Draft- March 28th, 2016

Sharon Community Center- 219 Massapoag Avenue

Present: Patricia-Lee Achorn, Gordon Gladstone, Alexander Korin, William Brack, Ira Miller, Edward Philips, Hanna Switlekowski, Arnold Cohen, Charles Goodman

Absent: Laura Nelson, Steven Ross and Aaron Agulnek.

1. **Review, discuss and take position on CPC Annual Town Meeting Warrant Article - Cory Snow**

William A. Heitin, Chairman of the Board of Selectman, began by discussing the fields at Gavin’s Pond. The Fields Committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen (representing youth sports and town departments) spent more then two years putting together a twenty-eight-page consultant grade report, on use and maintenance programs. The Fields Committee identified all of the fields in Sharon that need to be restored to working quality and received quotes for all of the work. The Fields Committee has put together a four-year implementation plan.

At Gavin’s Pond two fields will be reconfigured into three and it will take approximately one year to complete. The request is made by the Selectman to add a swing space to help with field maintenance. Natural grass fields require maintenance and irrigation to sustain usability. The Selectman hope to come back with approximately $75,000 next year, of money raised privately.

The Phase One request is for $506,000 for reconstruction at Gavin’s Pond for the total reconstruction of the 90-foot diamond and field. Phase two, three and four will include Ames Street playground, Deborah Sampson Park, East Street Elementary and various projects at the High School.

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) has approved $222,000 for maintenance and repairs at the Ames Street Playground. The Committee voted unanimously at 6-0-0. The plan includes reuse of some safe older equipment as well as providing new equipment. The park will also become ADA compliant and two eagle scouts will be volunteering to meet those needs.

The CPC has approved funding for repairs to the historic wall on North Main Street. The Town owns the wall and the Department of Public Works (DPW) has become more concerned about repairs since part of the wall has collapsed. The DPW is requesting $136,000 of Conservation Preservation Committee funding for repairs. The stonewall has been declared historic by the Sharon Historical Commission. The CPC also voted unanimously on this issue as well, being 6-0-0.

Cory Snow ended with a discussion of the Historic Veteran’s Monuments. Paul Bergeron, Veteran’s Agent, is requesting repairs, restoration and preservation for three monuments in Sharon. The cost will total $9,000 and includes treating two bronze plaques (WWI, WWII and Liberty Plaques) with protective coating as well as fixing three monuments at Rock Ridge Cemetery and the Deborah Sampson statue in front of the Library. The vote made by the CPC was 6-0-0 and the total request is for $9,000.

**MOTION:** to approve the $20000 Administration, $506,000 for athletic fields, $222,000 for the Ames St. Playground, $136,00 for the retaining wall and $9,000 for the veteran’s monuments by Edward Phillips **SECONDED:** by Ira Miller **VOTED:** 8-0-0.

1. **Review, discuss and take positions on May 2016 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles**

William A. Heitin, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, began by reviewing the 3 million dollar budget requested to make renovations to the Town Hall that is not Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant. The ADA renovation estimate is $2.7 million and an additional $300,000 would be used to design additional upgrades to the Town Hall (systems upgrade: HVAC, technological, electrical, etc.) and renovations for reuse of the Fire Station. The Selectmen will review the designs for the three projects and decide to complete only the ADA mandated renovations, three phased projects, or the construction of all three as a single project. The Selectmen are conscious of the impact of renovations on resident tax rates. They are working to preserve some capital for upcoming projects. If borrowing is done, it will not be until January of 2017.

Members of the Committee expressed concerns regarding development of two contracts. Going forward with separate projects would duplicate effort and be more costly. Renovations to address ADA compliance without other infrastructure upgrades means the building will have to be renovated again in a few years. Going through the complete study will provide more accurate numbers rather then doing the project in three phases.

**MOTION:** to recommend approval of the $3,000,000 budget for the Town Hall renovations by Edward Phillips to **SECONDED:** by Patricia- Lee Achorn **VOTED:** 7- 2-0.

The MacBook Air and School 1:1 Program capital request of $275,000 (capital $184,000 and cash capital $91,000) was discussed. Committee members have not been given new information to support the educational advantages of the MacBook Air. Each family has only one computer option, which is using this machine and it limits students’ functionality. The school will not allow students to use PC’s, so having trouble transferring assignments between computers at home. The MacBook Air, although a good computer, should not be a requirement, but rather the family should be able to decide the computer that their particular child is using.

**MOTION:** to make the recommendation at town meetingregarding 1:1 technology by Gordon Gladstone **SECONDED:** by Ira Miller **VOTED** 4-2-1.

**MOTION:** to make the recommendation at town meeting regarding the Cottage Street lighting and East Street HVAC capital request totaling $450,000 by Gordon Gladstone **SECONDED:** by Alexander Korin **VOTED:** 9-0-0.

**MOTION:** to recommend approval of Article 17, Tax Title Payment Agreements by Ira Miller **SECONDED:** by Edward Phillips **VOTED:** 9-0-0.

**MOTION:** to recommend approval of Article 19 Change to Town Report Distribution by Arnold Cohen **SECONDED:** by Edward Phillips **VOTED:** 4-5-0.

**MOTION:** not to recommend approval of the citizen’s petition at Town Meetingby Patricia-Lee Achorn **SECONDED:** by Gordon Gladstone **VOTED:** 6-0-3**.**

1. **Review, discuss Warrant write ups, Annual Warrant Review and Town Meeting presentations**

Ira Miller will make some minor adjustments to the Warrant write ups and William Brack will add the dollar amounts to the Conservation Preservation Committee write up. March 31st, 2016 is the final deadline for the Warrant.

1. **Review and approve minutes of February 29th, 2016, March 7th, 2016 and March 21st, 2016**

**MOTION:** by Gordon Gladstone to approve the February 29th, 2016 minutes **SECONDED:**:9-0-0.

**MOTION:** by Gordon Gladstone to approve the March 7th, 2016 minutes **SECONDED:**:9-0-0.

1. **Other Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated**

The Finance Committee agreed to make further requests of Tim Farmer for estimates and financial data supporting capital requests for HVAC and lighting and decision criteria for the selection of MacBook Air as the sole computer for 1:1. The Committee is also suggesting a meeting between Sharon High School and Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School regarding the use of MacBook’s as opposed to another type of PC.

1. **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** by Edward Phillips to adjourn **SECONDED:** by Hanna Switlezowski **VOTED:** 9-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm.

The next meeting will be held on April 25th, 2016.