

MINUTES
SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
July 21, 2015

The meeting of the Sharon Board of Selectmen was called to order in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Sharon Town Hall at 7:02pm with Chairman William A. Heitin, Clerk Walter B. Roach, Selectman John J. McGrath, and Town Administrator Frederic E. Turkington, Jr.

Community Center Usage Fee Discussion

Chairman Heitin explained that the Board is to consider the fees for the Men's Club, the Garden Club and the Lions Club for their use of the Sharon Community Center. He is comfortable with accepting the proposals of the organizations. Selectman Roach thanked the Garden Club for stepping forward with contributing toward their use of the Community Center's facilities. Selectman McGrath believes that since we are going to leave the Men's Club the status quo, the Board should do the same for the Garden Club, which would be no fee at all. He feels they should use their funds for additional supplies. The Board and town officials had good intentions of trying to come up with a creative way to charge groups for their use of the Community Center, but he feels the capital and operating budgets of the town is a smaller impact than the impact of the fee on the Garden Club.

Chairman Heitin noted that it was the intention of the town when the Community Center was built to charge user fees and be self-sustaining. Selectman McGrath said that does not change his mind; the Garden Club should not have to pay \$50/meeting for their use of the Community Center.

Selectman Roach said that when the Community Center was renovated, fees were going to need to be set, but not price them out of the building. He agrees that the Garden Club does beautiful work.

MOTION: To accept the fees as recommended by the Garden Club, Men's Club and Lion's Club
(Heitin – Roach) 2-1 **PASSES** (with Selectman McGrath voting in the negative)

Potential Special Town Meeting Discussion

Mr. Turkington reviewed the two draft Town Meeting schedules to the Board. The January meeting date has not been vetted by the Moderator, Town Clerk, etc. We have only a handful of potential warrant articles, and none appear to be time-sensitive at this point. The School Committee has had conversations about the Heights Elementary roof, which failed by one vote at Town Meeting. Selectman McGrath asked if the roof was postponed until the Spring Town Meeting, would it cause more damage. Mr. Turkington said that it is possible a January meeting date might be needed for the roof.

Sealer of Weights & Measures Transition Discussion

Chairman Heitin explained that the Town of Sharon's Sealer of Weights and Measures, Charlie Healy, has indicated that he plans to retire at the end of the calendar year. He recently introduced Mark Coyne to Mr. Turkington as a candidate for the position. Mr. Coyne is presently the Sealer of Weights and Measures for the City of Brockton. He intends to retain his position in Brockton and conduct inspections for Sharon during times he is not on Brockton's payroll. He has already confirmed there is no prohibition to him simultaneously holding two positions. If selected, he would accept the compensation that Mr. Healy receives, which is \$4,196 for Fiscal Year 2016.

Selectman Roach asked if we could advertise the position. Mr. Turkington noted that Mr. Healy spoke with other Sealers and Mr. Coyne has expressed interest but that we will advertise the position.

Capital Outlay Committee & Priorities Committee Appointments

MOTION: To appoint Chairman Heitin and Selectman McGrath to the Priorities Committee
(Roach – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To appoint Chairman Heitin and Selectman Roach to the Capital Outlay Committee, with Selectman McGrath as the Alternate
(Heitin – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Consider approval of lease extension with AT&T and new lease with Sprint for the water tower location at 135R Upland Road; consider proposal from Crescendo to monetize the leases

Mr. Turkington explained that the Town opened bids on May 11 for an RFP for mobile communications equipment to be installed on water department facilities on Upland Road. The lease of the existing carrier – AT&T – expired on March 1, 2015. A renewal was not possible (pending the vote on the Town Meeting article), and the Town issued the RFP to meet the procurement rules, fully expecting AT&T to submit the numbers equaling the threatened lower-than-current base rent offer they had made in February that didn't include an annual COLA. Instead, the RFP yielded a proposal from AT&T for an amount equal to the current rent and included an annual COLA of at least 2.5% (CPI indexing averaged 3.3% over past 30 years), with 5 year renewals up to 30 years. If approved by the Board tonight, we can then monetize into a lump sum payment the AT&T lease because it is an extension of an existing 10 year expiring lease. We can monetize and assign the lease with AT&T for \$360,000.

MOTION: To approve the lease with AT&T and accept the lease assignment with Crescendo
(Heitin – McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Town Administrator Performance Evaluation Discussion

This item will be held until the next meeting.

Consent Calendar

- I. Vote to approve regular minutes of June 25, 2015, and regular and executive session minutes of July 7, 2015
- II. Vote to approve the banner request from the Unitarian Church of Sharon for their 63rd Annual Bean Supper from August 31 – September 14 in second position
- III. Vote to approve the banner request from the Bilingual Montessori School of Sharon to announce their school opening from August 10-17 in first position and August 24-31 in second position
- IV. Vote to approve Common Victualler's License to Giri Sharon, LLC for the Hotel known as Best Western Plus The Inn at Sharon/Foxboro at 395 Old Post Road

MOTION: To approve the July 21, 2015 consent calendar
(Heitin - McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Town Administrator's Report

The Town Administrator reported the following:

- Provided an update on the COA Director search. The screening committee will be interviewing four candidates on Monday evening.
- Sharon resident Matthew Baldassari has been hired as the Facilities Supervisor and will begin on August 17.

- Lance DelPriore has been hired as the Assistant Town Engineer/Planning Specialist and will begin on August 3.
- The peer town review has been worked on by our staff for the Finance Committee to review.
- 175 Pond Street was demolished – came in under budget; unspent funds will revert back to the General Fund.
- Three companies attended the pre-bid meeting for the Town Hall/Fire Station Accessibility and Building Renovation Study last week and the deadline for bids is this Thursday.
- He is recommending holding the next Selectmen’s meeting on August 11 and the Board agreed.

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

Chairman Heitin offered the following announcements:

August 6 - 21st Annual Square Jam from 6-8:30pm in Post Office Square.

August 9 – Sharon Triathlon

September 19 – Light Up the Night festivities around Lake Massapoag

September 20 – 250th Parade

Selectman McGrath read letters of commendation from retired Chief Joseph Bernstein to Officers Kraus and Manetta regarding their life saving measures. He also read letters from Lieutenant Ford to Officers Leavitt and Fitzhenry regarding their assistance with a presentation at the Sharon Police and Fire Museum.

Executive Session

The executive session was cancelled.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 7:31pm
(Heitin - McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Heitin: Aye

McGrath: Aye

Roach: Aye