

MINUTES
SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
 October 24, 2013

The meeting of the Sharon Board of Selectmen was opened at 6:33pm at Sharon Town Hall with Chairman Walter “Joe” Roach, Selectman Richard Powell, Selectman William Heitin and Town Administrator Benjamin E. Puritz.

250th Anniversary Committee Appointments

MOTION: To waive the residency requirement for David I. Clifton, Jr.
 (Powell – Heitin) 3-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To approve the following individuals to serve on the 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee:

First Name	Last Name
Peg	Arguimbau
Todd	Arnold
Paul	Bergeron
Mitchell	Blaustein
Marlene	Chused
David	Clifton
Chris	Doherty
Barry	Fireman
Lt. John	Ford
Bill	Fowler
Ralph	Generazzo
Bill	Heitin
Amanda	Levasseur
Bob	Levin
Holly	Lite
Dave	Martin
JJ	McGrath
Lou	Modestino

Rich	Powell
Ben	Puritz
Luba	Raynus
Paul	Remy
Elliott	Rittenberg
Joe	Roach
Nina	Rogoff
Gloria	Rose
Laura	Rosenspan
Linda	Salon
Roberta	Saphire
Jerry	Saphire
Rick	Schantz
Shirley	Schofield
Daniel	Sirkin
Emily	Smith-Lee
Tim	Traut-Savino
Carolyn	Weeks
Bob	Weeks

(Heitin – Powell) 3-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: That the three Selectmen and David I. Clifton, Jr. serve as Chairs of the 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee
 (Roach – Powell) 3-0 **PASSES**

Bond Authorization Note

Voted: that the sale of \$8,877,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2013 Bonds of the Town dated October 30, 2013 (the “Bonds”), to FTN Financial Capital Markets at the price of \$9,201,592.63 and accrued interest, if any, is hereby approved and confirmed. The Bonds shall be payable October 15 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates as listed in the Bonds.

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Bonds, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated October 9, 2013, and final Official Statement dated October 17, 2013, each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the Town Treasurer and the Board of Selectmen be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a significant events disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the Town, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Bonds for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures in such form as the Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Bonds.

Further Voted: that each member of the Board of Selectmen, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

Further Voted: the bonds shall be subject to redemption at the option of the Town, upon such terms and conditions as set forth by the official statement.

(Heitin – Powell) 3-0 **PASSES**

Water Rates

DPW Superintendent Eric Hooper was present for the discussion. Mr. Hooper that we have gone back and forth on this issue many times, with the Water Management Advisory Committee and in public hearings in front of the Selectmen. His current proposal offers no increase in the fixed fee, some decreases in the block break points and a slight increase in one of the middle blocks during the spring/summer. It will raise \$200,000 in revenue, which is based on last year's water usage. As water becomes more expensive, they use less, so not as much will be raised, but this is approaching where we need to get as a town. Mr. Hooper noted that it's important for the town to adjust the rates each year. The rates would go into effect on January 1, 2014.

Selectman Heitin would like to make a small modification in Mr. Hooper's proposal. He explained that stability in the base rate is needed to make improvements in the infrastructure. He proposes changing the base rate to \$20 per quarter. This increase would put the town another step closer to improving the infrastructure. An abatement process is available for those who won't be able to afford the additional \$5 per quarter. He feels to be connected to the system for \$80 per year is relatively inexpensive. An additional \$5 per quarter will generate another \$100,000 in revenue and will put us another step closer in making improvements to the infrastructure.

MOTION: Increase the base rate to \$20.00; that the summer rates be \$4.00, \$7.00, \$10.00 and \$13.50; that the winter rates be \$3.00, \$6.00, \$9.00 and \$12.00; the Other rates would be \$30.00 for the base, and \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00 and \$5.50; the Irrigation rates would be \$37.50 for the base, and \$10.00, \$10.00, \$11.00 and \$13.50.

(Heitin – Powell)

Selectman Heitin noted that the only thing changing from Mr. Hooper's proposal is the base rate from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per quarter.

Selectman Powell thinks the proposal before the Board addresses a lot of the concerns that the Water Management Advisory Committee had, as well as the resident's concerns. He agrees with Selectman Heitin about raising the base fee and is comfortable with his proposal. He added that the town may need to look at an assessment fee sometime down the road.

Chairman Roach noted that the Board has had two water rates hearings this year and that a lot of people were upset at the block rates and the base fee. Mr. Hooper heard both sides, looked at the proposal and came back with a revised proposal. He agrees with his colleagues that we do need to get the rates higher, but believes that our department heads do a great job and the Board shouldn't micromanage. He is going to support the water rates as Mr. Hooper has presented. He also agrees that we need to revisit water rates each year.

Selectman Powell believes we need to make the investment in our infrastructure and understands the impact the rate increases may have on some people.

Vote: 2-1 **PASSES**

Town Administrator Screening Committee

Selectman Powell recused himself from the discussion.

Chairman Roach noted that the Board needs to appoint four members and Len Sacon from the Personnel Board will be the fifth member as its appointee.

Selectman Heitin noted that attorney and former Finance Committee member David Fixler would be his first recommendation and his other recommendation would be Steven Rabb, who grew up in Sharon and was active in youth sports.

Chairman Roach said that his first recommendation is Paul Pietal, a former Finance Committee member and his second recommendation is Colleen Tuck, a former Selectwoman, who served on the Board when Mr. Puritz was hired.

MOTION: To name the following four individuals to the Town Administrator Screening Committee: David Fixler, Steven Rabb, Paul Pietal and Colleen Tuck
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0-1 (with Selectman Powell recusing himself) **PASSES**

Chairman Roach reminded residents that the Halloween Parade is this Sunday at 3:30pm, and it begins and ends at Town Hall.

Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting

None

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 6:58pm