

MINUTES
SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
August 19, 2014

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 Fred Turkington.

One-Day Liquor License Request

Ms. Jill Goldberg was present for the discussion on her request for a one-day liquor license for a private event at the Community Center on Saturday, September 6. Chairman Heitin noted that the application is in order and the Board had no questions.

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

Annual MDF “Fill the Boot” Fundraiser Request

FF Michael Madden was present and explained that the event will take place on the Saturday and Sunday (August 30 & 31) of Labor Day weekend from 8:00-4:00pm, with a rain date of Monday, September 1.

MOTION: To approve the request from Firefighters Local 1880 for the Annual MDA “Fill the Boot” fundraiser event
(Roach – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Proposed Civil Defense Relocation Discussion

Chairman Heitin noted that all along, Civil Defense was intended to move into the existing fire station once the Fire Department when the new building opens. He noted that there was a process to site the new public safety building and Town Meeting approved a dollar amount. He expressed his concerns from a financial standpoint and is comfortable with Civil Defense with taking over a substantial amount of space in the existing fire station. He believes the programmatic aspects need to go before the Standing Building Committee and wants to move forward with the new public safety building as planned for the time being.

Selectman Roach said that the Board wanted Civil Defense across the driveway at the existing fire station, as the Town doesn't have money to renovate it for uses other than what Civil Defense would need it for. He said that we need to know what the exact cost of the public safety building is before possibly expanding it for police and fire use.

Selectman McGrath said that the soon-to-be vacant fire building would never go empty. He noted that the offices here at Town Hall are filled to capacity and people are on top of each other and explained the space constraints at Town Hall. He is advocating for an expanded public safety building, as within 10 years, both Police and Fire will be looking for additional space and the price tag will go up exponentially. It doesn't need to be determined now what the space needs to be used for. We need to keep all of our options open.

Chairman Heitin believes that he and Selectman McGrath seem to be on the same page, but noted that the Standing Building Committee isn't sure what the programmatic needs are yet for Police and Fire and then it can be determined if it financially feasible to expand by 2,500 feet. He doesn't feel comfortable pushing forward with the 2,500 square feet at this point given the financial unknowns.

Mike Polimer, Civil Defense Director, suggests swapping office space in the auxiliary building with DPW for space in the double wide trailer. He believes that the existing fire station will become an attic for Town Hall and suggested other uses for the fire station. He did the numbers of giving the taxpayers back the \$375,000 and it would translate into approximately \$3.00-\$5.00/household. He requests a detailed explanation of what exactly Civil Defense is going to get in the existing fire station.

Police Chief Joe Bernstein noted that everyone involved has absolutely no plans on asking the residents for no more money than what the voters allocated at the polls – they want to maximize the space with what we have for money. The Board agreed with Chief Bernstein.

Mike Corman, a member of Civil Defense for 45 years, added that he wants to get the best for the Town and for Civil Defense. He noted that residents have never gotten any money back in their wallets from any construction projects and the Board explained that unused money goes back into the general fund.

Chairman Heitin wants to put together the plan that Mr. Polimer is looking for while the Standing Building Committee works on the plans for the new public safety building. He acknowledged that the transition plan while the new building is being built is another issue that needs to be addressed. Mr. Polimer provided examples of how busy they are and work with town departments.

Mr. Hooper asked if other departments can ask for space in the new public safety building. Chairman Heitin said that we need to determine the programmatic aspects are, along with the costs, first.

Selectman Roach asked Mr. Polimer why he doesn't want to move into the existing fire station. Mr. Polimer noted that he supports Police and Fire and being in that complex would be helpful. He fears that if they move into the building next door, they will be pushed out by other departments down the road.

Treasurer/Collector Screening Committee Discussion

Chairman Heitin introduced the new Town Administrator, Fred Turkington, who began yesterday. He spent a substantial amount of time meeting with department heads before he began. Mr. Turkington has been working with Finance Director on beginning the search for a Treasurer/Collector.

Mr. Turkington provided background on why the position is available and believes the screening committee will be invaluable in the process. He hopes to advertise the position later this week and provided the timeline of the hiring process, which he hopes to have wrapped up by the first week in November.

MOTION: To reaffirm the earlier appointment of Thomas Quin, Charles Goodman, Herbert Gould, David Milowe and Gloria Rose to the Treasurer/Collector Screening Committee
(Heitin – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Approval of Minutes – July 2, 2014

MOTION: To accept the executive session meeting minutes of July 2, 2014
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Approval of Minutes – August 1, 2014

MOTION: To accept the regular session meeting minutes of August 1, 2014
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Approval of Minutes – August 5, 2014

MOTION: To accept the regular and executive session meeting minutes of August 5, 2014
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Banner Request – Russian School of Mathematics

MOTION: To approve the banner request for the Russian School of Mathematics from September 2 – 8, 2014 in the second position to highlight their Family Math Night
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Sharon Train Station Dedication Request

The Board received a request from the Commission on Disabilities to get permission from the MBTA to dedicate the train station accessibility project in Dr. Sid Rosenthal's honor, with a plaque.

MOTION: To send a letter to the MBTA
(Roach – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Council on Aging Advisory Board Appointment

MOTION: To appoint Dr. Madhav Kacker from an alternate member to a full member of the Council on Aging Advisory Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2015
(Roach – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Council on Aging Advisory Board Appointment

MOTION: To appoint Dr. Hridaya Bhargava as an alternate member of the Council on Aging Advisory Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2017
(Roach – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Topics not reasonably anticipated forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting

MOTION: To approve banner request for the Sharon Travel Basketball Association from September 9 – 15, 2014 in the second position to highlight their travel basketball tryouts
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Chairman Heitin noted that at the last Board meeting, they wanted to get an independent study of the lake and he wants to get a small group of people together to iron out some of the issues. A fourth treatment of the lake is being done this week and the Board was just notified.

The composition of the working committee is: all three members of the Board of Selectmen; a representative from the Lake Management Study Committee; a representative from the Water Management Advisory Committee; a representative from the Conservation Commission; a representative from the Recreation Advisory Committee; a representative from the Department of Public Works; and two residents who live proximate to the lake to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Heitin noted that these meetings would be public meeting and Selectman McGrath hopes the communication problem will be fixed.

MOTION: To put together a lake review committee, consisting of all three members of the Board of Selectmen; a representative from the Lake Management Study Committee; a representative from the Water Management Advisory Committee; a representative from the Conservation Commission; a representative from the Recreation Advisory Committee; a representative from the Department of Public Works; and two residents who live proximate to the lake to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

(Heitin – Roach) **3-0 PASSES**

Executive Session – 7:50pm

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation, the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health of an individual, and to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and at the end, 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 9:20pm

(Roach – McGrath) **3-0 PASSES**

Heitin: Aye

McGrath: Aye

Roach: Aye