

**MINUTES**  
**SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
March 17, 2015

The meeting of the Sharon Board of Selectmen was called to order in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Sharon Town Hall at 7:00pm with Chairman William A. Heitin, Clerk John J. McGrath, Selectman Walter B. Roach and Town Administrator Frederic E. Turkington, Jr.

**David Schoenfeld – One Day Alcohol License – May 2, 2015**

Mr. Schoenfeld explained that it is a private event and will consist of a dinner followed by a square dance. The dinner will be catered and alcohol will be served by a bartender provided by the caterer. He has obtained the necessary insurance and a police detail will be present.

**MOTION:** To grant a one-day alcohol license to David Schoenfeld  
(Roach – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

**Larry Yaffe & Dan Rabatsky – SYBSA Opening Weekend & Carnival and Signage Request**

Mr. Yaffe provided the Board with a schedule of SYBSA's opening weekend activities, which will take place from Thursday, April 30 – Sunday, May 3.

**SYBSA Opening Weekend Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> – Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>:**

**Purpose:**

The purpose of SYBSA opening weekend is to create excitement, enthusiasm and sense of community involvement for the softball and baseball programs. Secondarily, these events will be a fundraiser for SYBSA.

**Communication with the following town organizations in process:**

- Rec Department
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- DPW
- Board of Health
- Town Selectmen

**Carnival Set up and hrs (approximation):**

- Setup Monday and Tuesday
- State Inspections on Wednesday
- Operating Hours
  - Thursday 5pm - 10:00pm
  - Friday 5pm – 10:30pm
  - Saturday Noon – 10:30pm
  - Sunday 1pm - 8pm

**Friday Evening, May 1<sup>st</sup>** – opening Weekend Officially begins with Carnival at Deb Sampson parking lot w/ snack open, SYBSA ceremonies, DJ playing and games under the lights.

**Friday, 6:00 pm Introduction of all Softball and Baseball Teams At Deborah Sampson Field B**

- Drop off time to start at 5:30
- SYBSA officials supervising drop off and player organization on behind Snack Shack at Deborah Sampson
- Coaches and SYBSA officials will lead and organize players
- DJ Playing at Deborah Sampson as players arrive

- Deborah Sampson snack shack opening and functioning as it does for tournaments
- Each team is called onto the field by DJ
- Anthem
- First Pitch thrown out by designated honoree(s)
- Selectmen to be recognized
- Additional items to the program to be added (i.e. address by a Town official etc.)
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After ceremonies, all softball & baseball players playing in their last year of the program will play in exhibition games. Each player will be recognized by being introduced on PA System and will receive a gift from SYBSA. Softball game will be all Grade 8 girls playing vs. Parents of Grade 8 girls on Field B at DS. In addition, all Grade 8 girls will participate in a home run derby competition before the game.

Baseball game will be all 12 year old boys playing against each other on Field A at DS. All 12 year olds will participate in a home run derby competition before the game.

Saturday & Sunday afternoon/ evening - Games for Softball at Ames and Baseball on DS

Saturday evening at Deb Sampson- Carnival resumes, Shack open, Dj playing, Games under the lights.

#### **Carnival Safety/ logistics:**

- Police attendance requested at all times during carnival operation or per town ordinances
- Fire department on notice and does not require attendance per Chief Wright (from 2013)
- Parking to be available on Field next to tennis Courts (Mites field), on East Foxboro, Gun House and other surrounding side streets as appropriate and per town ordinances
- SYBSA to coordinate parking lot attendant to supervise vehicles.
- SYBSA to provide and set up appropriate parking signs to direct traffic
- SYBSA officials to be in attendance
- SYBSA officials will wear 'Staff' shirts
- Restrooms open at DS

#### **Clean Up:**

- SYBSA and Carnival Company will provide necessary resources for clean up at Ames and DS facilities working with town
- Parking lot to be inspected by SYBSA and Fiesta officials. Any damage to asphalt will be repaired in an acceptable and timely manner. Town officials welcome to inspect before and after.

#### **Inclement Weather Contingency:**

- Alternate weekend plan would be May 8<sup>th</sup> for the ceremonies only.

A representative from Fiesta Shows noted that they have already held a conference call with Deputy Fire Chief Murphy and is working close with town officials.

**MOTION:** To approve SYBSA's request for their 2015 opening weekend activities and carnival, pending obtaining necessary approvals by Police, Fire, DPW and Board of Health  
(Heitin – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

**MOTION:** To allow SYBSA to place advertising signs at Ames Street fields on an annual basis  
(Heitin – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

### **2015 Triathlon – Tim Richmond, Max Performance**

Mr. Richmond explained that Max Performance continues to host the Sharon Triathlon with great success, including accolades from local athletes around the region. They have now hosted the event for seven consecutive years and look forward to the 2015 event. He noted their community approach in organizing the

event, as several groups have participated in our Volunteer Initiative every August. Groups that have benefited financially include: Sharon Rotary Club, the varsity football team, and varsity cheerleading.

He is proposing Sunday, August 9, 2015 for the next triathlon in Sharon. They have prepared the revised Field Permit for 2015. Continued preparations with the Police & Fire Departments will continue to be instrumental in making this race a safe and successful event. Max Performance would like to revisit the permit fee schedule and offer a scale based on the number of athletes who attend the event, as they continue to see a decline in attendance for the Sharon Triathlon.

Ms. Levasseur explained that the Recreation Advisory Committee voted to recommend the amended fee schedule, reflective of the amount of athletes that participate, is as follows:

Permit Fee Schedule:

- Up to 550 athletes = \$2750
- 551-600 athletes = \$3000
- 601-649 athletes = \$3250
- 650 athletes = \$3500

In response to a question from Selectman Roach, he continues to work closely with the Police Department. Selectman McGrath noted that they do a great job to make it a fun event.

**MOTION:** To approve the 2015 Triathlon  
(Roach – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

### **Sharon High School Beach Parking Discussion**

Recreation Director Amanda Levasseur explained that the Recreation Department has come up with an option for to sell parking passes to high school students at Memorial Park Beach.

From April 1st to May 1st, the Recreation Department can expand upon the resident beach pass and offer a parking pass to any high school student or any resident that wishes to park for an extended period of time, at the rate of \$125. This would give students the option to park at Memorial Park Beach all day from April 1st to November 1st. This parking pass would be available to any student or any resident that wishes to access the parking lot prior to the beach season. A typical beach parking pass is used from Memorial Day (open weekends only until school releases for summer break, then open daily) through August 30th.

During this time, (April 1st – November 1st) as in years past, anyone wishing to visit Memorial Park Beach for 3 hours or less, will not require a pass until the season begins on May 23rd. Proper signage will be posted, similar to the signs at the center of town.

Starting May 1st, the pass will be reduced to the original rate of \$67.

The extended season pass could aid in the cost of the lengthened beach hours (6-8pm). In its first year it will be difficult to project revenues, however based on what we have observed, we anticipate that between 50-80 vehicles would take advantage of this offer. While this option can be a great way to cover the cost of the lengthened beach day, enforcement will play a critical role in raising funds for extended hours. The Recreation Department will not have staffing to monitor the lot outside of the summer season.

Selectman Roach asked if these funds will go to help with the extended hours and Ms. Levasseur replied that it will certainly help.

Ms. Levasseur noted that for those individuals that want to walk the lake during the offseason can do so without penalty. Gary Bluestein, chair of the Recreation Advisory Committee, added that they don't want to

disrupt individuals that just want to come in during the offseason to get some exercise. He wondered if the School Resource Officer would be keeping track of which students park over at the beach.

**MOTION:** To approve  
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

### **Selection of Consultant for Police Chief Recruitment Process & Assessment Center**

Mr. Turkington explained that he included in the Board's meeting packets for this evening a copy of the proposal from BadgeQuest. The firm is the preferred choice to assist with the hiring process for Police Chief. We received three proposals; two firms chose not to submit. A third firm delivered their proposal untimely.

BadgeQuest is based in Plymouth and has successfully handled number of recent chief searches with strong references from those communities as to their comfort level with the process and breadth of candidates (Weston, Cohasset, Ashland are recent clients).

He confirmed that the Town will have input and approval over the police professionals participating in the assessment. The fee of \$14,700 was well below the two other out-of-state firms (and below the late submitter who would have been a potential option). The fee is inclusive of standard qualifications checks, with the hourly rate quoted for the full background investigation of the chosen candidate ahead of appointment.

There are sufficient funds within the Police Department budget to pay for this consultant.

Selectman McGrath said that we need to determine the value of an assessment center, as there may be several internal candidates and likely many external candidates, and wonders if the screening committee can do this work in their deliberations. He believes it's a generalized testing process. He brought up the scoring process and wondered if they would eliminate some candidates. Mr. Turkington said that we can tailor the breadth of the review with the consultant and ask for all of the candidates' information is brought forward for review. He feels that an external candidate may perform better in an assessment center than an internal candidate that has never sought out another higher position outside of the department.

Selectman McGrath expressed concern of bringing in an external candidate that does not know the town.

Selectman Roach asked Selectman McGrath who would be determining who fits the criteria if we don't use an assessment center. Selectman McGrath replied that the screening committee could handle this.

Selectman Roach confirmed that Selectman McGrath is not comfortable with an assessment center, but Selectman Roach believes that because the Board opened up the search to external candidates, he feels the Board should spend the money.

Chairman Heitin noted that Selectman McGrath knows the position a lot better than the rest of the Board and the Screening Committee, so the assessment center will provide third-party, professional guidance. He added that we establish the criteria for the firm and the screening committee to use. It's a very important position that we are looking for and he wants an independent group provide guidance to the screening committee and the Board. Mr. Turkington added that he spoke with Chief Bernstein about the use of assessment center – we can weigh the results of the exam. The Screening Committee needs guidance by the recruitment firm. Selectman McGrath asked if the Board has input as to the scenarios that the recruitment firm uses in the assessment center and Mr. Turkington replied we can tweak the assessment center to make everyone comfortable. The assessment center is one part of the entire recruitment. Selectman McGrath expressed concern that the Board is giving up control. Chairman Heitin noted that the Board has to give up some control, per the Personnel By-Laws, as the Board is the appointing authority. Mr. Turkington will meet with the recruitment firm on the scope of services and will incorporate the Board's comments. Chairman Heitin suggested that Selectman McGrath provide his comments to Mr. Turkington for inclusion.

Mr. Turkington noted that we need to think ahead of the next chief's replacement – promoting from within is very important.

**MOTION:** To approve BadgeQuest for the Police Chief recruitment and assessment center, pending the establishment of criteria

(Roach – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

### Annual Town Meeting Discussion – Take positions on articles

Article #	Article Topic	Board of Selectmen
1	SPECIAL WITHIN THE ANNUAL: Transfer of funds for codification project	Support 3-0
2	SPECIAL WITHIN THE ANNUAL: Bond money	Support 3-0
3	SPECIAL WITHIN THE ANNUAL: Snow & Ice	Support 3-0
4	SPECIAL WITHIN THE ANNUAL: Transfer of funds to close capital project deficit	Support 3-0
5	SPECIAL WITHIN THE ANNUAL: Reserve money from one time cell tower revenue for use for the FY2016 Appropriation	Support 3-0
1	Finance Committee Members	no action taken yet
2	Act upon Reports	Support 3-0
3	Existing cell tower lease authorizations	Support 3-0
4	Personnel By-Law	Support 3-0
5	Budget & Compensation of Elected Officials	no action taken yet
6	Capital Outlay Requests	no action taken yet
7	CPC Annual Funding & Projects Projects: Hammershop Pond Dam Repair; Repairs to the fascia and soffit at the Sharon Water Department building; wall reconstruction at Brook & N. Main Streets; Community Center Pergola; document preservation (Historical Society Library & Town Clerk)	Dam: Support 3-0 Water Dept. Building Repairs: Support 3-0 Pergola: 2-1 Support Document Preservation: 3-0 Support Annual Funding - no action taken yet Wall Reconstruction - no action taken yet
8	Norfolk County Retirement	Support 3-0
9	Unemployment Fund	Support 3-0
10	OPEB Funds	Support 3-0
11	Stabilization Fund	Support 3-0
12	Revolving Fund Authorizations (new revolving fund for water service replacement)	Support 3-0
13	Property Tax Exemptions - Veterans, Blind, Disabled & Others Qualified	Support 3-0
14	Sharon Friends School Fund Records & Appointments	Support 3-0
15	Annual Audit	Support 3-0
16	Petition to Legislature re: abatement for 9 Glendale Road (FY07-FY10 = \$5,401.77)	Support 3-0
17	Accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure - 20 Tracey Lane	Support 3-0
18	Civil Service Rescission	Support 3-0

The Board agreed to move the cell tower authorization to article #3, and move the acceptance of a deed in lieu of foreclosure to #17, and move the CPC article to follow the Capital Outlay article. In response to a question by Selectman McGrath, Mr. Turkington noted that the town will only proceed with the rescission of civil service

article if the contract negotiations are successful with the police union; we won't pursue the warrant article if the contract negotiations break down.

### **Board of Health Appointment**

Selectman McGrath believes we have done everything reasonable and Selectman Roach can't recall an appointment taking this long to make an appointment.

**MOTION:** To take a position tonight  
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Chairman Heitin reviewed the qualifications of the three candidates – Stan Rosen, Ed Welch and Michael Saija. Selectman McGrath noted that Mr. Rosen has served for a number of years, Mr. Welch previously served on the Board of Health and Mr. Saija noted that he may be moving out of town. Selectman McGrath likes seeing change on boards after a period of time.

Selectman McGrath would like to see Ed Welch appointed to the Board of Health. Selectman Roach believes that Mr. Rosen has done a great job and Mr. Welch has an engineering background, which would be valuable.

**MOTION:** To appoint Edward Welch to the Board of Health  
(McGrath – Roach) for discussion

Chairman Heitin thinks Mr. Welch is a great candidate but that Mr. Rosen would be his candidate, but that he appreciates the will of the Board.

Selectman Roach would like to see if Mr. Rosen would be interested in serving on the Lake Management Study Committee or the Water Management Advisory Committee.

**Vote:** 3-0 **PASSES**

### **Consent Calendar**

- Vote to accept regular session minutes of March 3, 2015
- Vote to authorize the Chairman to support Mosquito Control funding for Fiscal Year 2016
- Vote to award bid for delivery of 2014 Annual Town Report to Boy Scouts of America Troop 95 for \$1,200.00
- Vote to approve request by the Massachusetts Audubon Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary to close Moose Hill Street from Moose Hill Parkway to Route 27, up to 3 times in late March/early April, for salamander migration – “Let Them Pass”
- Vote to approve the following banner requests:
  - Memorial Day – May 18-26
  - Flag Day – June 8-15
  - Temple Israel, Annual Auction – April 20-29
  - Recreation, Beach Passes & Camp Reg. – May 26-June 8
- Vote to award the contract to prepare the Water Department Master Plan update to Weston & Sampson Engineers of Peabody in the amount of \$40,150

**MOTION:** To approve the March 17, 2015 consent calendar  
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

## **Town Administrator's Report**

The Town Administrator reported the following:

- Free Cash certification for FY14, but with the approval at Town Meeting to close the capital project deficit, we will be in the positive
- MassDOT will be paving a portion of Route 95 beginning next week
- Funding has not yet been released for the Maskwonicut Street Bridge and he sent a letter to the Governor's Office, asking for the funds to be released
- He met with officials from Eversource today and some of the abutters near the Canton Street Switching Station – we will proceed with several mitigation measures
- He and Chairman Heitin met with the police union and is looking for an executive session to discuss the ongoing negotiations with the police union
- The Priorities Committee is meeting on Thursday evening

## **Topics not reasonably anticipated forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting**

**MOTION:** To enter into executive session at 8:10pm to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, and at the end, to adjourn for the evening. Discussion of any of these in open session would be detrimental to the Town.

(Heitin – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Heitin: Aye  
McGrath: Aye  
Roach: Aye

## **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** To adjourn at 8:30pm

(Heitin - McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Heitin: Aye  
McGrath: Aye  
Roach: Aye