.

1 July 2018 at 10:00AM the Audubon Preserve will be opening.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn: B.Ostrosky at 8:30 PM

Seconded: K.Keenan

Vote For: Unanimous

The next meeting is scheduled for 26 July 2018

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Whitney