

**MINUTES**  
**SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
October 14, 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 – Friends of the Sharon Council on Aging – November 15**

Gordon Gladstone was present for the discussion. The Friends of the Sharon Council on Aging is requesting a one-day beer and wine license for the November 15, 2014 afternoon tea and dance for the LGBT community.

**MOTION:** To approve the license and waive the fee  
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

**One-Day Liquor License – First Baptist Church of Sharon – October 25**

Margaret Bynoe was present for the discussion. The First Baptist Church of Sharon is requesting a one-day beer and wine license for their October 25 anniversary gala at the Community Center. They would like to have a champagne toast at their October 25 gala. They will have a police detail.

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

**Change of Manager – Spring Valley Country Club – Carol King**

New manager Carol King was present. The Board was informed of the need for a new manager and the Board had no questions for Ms. King.

**MOTION:** To approve the change of manager transaction  
(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

**Treasurer/Collector Introduction**

Incoming Treasurer/Collector Alicia McOsker was present for the discussion. Finance Director Cindy Doherty was also present. Ms. McOsker will begin on October 27.

Ms. McOsker explained that she was the Treasurer/Collector for the Town of Braintree and worked in Chelsea while they were under state receivership. She has worked in a municipal setting for 18 years; in the financial industry for 30 years. She is excited for this opportunity and loves challenges.

Mr. Turkington asked the Board to sign the employment agreement for Ms. McOsker.

## **Veterans Club Alcohol License Fee Discussion**

Selectman McGrath explained that the current fee is \$500 per year and that a license fee survey was completed; some communities were similar to Sharon and some fees were lower, such as Canton, whose fee is \$275 per year. He feels that the veterans have served the country well and serve the community now as a group and believes that they should be exempt from the license fee.

Selectman Roach noted that he comes from a family of many veterans and does not believe that \$500 is too much but believes that charging no fee is not appropriate – perhaps \$175 per year. He feels that we are opening Pandora's Box and other groups are going to want their fees lowered.

Hilary Maguire, American Legion Post 106 Commander noted they have to carry appropriate insurance, undergo training, etc. They are giving back to the community through scholarships, a Box Tops drive to support the Heights Elementary School, etc. They have approximately 280 members and cannot rent their building because they it is not ADA compliant. Veterans Service Officer Paul Bergeron noted that a lot of the clients are on fixed incomes. There are 29 members in the VFW presently.

Chairman Heitin noted the results of the salary survey and commented that the average amongst the communities is \$950. Selectman McGrath reiterated that the veterans clubs should be exempt from the fee – it's a small token that the Town should do.

Chairman Heitin asked what the membership fee is and Ms. Maguire responded that the annual fees are \$30 per year - \$7 of which directly to the Legion and the rest to the state and national. According to Mr. Bergeron, \$1 per member is the fee at the VFW. He said that the building maintenance is done by donations and volunteers.

Chairman Heitin noted that we do an annual license fee review and can look at this then. Selectman McGrath believes that the case has been made to exempt the veterans clubs. Chairman Heitin believes this discussion has been an informative session and wants to look more closely at this issue and talk to Mr. Bergeron but believes that we can't keep nickel and diming all around. He believes we should be focusing on keeping them in business rather than determining if their annual liquor license fee will be of enough help to them.

The Board agreed to have a public hearing on this matter at the next possible meeting.

## **Board/Committee Reappointment Procedure – For Terms Expiring December 31, 2014**

Chairman Heitin noted that in the past, the Board has had everyone come in and have also reached out to see if anyone who wants to see re-appointment or not. Selectman Roach noted that the Board does not interview the one-year appointments. Selectman McGrath commented that there isn't a need to bring in those who are currently serving should they wish to serve again for another term.

The Board asked that the candidate for the Zoning Board of Appeals be invited to come to the next meeting.

Chairman Heitin suggested bringing in Conservation Commission Chair Peg Arguimbau and someone from the Council on Aging to get updates; Stan Rosen from the Board of Health; and someone from

Recreation. He suggested bringing them in and have them talk about what is going on in their committee.

## **Goals & Priorities – October 2014 through September 2015**

Chairman Heitin noted that the Board has had this item in their meeting packets for two meetings.

Mr. Turkington compiled his own list, after meeting with department heads, his own observations and after his discussions with the Board. He broke them into three groups: Fiscal, Organizational and Community:

### **Fiscal Goals:**

- Develop responsible and responsive operating and capital budgets that seek to balance the demand for services against the variety of financial circumstances of Sharon citizens and businesses. Manage Sharon's finances to mitigate dependence on property taxes by enhancing revenue from sources other than property taxes. Seize opportunities to reduce long-term costs in delivery of town government services and operations.
- Improve citizen understanding of fiscal condition.
- Review and modify as appropriate financial policies relative to undesignated fund balance, enterprise fund reserves, stabilization and capital funds, debt, overlay reserves, self-funded activities (health insurance), cash investments, and certified free cash.

### **Organizational Goals:**

- Develop comprehensive management and operations plan for maintenance of Town infrastructure.
- Strengthen accountability of organization through professional development, evaluation and recognition of senior management team.
- Improve internal systems and operations.

### **Community Goals:**

- Improve and enhance communication with residents through public meetings, print media, and electronic mediums.

Selectman Roach would like to review the Board's policies & procedures as part of the goals/objectives.

Chairman Heitin asked how Mr. Turkington would see these as measurable goals/objectives. Mr. Turkington is looking for ways to make sure the resources are allocated appropriately. Chairman Heitin noted that we can always add to them.

**MOTION:** To approve the mission statement and set of policy goals and objectives for town government through the fall of 2015

(McGrath – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

## **2014 Special Town Meeting Discussion**

The Board discussed a couple of changes to the warrant; the 175 Pond Street purchase should be moved to the second article and the Town Report distribution article should be removed. Additionally, the

Board would like to hear from someone from Southeastern Regional School District regarding their stabilization fund article.

Article	Topic	BOS Action
1	Transfer of funds from Treasurer's account to Accounting account	3-0 Support
2	Purchase of 175 Pond Street	3-0 Support
3	Transfer middle school project funds to public safety building project	3-0 Support
4	Re-appropriate funds approved at 2014 ATM	3-0 Support
5	Reallocation of funds for Fire Department & appropriate additional funds for portable radios	3-0 Support
6	CPC - Sharon Housing Authority request for \$45,000 for Window Replacement at South Pleasant Street School Family Housing Development  CPC - Library Palladium Windows (\$2,500)	3-0 Support
7	Southeastern's request for stabilization fund article	Hold
8	Animal Control by-law update	3-0 Support

### Report of the Town Administrator

The Town Administrator reported the following:

- He will provide quarterly expense and revenue reports to the Board.
- The tax classification hearing will be November 25.
- Reviewed funding sources for the Fall Town Meeting articles.
- Met with the leaders from Civil Defense and will meet again with a larger group tomorrow, Wednesday.
- Nearing a conclusion to the library negotiations.
- Employee Development Day is this Friday.
- Cell tower revenue RFP is due this Thursday.
- Tax title agreement for Old Post Road Holdings, Inc. has been continued.
- The Salvation Army has met with the neighbors and is working toward a solution.
- He is meeting next week with the representatives from the Community Gardens folks.

Selectman McGrath asked if a date has been set for the Lake Massapoag Review Committee and Chairman Heitin noted that information is being compiled and hopes to have a date set before the end of October. Some of the documentation has been difficult to obtain, however, such as lake studies, lake level data, etc.

Selectman McGrath commented that there is a meeting on October 21 at 7:00pm regarding the NSTAR switching station. It is unclear as to the attendees, but he believes that both sides will be in attendance.

## **Review & Approve Consent Calendar**

- Vote the question of approving the regular session minutes of September 30, 2014
- Vote the question of approving the regular session minutes of October 6, 2014
- Vote the question of approving the banner request for the First Congregational Church from December 1-8, 2014 in the second position to announce their Annual Evergreen Bazaar
- Vote the question of approving the solar salt and rock salt contract for snow and ice control to Eastern Minerals, Inc. and Morton Salt
- Vote the question of signing the 2014 Special Town Meeting Warrant
- Vote the question of approving the Tax Title Agreement with Old Post Road Holdings, LLC

**MOTION:** To approve the October 14, 2014 consent calendar

(Roach – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

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

None

## **Executive Session – 8:06pm**

**MOTION:** To enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation, strategy with respect to collective bargaining, 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**

## **Adjournment**

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

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

Heitin: Aye

McGrath: Aye

Roach: Aye