

MINUTES
SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
May 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 Walter "Joe" Roach and Selectman William A. Heitin.

Automated Beach Gate Request

Resident Michael Oshman, 38 Harold Street, was present for the discussion.

Mr. Oshman explained to the Board that since the gate at Gunhouse is now locked, he and his family have to walk further to get to the beach to access it via the main entrance. As a result, this has affected his quality of life and he fears this gate closure could affect his property value, as he can no longer state that it is a five-minute walk to the beach. Mr. Oshman went on to say that he feels there are higher technology solutions to this problem instead of paying young people to monitor the gates and is suggesting an automated gate for next year, a more cost-effective solution. He feels a short-term solution is necessary – perhaps an alternative master key for the gate.

Chairman Roach said that it would cost \$1,200 just to set the pole by NSTAR, then another \$3,000 plus for the electricity. Chairman Roach also expressed concern about automated gate vandalism and the cost to the town for repairs.

Selectman Heitin asked Recreation Director Amanda Levasseur how much a gate guard costs for the season and she replied that the cost is \$6,000. Selectman Heitin said that the master key is a tricky issue and he would need to think about it further. The Board will consider his proposal.

Mr. Oshman thanked the Board for taking his concerns into consideration.

Wine Sales at Crescent Ridge Farmer's Market

Mark Parrish from Crescent Ridge was present for the discussion.

The Farmer's Market is scheduled from June 14 – October 25, 2014 and they are seeking permission to have wine sales from Westport Rivers Vineyard & Winery. Mr. Parrish expects the farmer's market to be the same size as last year. They will have a police detail, as necessary

MOTION: To approve the wine sales for the Farmer's Market at Crescent Ridge Dairy, as requested (Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

One-Day Liquor License – June 7, 2014

Amy Goldman from *It's Your Party by Amy* was present for the discussion.

Ms. Goldman explained the event and the layout. There will be a bar in the lobby and a beverage station in the ballroom for the young people. They have a certified bartender.

MOTION: To approve the one-day liquor license for June 7, 2014 at the Sharon Community Center, as discussed
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

Town Beach Rules Approval / Recreation Department Update

Recreation Director Amanda Levasseur was present for the discussion.

One of the pending items for the beach rules is fishing from the beaches. She is suggesting that fishing on town beaches or on beach docks be prohibited from 10am – 6:00pm during the official beach season. Further, she is suggesting that U.S. be added to the phrase “Coast Guard Approved Personal Flotation Devices.

MOTION: To approve the amended beach rules, as presented
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

Ms. Levasseur noted that the 2014 summer brochure is out and has lots of great information. Registration is underway and we have 200 passes sold. Chairman Roach asked how the staffing is going. They are still interviewing for some of the summer positions. She noted that the lifeguard positions are harder to fill and they have an interview tomorrow.

Concession Stand Discussion

Nancy Munroe was present for the discussion.

The Recreation Director noted that the agreement has been signed and the menus have been received.

Ms. Munroe will be available from 8am-8pm but will see what the community demands. She added that she will expand the menu, if need be and noted that they are using fresh, local ingredients. Chairman Roach asked if there will be a grill outdoors and she replied that there will be a grill, which has been approved by the Fire and Building Departments. She would love to work with any special events that the Town is having.

MOTION: To approve the concession stand agreement and related menu and the lease of the concession stand, as discussed
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

Approval of Minutes – May 5, 2014

MOTION: To approve the regular session minutes of May 5, 2014
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

Banner Request – Islamic Center of New England

MOTION: To approve the banner request from the Islamic Center of New England for their “Annual Food Fair” banner, to be hung from May 28 – June 2, 2014 in the second position
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

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

Chairman Roach announced that the Fire Department is holding an open house this Saturday from noon-3:00pm, with hot dogs and drinks.

Chairman Roach announced the Memorial Day services: On Sunday, May 15 at 1:30pm gravesite services will take place at Rock Ridge Cemetery, followed by the civic ceremony outside of Town Hall at 2:20pm.

Chairman Roach announced that the Police Chief is recommending three promotions. Selectman Heitin read the memo from the Chief, which reads as follows:

I recommend Lieutenant Tilden Kaufman be promoted to Deputy Chief, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Deputy Chief McGrath. Lt. Kaufman has been employed with the Sharon Police Department since 1986, first as a patrol officer until being promoted to Sergeant in 1993, then to Lieutenant in 1996. The vast majority of his service time as Lieutenant he oversaw the Administrative/Detective Division, but for cross-training and development served as the Uniform Division Commander for approximately one year. Having grown up in Sharon, graduating from Sharon High School and working here so many years, make him a well-known commodity.

I recommend Sergeant Donald Brewer for promotion to the rank of Lieutenant, filling an open position created by the promotion of Lieutenant Kaufman to Deputy Chief. He has been a Sergeant since 2010, a full time officer since 2006 and prior to that a part-time off starting in August 2004. During his tenure he has proven himself to be an excellent candidate for the position. He resides in Sharon with his wife and children.

I recommend Officer Jeffrey Penders for promotion to the rank of Sergeant, filling an open position created by the promotion of Sergeant Brewer to Lieutenant. Two officers passed the written exam with Officer Penders scoring the highest. He interviewed very well in front of a panel of Commanding Officers from area communities and was the unanimous choice. He has been employed with the Town since 1995, first as a part-time dispatcher and then full-time, as a full time police officer since 2001, and as temporary Sergeant for one year.

MOTION: To approve the promotion of Tilden Kaufman from Lieutenant to the rank of Deputy Chief

(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To approve the promotion of Donald Brewer from Sergeant to the rank of Lieutenant

(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To approve the promotion of Jeffrey Penders from Officer to the rank of Sergeant

(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

There will a pinning ceremony at a later date.

MOTION: To award the contract for paper supplies to low bidder W.B. Mason Co. Inc. as detailed in the SERSG IFB bid for a twelve month period commencing July 1, 2014 in the amount of \$53,030.80
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To award the contract for water and sewer treatment chemicals to the low bidders as detailed in the SERSG IFB bid for a twelve month period commencing July 1, 2014 in the amount of \$169,218.50
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To award the contract for DPW supplies to the low bidders as detailed in the SERSG IFB bid for a twelve month period commencing July 1, 2014 in the amount of \$530,405.25
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

Executive Session – 7:43pm

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session to discuss real property transfer and pending litigation, and at the end, to return to open session. Discussion of any of these items in open session would be detrimental to the Town.

Roach: Aye
Heitin: Aye

The Board returned to open session at 8:06pm.

Approval of Employment Agreement for FY15-FY17 – Police Chief Joseph Bernstein

The Police Chief was present for the discussion.

MOTION: To approve the employment agreement between the Town of Sharon and Police Chief Joseph Bernstein, as written
(Heitin – Roach) 2-0 **PASSES**

Ames Street Building Renovation

The discussion will be held for a future meeting.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:09pm

Roach: Aye
Heitin: Aye