

**MINUTES**  
**SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
*April 13, 2017*

The meeting of the Sharon Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00pm in the Town Hearing Room at the Sharon Community Center with Chairman Walter B. Roach, Clerk John J. McGrath and Town Administrator Frederic E. Turkington, Jr.

**Public Hearing – Eversource Petition of Location of Wires**

**MOTION:** To open the public hearing at 7:02pm  
(McGrath - Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

Jack Lopes from Eversource was present for the public hearing. The petition is for the location of wires. The project is the Walpole to Holbrook 115-kV Reliability Project. Eversource needs a permit from the town for the wires to go over the right-of-way. They will work with the Police Department on details. Mr. Lopes noted that abutters will be notified in advance when they are coming to do the work; they will be on existing rights-of-way. Selectman McGrath asked when Eversource anticipates this project beginning, and Mr. Lopes noted that they are hoping to start in the fall, pending approval from the Energy Facilities Siting Board.

**MOTION:** To close the public hearing at 7:09pm  
(McGrath - Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

**MOTION:** To approve  
(McGrath - Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

**Discussion with Jodi Tolman, Sales Director, Salmon Assisted Living of Sharon**

Jodi Tolman, Sales Director for Salmon Assisted Living of Sharon, appeared before the Board. She wanted to share with the Board some preliminary information about Salmon Assisted Living of Sharon. They are the only senior living community in Sharon, and are on schedule to open in the first two weeks of September. They are family-owned and operated and have five existing campuses, with Sharon opening soon and another one in the following year. They will be strictly assisted living and memory care in 88 apartments. They have an innovative approach to memory care, and expect this community to fill very quickly. They have already had a tremendous amount of interest. Their welcome center (sales trailer) is on site and open.

Chairman Roach asked about ambulance services. Ms. Tolman replied that they do not have their own ambulance, so a town ambulance would be called for emergencies. They have a van available for off-site activities, shopping, scheduled doctor's appointments in the immediate area, and will contract with private transportation services for residents that have medical appointments in Boston.

Ms. Tolman added that Salmon hopes to partner with the Council on Aging on various programs. Ms. Tolman explained the levels of medical staffing that will be on-site as well as on-call.

Chairman Roach asked if the Board members would be able to get a tour of the facility, and Ms. Tolman noted that they would be more than willing to host a hard-hat tour for the Board.

Selectman McGrath asked about on-site security. Ms. Tolman noted that they will have personnel 24/7.

Exterior doors will lock at 8:00pm, and family members will receive key fobs; those without fobs will need to be buzzed in. She noted that the front desk concierge will serve as security, who will be trained. Selectman McGrath asked, on average, how many of their residents, will drive their own cars. She can't give a solid percentage, but she would be surprised if it reached 50%.

Ms. Tolman described the outdoor amenities available to the residents and noted that she reached out to Chiefs Kaufman and Wright about security and they will be meeting soon.

Ms. Tolman thanked the Board for their time.

### **Trash Program Finances and Service Options Update**

Mr. Turkington noted that he and DPW Superintendent Eric Hooper have been getting ready for the next contract for solid waste and recycling. Republic Waste Services has been the Town's hauler since at least January 1, 2008. As of January 1, 2017, 5,255 households are billed a quarterly fee (currently \$54 per quarter or \$216 per year) to provide weekly collection of solid waste without limit manually contained in plastic bags or resident-provided barrels and bi-weekly collection of recyclable materials in a barrel provided by the Town. The fee must also cover disposal costs, yard waste collection each fall, and the annual household hazardous waste day.

Solid waste collection and disposal costs can be broken down into key components. As of January 1, 2017, Republic is paid an annual fee per household for manual weekly collection of solid waste of \$114.46. Bi-weekly recycling collection costs \$57.48 per household. There is an annual charge for 8 weeks of curbside bagged yard waste collection totaling \$41,838.93. Built into these costs are billing services to 5,255 households. The rate was set by the Board of Selectmen at \$54.00 per quarter or \$216.00 per year in May 2010. Republic charges \$25.67 per unit for white good or bulky item collection when requested ahead by residents.

The disposal fee for solid waste at SEMASS was set in January 1, 2015 at \$65 per ton. The agreement includes a 2.5% annual escalation in the tipping fee. However, the fee is offset by a \$4.75 per ton delivery credit and a \$0.25 per ton credit to fund community outreach programs to support recycling efforts. Both of these credits have 2.5% annual escalators. The contract runs through December 31, 2024. Prior to calendar year 2015, the Town received a favorable tipping rate under a 30 year contract with SEMASS dating to 1985 of less than \$36 a ton. Recyclable material is disposed of at a Waste Management, Inc. transfer facility in Auburn. While Republic once received a small value per ton for glass, newspaper and metal containers, we are told that they now pay an average of \$14 per ton to dispose of these items. The current contract presumes that Republic does not charge for disposal of recyclable materials, keeping any proceeds and absorbing any cost. We can expect that issue to be reflected in a new contract.

While the \$54 quarterly fee has remained unchanged since 2010, collection costs have risen between 2.5% and 3% per year and the cost of disposal at SEMASS has jumped from \$35 to more than \$60 per ton since January 1, 2015, and will continue to rise by 2% per year through the end of 2024. Revenue from the quarterly fee at current subscription is expected to generate \$1,135,080 in calendar year 2017. The cost for solid waste and recycling collection and fall yard waste removal costs \$945,909. The difference of \$90,071 is insufficient to cover the estimated cost of solid waste disposal at SEMASS ( $4,600 \text{ tons} \times \$63.0375/\text{ton} = \$289,972.50$ ). Without changing the solid waste collection and disposal service delivery system, the quarterly fee would need to increase by \$11 from \$54.00 to \$65 or from \$216 to \$268 per year just to cover current year expenses.

Town administration was already developing options for Selectmen consideration for a new collection contract based on citizen feedback when the Sustainable Sharon Coalition began a public information campaign for a

move to the SMART cart program (35g container) to drive customer behavior to reduce solid waste and increase recycling. Anecdotal comments suggest that some households which fill their 96g recycling containers in less than 2 weeks dispose of some recyclable materials in solid waste. These households, typically larger families, advocate for weekly recycling collection. Republic reports that some communities offer a second large recycling cart at no charge to address these customers, with less than 5% of households taking advantage of the option. It is difficult to predict with accuracy the likely savings from reduced tonnage. However, because the cost of weekly collection of recyclables is likely to double current costs (nearly matching the tipping fee for all solid waste), any reduction in solid waste stream would have a minimal impact on the higher collection costs. A change to weekly recycling collection alone is likely to require the quarterly fee to increase by \$15. Mr. Turkington and Mr. Hooper are also looking for ways to enhance the service, such as automated collection. They have received a 60-day negotiation window in order to negotiate changes in service delivery and the corresponding fee.

Mr. Turkington plucked data from neighboring communities and comparable communities. In terms of recycling percentage, most communities are within the 25-34%. Mr. Turkington wanted to provide the Board with a brief overview of where the town stands at this point.

Chairman Roach spoke about the drop-off for cardboard and the need for a space year-round. Mr. Turkington noted that a new location is needed (town or school or local business or religious institution), perhaps limited to a container for cardboard with a slotted opening to assure boxes are broken down. Another option is to negotiate access by Sharon residents at a reduced fee to transfer stations in a neighboring town.

The advocacy group noted that there is a lot of support for the 35-gallon totes and reminded residents of the public forum on April 26 at 7:00pm in the Adult Center at the Community Center. They spoke at length about their cable program.

#### Consent Calendar

- I. Vote to approve regular & executive session minutes of March 28, 2017 and regular session minutes of March 30, 2017
- II. Vote to approve the following banner requests of the Veterans' Agent:
  - a. Flag Day Banner - June 5-15, 2017, 1st position
  - b. Memorial Day Events Banner - May 22-29, 2017, 1st position
  - c. Veterans Day Program Banner - November 6-13, 2017, 1st position
- III. Vote to sign the 2017 Annual Town Meeting Warrant
- IV. Vote to approve the one-day alcohol license for The Friendship Circle's comedy night event at the Community Center on Sunday, May 7, 2017 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm
- V. Vote to approve the one-day alcohol license for Linda Hotes on Sunday, June 11, 2017 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm at the Community Center
- VI. Vote to appoint Helen Campanario as the Records Access Officer for the School Department
- VII. Vote to approve SERSG's DPW Services Contracts from March 15, 2017 - January 31, 2018 for pavement reclamation and sidewalk construction & setting of curbs & edging with a total estimated value of \$197,231
- VIII. Vote to approve the outdoor water use restrictions from May 1, 2017 through October 1, 2017: that outdoor water use be restricted for odd numbered homes to 6:00pm to 8:00pm on Mondays and Thursdays, and for even numbered homes to 6:00pm to 8:00pm on Tuesdays and Fridays

**MOTION:** To approve the April 13, 2017 consent calendar, as read and understood  
(McGrath - Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

## Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Turkington reported the following:

- The Lake Management Advisory Committee is seeking a reserve fund transfer for the treatment of invasive weeds
- The Public Safety Citizens Academy will begin on May 3 and run each Wednesday until June 28
- There are two upcoming retirements – Glenn Peck from DPW and Phil McAneny from Police
- The Recreation Department will be presenting the concession stand agreement at the Board's next meeting.
- With respect to health insurance, Sharon is self-insured and has not increased rates for four years; however, a 7% increase will be required effective July 1, 2017
- Moody's rating call will take place on April 24

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

Mr. Turkington noted that the Memorandum of Understanding before the Board has already been signed by the owner of Sharon Gallery. It contains an agreement relative to an interbasin transfer and a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) for any non-profit that leases property there.

**MOTION:** To approve and sign the Memorandum of Understanding, as read and understood  
(McGrath – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

Resident Alice Cheyer read a lengthy prepared statement to clarify statements made about her citizen petition at the March 28 meeting. There was an extended discussion between the Board, Ms. Cheyer and Mr. Hooper. Selectman McGrath reiterated his support for the warrant article. Chairman Roach would have preferred to see language that nothing could be done there without the consent of the Board of Selectmen and the Conservation Commission. In a survey, he could not find a community that had its Conservation Commission control a well. Mr. Turkington noted the concerns about the language as written, particularly about the control of the wells under the Conservation Commission, despite that the Board of Selectmen are the Water Commissioners – ownership trumps easements.

## Adjournment

**MOTION:** To adjourn at 8:34pm  
(McGrath - Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

### List of Documents

- Petition and plans – Public Hearing for Eversource Petition of Location of Wires  
(New Transmission Line Construction – Right of Way 4 Walpole, MA to Holbrook, MA (PN 2015-1072)
- February 3, 2017 letter & plans from Theresa Feuersanger of Eversource
- December 9, 2016 letter, petition and plans from Michael Sutton, P.E. of VHB
- March 2, 2017 Memo from Town Engineer Peter O'Cain re: Eversource Petition of Location of Wires
- Public Hearing notice and abutters list
- Memorandum from Frederic E. Turkington, Jr. regarding status of finances and service delivery options for solid waste and recycling
- Allied Waste Services Town of Sharon tonnage report by commodity
- March 28, 2017 letter from DPW Superintendent Eric Hooper re: Trash & Recyclables
- March 31, 2017 letter from Terry Grady, Municipal Service Manager for Republic Services
- Town of Norwell pay-as-you-go data
- March 28, 2017 Board of Selectmen Minutes

- March 30, 2017 Board of Selectmen Minutes
- One-Day Alcohol License Application – Chanie Minkowitz, Friendship Circle
- One-Day Alcohol License Application – Linda Hotes
- SERSG DPW Services Award for 3/15/2017-1/31/2018
- April 6, 2017 Letter from DPW Superintendent Eric Hooper regarding outdoor water use restrictions
- Banner request applications: Veterans' Agent
- Report of the Town Administrator
- Miscellaneous Correspondence