

Town of Sherman
Board of Selectmen
Regular Monthly Meeting
20 Dec. 2018
7:00 p.m. Mallory Town Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Don Lowe, Selectman Kevin Keenan.

MEMBER ABSENT: Selectman B. Ostrosky

AUDIENCE AND INVITED: E. Holub, L. LaVia and an audience of approximately 15 were in attendance.

CLERK: Linda Whitney

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

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

CORRESPONDENCE: D. Lowe read a letter that will be sent to all property owners regarding the reassessment of Sherman properties.

D. Lowe read a letter from the Commission on Aging requesting the support of the BoS in their mission to find solutions to the problems regarding the facility at the Senior Center.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

A. Motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes from 25 Oct. 2018 made by D. Lowe.

Seconded by K. Keenan

Vote For: Unanimous

Motion to approve the Special Meeting minutes from 17 Oct. 2018 made by D. Lowe.

Seconded by K. Keenan.

Vote For: Unanimous

B. TAX REFUNDS:

A Motion to Approve the 3 tax refund requests totaling \$790.74 was held.

Motion to Approve: D. Lowe

Seconded by: K. Keenan

Vote For: Unanimous

C. MONTHLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY REVIEW:

L. LaVia spoke to the Monthly Financial Review and reported that we are at the six month mark and are on track with the budget. Costs of ongoing litigation continue to require monitoring.

D. APPOINTMENTS /REAPPOINTMENTS:

APPOINTMENTS:

A motion to approve Rachel Booth to a three year term to Park and Rec. was made by D. Lowe.

Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous.

A motion to approve Samantha Addonizio Butts to a two year term as an Alternate on Zoning Board of Appeals was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous.

A motion to approve Ann Chiamonte to a full-time member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiring on 01/01/20 was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous.

REAPPOINTMENTS:

A motion to approve Fran Frattini to a three year term to Park and Rec was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Denise DePalma to a three year term to Park and Rec was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Ernie Dech to a four year term to Inland Wetlands was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Lorinda Pallisco to a two year term to Inland Wetlands as an alternate was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Sheila J. McMahon to a two year term to the Commission on Aging was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Juan Garcia to a two year term to the Commission on Aging was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Ed Hayes to a two year term to the Commission on Aging was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Rick Hudson to a two year term to the Commission on Aging was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Bruce Hoag to a two year term to the Housing Commission was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Helen Bray to a two year term to the Housing Commission was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve John Taylor to a five year term to the Historic District Commission was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Jim French to a five year term to the Historic District Commission was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

A motion to approve Marilyn Dwyer to a five year term to the Historic District Commission was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan. Vote For: Unanimous

E. RESOLUTION FOR 2018 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM:

A motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement regarding the use of Federal Fiscal 2018 State Homeland Security Grant Funding and Custodial Ownership of Regional Assets was made by D. Lowe. Seconded by K. Keenan.
Vote For: Unanimous

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

A. SVFD Monthly Report:

This item has been moved to the January agenda.

B. Status of Emergency Equipment on Aquarion Tower :

The installation of the equipment is currently going through P&Z and will require an easement from a property owner to run the necessary power cables. D. Lowe has been in contact with the property owner and doesn't anticipate any problems with the easement.

C. Bill McCann/ Conservation Commission Report: air monitoring:

M. Benjamin, Kent, CT, reported that Kent will begin utilizing a system of clean air monitoring devices and establish a baseline of air quality to use for comparison after the opening of Cricket Valley. Kent School has purchased the device which was hooked up yesterday and will begin to generate data in the next few weeks. B. McCann has requested \$4,500.00 to purchase a monitor for Sherman. It will need to be mounted on a rooftop or a tall pole. Two years after the purchase, there will be additional costs for filters and sensors of approximately \$600.00. There are 6 towns in the area collecting and comparing their air quality data. D. Lowe made a motion to bring to Town Meeting funding not to exceed \$5,500.00 from the Capital Non-Recurring Fund to purchase a AQY1 air monitor. K. Keenan seconded the motion. Vote For: Unanimous.

E. Holub questioned if Cricket Valley had been asked to contribute to the air quality monitoring.

M. Benjamin reported that Cricket Valley bought and placed a monitoring device that has been placed on Dover High School.

P. Bailey commented that if private families choose to purchase their own air quality monitoring device the data could be compared and added to the town- collected data.

D. COMMISSION ON AGING to discuss Senior Center feasibility study:

Members of the COA, J. Wey, R. Hudson, E. Hayes, J. McRoberts, A. Jellen were in attendance and presented the BoS an intention to form a committee that will explore feasible solutions to the constraints that make the current Senior Center inadequate for our growing senior population. They are formally requesting the support of the BOS to form a committee to explore options for the Senior Center. D. Lowe is in support of the committee and has been exploring options for the Senior Center with B. Trott, S. Berger and the COA. He would like the JCC to be a consideration as it is available immediately. The members of the COA are in agreement that the considerations will include, but not be limited to, the JCC.

E. ADA Update at Senior Center:

B. Trott reported that the stone steps leading into the Senior Center are uneven and dangerous. D. Lowe will make some calls to repair the steps and bring them into compliance. B. Trott reported that a portable ramp has been borrowed from the JCC to use as a handicap emergency exit through the kitchen in the Senior Center.

F. Mallory Town Hall Microphones and ADA Hearing Compliance:

B. Trott reported that the current microphones in Town Hall are out of compliance. The ADA has recommended a system that includes 8 wireless microphones at a cost of \$285.00 for Town Hall. D. Lowe will meet with B. Petkanas and B. Trott to determine if this is the best solution.

G. Fox Run Detention Basin:

The Fox Run Detention Basin is complete and working well. There has been a request from a property owner to replace some trees that were lost during the project. D. Lowe and K. Keenan will meet with the property owner to discuss this issue.

H. LOTCIP:Wakeman Hill Road Project:

The Wakeman Hill Road project is back on track. There will be a meeting regarding the funding in January. The funding for the LOTCIP Grant will be requested through the COG.

I.Wells/Water Update:

There is no updated report from G. Robbins at this time although the November testing indicated an improvement in the water quality at Town Hall.

J. Sherman School new playground update:

Two companies have submitted proposals for the new playground. The school has put a ceiling price of \$300,000.00 on the project.

K. Happy Acres Farm Report:

The herd count is currently at 51. The groundwork by T-Mobile has been completed.

E. Holub asked when the rent from T-Mobile should begin to be paid. D. Lowe will call T-Mobile as the rental payment should coincide with the work being done at Happy Acres.

L. LOCIP Funds:

The LOCIP Funds are not yet appropriated. Improvements to the heating system at Mallory Town Hall are being considered. Another consideration is a water purification system for the Wash Station up at public works due to the high mineral content and the damage that minerality causes to the hoses. Liz LaVia confirmed that both projects qualify for LOCIP funding although she thought that the Wash Station Purification System would require approval from the DEEP.

M. Discuss and possibly bring to Town Meeting a rear mounted arm mower:

There was discussion about bringing to Town Meeting the purchase of a \$35,000.00 rear mounted arm mower that can be mounted on the town's Kabota. This can replace the need for outside contracting of roadside mowing. E. Holub suggested waiting until the spring to better evaluate where the funding should come from. D. Lowe tabled the item for a later date.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS: Suggestions by Selectmen for Future Agendas:

K. Keenan suggested that a discussion about the ongoing litigation be a future agenda item.

Public Comment:

R. Martin commented that he appreciated the opportunity for the public to comment at the beginning and at the end of each BoS meeting. He hopes that this positive encouragement of public involvement in government spreads to government agencies all over the country.

VII. Executive Session: The BOS broke for Executive Session at 8:50 PM with L. LaVia to discuss Wage an Hour and Job Title Reclassification as directed by the Department of Labor for the Fire Marshall and the Town Treasurer. E. Holub was included for the Fire Marshall portion of the Executive Session.

At 9:15 PM the BOS came out of Executive Session. D. Lowe made a motion to approve, in compliance with the Department of Labor's requirement, the reclassification and compensation schedule of the Fire Marshall and Town Treasurer. K. Keenan seconded the motion. Vote For: Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn: D. Lowe at 9:24PM

Seconded: K. Keenan

Vote For: Unanimous

The next meeting is scheduled for 24 Jan.2019

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Whitney