

MINUTES
SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 23, 2018

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 John J. McGrath, Clerk William A. Heitin, Selectman Walter B. Roach, Town Administrator Frederic E. Turkington, Jr. and Assistant to the Town Administrator Lauren Barnes. The meeting commenced with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Beach Fees Public Hearing

Recreation Director Linda Berger and Assistant Recreation Director Jon Lewitus appeared before the Board.

MOTION: To open the public hearing at 7:00pm
(Heitin - Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Ms. Berger explained that the Recreation Department was present at the October 17th Open Forum at the Board of Selectmen's meeting to hear concerns voiced by residents regarding the 2017 beach fee structure. Following the Open Forum, the Recreation Advisory Committee held their October meeting and weighed various options in response to the feedback provided.

The public hearing held in October did not generate unanimous feedback. Opinions ranged from allowing free access to the beach as part of the tax base, to charging user fees, to not guarding the beach, to adding additional guards. Understanding that not all feedback can be satisfied, the Sharon Recreation Department is presenting option(s) that we feel cover the majority of feedback that came before the committee, within the parameters of our control.

On November 16th, the Recreation Advisory Committee voted in favor of staffing a gate guard at all three gates allowing entrance into the beach from the walking path (Gunhouse to Massapoag). Anyone entering the walking path must present a season pass or purchase a daily walk-in pass for entry inside the gate.

Memorial Day weekend typically marks the start of the beach season. Over the past few years, weather has been unpredictable and at times, too cold to operate the beach so early in the season. As a result, we are presenting three options for consideration in setting the 2018 beach fees.

Option A: In this scenario, Veteran's Memorial Park Beach will open Memorial Day weekend. Operations will continue for weekends only until the last day of school and daily thereafter. This budget estimate will result in a projected (\$11,170) net loss.

Option B: In this scenario, Veteran's Memorial Park Beach would open for the season on the last day of school. This projected budget estimate will result in a projected (\$5,128.00) net loss. We would have a gate attendant present to open restroom facilities from 10am-7pm on Memorial Day weekend to weekend prior to end of school year. Swim would be at your own risk.

In all scenarios presented, Community Center Beach would open the day after school release and close mid-August.

In both option A or B, the fees established reflect the ability to purchase car passes and admission would include any individuals inside the vehicle, resident or otherwise. The car itself must be registered to a resident of Sharon which is confirmed during our registration process while using our software, City Hall Systems.

Any non-residents wishing to gain access to the beach could continue to purchase passes and use the facility at Community Center Beach (219 Massapoag Avenue).

The projected budget created is based on the current published 2017-18 school calendar. Should this winter, the Town of Sharon experience any inclement weather closures, the schedule would be adjusted accordingly.

2018 proposal:

2018 Proposed Fee Schedule			
Resident (Veterans Memorial or Community Center Beach)		Non Resident (Community Center Beach)	
Season Walk-In Passes		Season Walk-In Pass (No Parking at Community Center Beach Lot)	
Adult Walk In/Individual (18-61)	\$20	Adult Walk In/Individual (18-61)	\$40
Reduced Walk In/Individual (62+, Veteran, Handicap, Children 7-17)	\$15	Reduced Walk In/Individual (62+, Veteran, Handicap, Child 7-17)	\$30
Season Car Passes (2 plates per tag issued)		Season Car Passes (2 plates per tag issued)	
Adult Car	\$80	Adult Car	\$160
Reduced Car (62+, Veteran, Handicap)	\$45	Reduced Car (62+, Veteran, Handicap)	\$90
Daily Pass		Daily Pass	
Individual (Ages 7+)	\$4	Individual (Ages 7+)	\$8
Daily Car Pass	\$20	Daily Car Pass	\$30
Purple Heart	FREE	Purple Heart	N/A
Boat Ramp		Boat Ramp	
Resident Boat Ramp	\$75	NR Boat Ramp	\$75
1 day Boat Ramp	\$10	1 day Boat Ramp	\$10
Student Parking Pass			
Season (August to June)	\$125		
Half-Season (March to June)	\$75		

Chairman McGrath is concerned that disabled veterans are not included in the category of Purple Heart. Ms. Berger said that adjustment will be made.

In response to a question from Chairman McGrath, a gate guard for the Gunhouse entrance will be added this year. Chairman McGrath noted that this proposal is simple – the cost includes a car and everyone in the car; people do not need individual tags for themselves. Selectman Heitin believes this proposal is reasonable, and reverts back to the beach pass system from 2016 and prior years. Selectman Roach likes that the gate at Gunhouse will be manned.

Lajos Kamocsay of 15 Pleasant Street thanked the Board for going to the car pass system. He asked if residents can walk in with a car pass; Ms. Berger replied that residents cannot walk into the beach with a car pass; there is a different verification system.

Selectman Roach asked what the procedure is for the Community Center Beach. Ms. Berger replied that nothing is changing procedure-wise; the fee is the only thing that is changing.

MOTION: To close the public hearing at 7:15pm
(Heitin – Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To approve the 2018 beach fee proposal, as amended
(Heitin - Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Recreation Department - FY19 Budget Review

Recreation Director Linda Berger and Assistant Recreation Director Jon Lewitus appeared before the Board.

Ms. Berger explained that the main increase is in the salary line item - she is requesting her work schedule increase from 37.5 to 40 hours, if possible. Ms. Berger explained that she is requesting an increase in the equipment maintenance line item to allow for annual playground inspections and for ongoing playground maintenance; and requesting for an outside contractor to clean the Ames Street Playground, as there were vandalism issues last year.

The Board thanked Ms. Berger and Mr. Lewitus for their time.

SYBSA Opening Weekend Activities & Carnival

Jerry Wright from SYBSA appeared before the Board and presented the Board with the opening weekend schedule of activities.

SYBSA Opening Weekend Thursday, April 26th - Sunday April 29th:

Purpose:

The purpose of SYBSA opening weekend is to create excitement, enthusiasm and sense of community involvement for the softball and baseball programs. Secondarily, these events will be a fundraiser for SYBSA.

Communication with the following town organizations in process:

- Rec Department
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- DPW
- Board of Health
- Town Selectmen

Carnival Set up and hrs (approximation):

- Setup Monday and Tuesday
- State Inspections on Wednesday
- Operating Hours
 - Thursday 5pm - 10:00pm
 - Friday 5pm - 10:30pm
 - Saturday Noon - 10:30pm
 - Sunday 1pm - 8pm

Friday Evening, April 27th - opening Weekend Officially begins with Carnival at Deb Sampson parking lot w/ snack open, SYBSA ceremonies, DJ playing and games under the lights.

Friday, 6:00 pm Introduction of all Softball and Baseball Teams At Deborah Sampson Field B

- Drop off time to start at 5:30
- SYBSA officials supervising drop off and player organization on behind Snack Shack at Deborah Sampson
- Coaches and SYBSA officials will lead and organize players
- DJ Playing at Deborah Sampson as players arrive
- Deborah Sampson snack shack opening and functioning as it does for tournaments
- Each team is called onto the field by DJ

- Anthem
- First Pitch thrown out by designated honoree(s)
- Selectmen to be recognized
- Additional items to the program to be added (i.e. address by a Town official, etc.)
- After ceremonies, all softball & baseball players playing in their last year of the program will play in exhibition games. Each player will be recognized by being introduced on PA system and will receive a gift from SYBSA.
- Exhibition softball game will be played on Field A or Field B at DS
- Exhibition baseball game will be all 12 year old boys playing against each other on Field A or Field B at DS.
- Saturday & Sunday afternoon/ evening - Games for Softball at Ames and Baseball on DS

Carnival Safety/ logistics:

- Police attendance requested at all times during carnival operation or per town ordinances
- Fire department on notice and does not require attendance per Chief Wright (from 2013)
- Parking to be available on Field next to tennis Courts (Mites field), on East Foxboro, Gun House and other surrounding side streets as appropriate and per town ordinances
- SYBSA to coordinate parking lot attendant to supervise vehicles.
- SYBSA to provide and set up appropriate parking signs to direct traffic
- SYBSA officials to be in attendance
- Restrooms open at DS

Marketing and Communications:

- Messaging on Community Involvement, attendance and excitement
- Banner in center of town (potentially)
- Carnival company to post marketing material
- Placement in Advocate and Patch
- SYBSA email notifications
- Coaches and Parents word of mouth

Clean Up:

- SYBSA and Carnival Company will provide necessary resources for clean up at DS facilities working with town
- Parking lot to be inspected by SYBSA and Fiesta officials. Any damage to asphalt will be repaired in an acceptable and timely manner. Town officials welcome to inspect before and after.

Inclement Weather Contingency:

- Alternate weekend plan would be May 4th for the ceremonies only.

Selectman Heitin explained that this is the same proposal as in prior years.

MOTION: To approve SYBSA’s request for their annual Opening Weekend & Carnival festivities, pending necessary approvals from Police, Fire, DPW, and Board of Health
(Heitin - Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

A representative from Fiesta Shows noted that DPW Superintendent Eric Hooper was concerned about the damage done to the area between the tennis courts and the community gardens, and requested a \$2,000 bond posted for any future damages. Fiesta Shows will post the bond.

Petition Presentation – Ballot Question to Ban/Limit Recreational Marijuana

Connie Dai thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. Her group, Sharon CARES, requests that the Board of Selectmen place a ballot question on the May 2018 town election ballot that would allow voters to decide whether Sharon should ban recreational marijuana establishments. They have collected 736 signatures from Sharon residents who are opposed to recreational marijuana in Sharon.

Ms. Dai provided information Sharon CARES has gathered about the negative impacts of recreational marijuana. They advocate a ban of all types of recreational marijuana in Sharon and site the following reasons they feel recreational marijuana businesses should be banned:

- Irreparable harm to Sharon’s main character and core value
- Decreased perception of harmfulness of recreational pot
- Increased use and access by youth through increased unlawful dispensing
- Increased crime resulting from pot use
- Increased drugged drive more likely to cause traffic accidents
- Decreased property value

Chairman McGrath expressed his opposition to recreational marijuana in the Town of Sharon. He appreciates the information presented by Ms. Dai.

Resident Len Segal noted that marijuana has been rampant in town for a long time. The law was passed statewide, and believes we should concentrate on regulating it in the zoning bylaws, such as prohibiting it in the downtown. Chairman McGrath noted that streets near Route One will be impacted, and streets throughout town. Mr. Segal advised the community group keep the tone down, by referencing the yelling that took place at the recent Special Town Meeting.

Jesse Gardner is a new resident to Sharon, and moved to town after doing extensive research. He is concerned about his children and is concerned if marijuana is more readily available.

A resident expressed concerned about the town’s reputation, and hasn’t heard about any positives aside from the revenue. Another resident has two children who are not yet in high school; she is concerned about a shop only adding to the drug problem in town.

Mr. Turkington advised the Board that they need to contemplate in the next meeting or two whether or not to place this question on the ballot. He added that there are approximately four warrant articles related to marijuana. He reminded the Board that the existing medical marijuana facility has a right to convert to recreational marijuana. Mr. Turkington advises that the Board consider this issue, as the deadline to submit a ballot question is in March.

The Board thanked Ms. Dai for her time.

Police Department - FY19 Budget Review

Chief Tilden Kaufman and Deputy Chief John Ford appeared before the Board to review their budget proposal with the Board. Chief Kaufman explained that the FY19 budget proposal carries forward what the department presently has in terms of personnel. Contracts expiring in June of 2018 include the Deputy Chief, Sergeants/Patrolmen, and the Chief’s Confidential Secretary. Deputy Chief Ford noted that training is the one element that the department needs to stay on top of, and consequently, they are requesting additional funding for training, as well as cruiser maintenance.

The Board thanked the gentlemen for their time.

Fire Department - FY19 Budget Review

Chief Jim Wright appeared before the Board to review his department’s budget with the Board. Chief Wright explained that the FY19 budget proposal has no major changes; the main changes are contractual. He is looking to promote four firefighters to the Lieutenant position. The reason for this is for succession planning,

and allows personnel to develop leadership skills. Additionally, they will take over in the absence of the Captain. Crews are often split up due to call load, and having two leaders at the sites is ideal. We require officers to live in the callback area (15 minute drive from the fire station), and this will draw candidates from the area. Sharon uses very little mutual aid, and rarely has to call in other communities.

The other initiative that the department is continuing is for the health and wellness program. They intend to send staff to training opportunities and then will be able to train the rest of the staff. He spoke of the training resources within the department and the building. It's been a fantastic program.

The Board thanked Chief Wright for his time.

Approval of Fees for Variable Trash Cart Sizes

Mr. Turkington explained that the staff has prepared a letter to be sent to all residents next week, informing residents about changes to the solid waste and recycling collection plan, and provides instructions as to how to select their cart size. Mr. Turkington also provided the Board with a FY19 for the revolving fund.

Container Size	Cost per Quarter/Year
35 Gallon	\$72.50 / \$290.00
65 Gallon	\$89.50 / \$358.00
96 Gallon	\$104.50 / \$418.00

For those who do not select their cart size, the default size is the 35-gallon.

MOTION: To accept the recommendation of the solid waste and recycling program, as presented, effective July 1, 2018
(Heitin - Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Town Administrator Annual Performance Evaluation Discussion

Chairman McGrath explained the process of evaluating the Town Administrator: each member prepares their own evaluation and the Chair prepares a consolidated evaluation, taking into account comments and scores.

Mr. Turkington is pleased with the Board's comments, and appreciates the Board's confidence in him.

Chairman McGrath thanked Mr. Turkington for all of his hard work. Selectman Heitin recognized Ms. Barnes for her work as well.

MOTION: To accept the combined performance evaluation of the Town Administrator
(Heitin - Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Consent Calendar

- I. Vote to approve regular and executive session minutes of January 9, 2018
- II. Vote to set the date for the fall 2018 Special Town Meeting for either December 10 or December 13, 2018
- III. Vote to accept the Gavins Pond Land Transfer (*prepared motion to be read aloud by Clerk*) and sign Quitclaim Deed for 195 and 200 Gavins Pond Road, Sharon, MA 02067
- IV. Vote to appoint members to the Police Chief Screening Committee
- V. Vote to approve the banner request from the Sharon Garden Club for May 14-21, 2018 in 2nd position and cancel the week of May 7-14, 2018 in 1st position

- VI. Vote to authorize Jennifer Leavitt's and Kelly Troy's pay rate to be grandfathered per the previous Dispatcher's Union Contract and set at the highest step dispatch rate when authorized by the Police Chief to work dispatch shifts
- VII. Vote to approve out of state travel for the Fire Chief to attend the Congressional Fire Service Institute's National Fire and Emergency Services Symposium in Washington, DC from April 18-20, 2018
- VIII. Vote to approve the 2018 Class II Auto Dealer's License for DC Auto Sales
- IX. Vote to appoint Michaela Jergensen as a full member to the Historical Commission for a term through December 31, 2018
- X. Vote to appoint Janelle Dominique as an alternate member to the Historical Commission for a term through December 31, 2020

MOTION: To approve the consent calendar with December 10, 2018 as the date for the fall 2018 Special Town Meeting, with the exception of item III, which will be voted separately
 (Heitin - Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To transfer the care, custody, management and control of such land from the Board of Selectmen to the Conservation Commission for conservation purposes, for the protection and management of natural resources, and for the protection of the watershed resources of the Town of Sharon, allowing passive recreation thereon only, under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, §8C, as it may hereafter be amended and of Amended Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, the following land:

The land known and numbered as 200 Gavins Pond Road, Sharon, MA, shown as Parcel F-1 on a plan entitled "Lot Division Plan in Sharon, Massachusetts, 195 Gavins Pond Road" dated October 12, 2017, prepared by Borderland Engineering, Inc., containing approximately 7.78 acres of land.

The land shown as Parcel F-a, as shown on the above-referenced plan, containing approximately 11.250 acres of land.

The land shown as Parcel F-b, as shown on the above-referenced plan, containing approximately 8.784 acres of land.

It having been determined that the above-referenced land to be transferred is no longer needed for general municipal purposes.

Meaning and intending that the Board of Selectmen, in its capacity of Water Commissioners, retain care, custody, management and control of the land shown as Parcel F-c, as shown on the above-referenced plan, containing approximately 27.300 acres of land, to be held and managed for water supply protection purposes, and that the Board of Selectmen retain care, custody, management and control of the land shown as Parcel F-d, as shown on the above-referenced plan, containing approximately 8.132 acres of land, to be held and managed by the Board of Selectmen for recreation purposes.

Said Parcels F-a, F-b, F-c, and F-d are known as and numbered 195 Gavins Pond Road, Sharon, MA.
 (Heitin - Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Town Administrator's Report

- Mr. Turkington reported the following:
- The rescheduled three-board meeting is next Monday, January 29. Materials will be distributed in advance of the meeting. Most of the information will be updates to the priorities worksheets to reflect

known changes in revenues or fixed expenses, as well as some debt service projections for the next five years.

- The School Department presented a preliminary budget of 4%, which is over the allocation as discussed by the Priorities Committee.
- The Capital Outlay Committee meeting is likely February 6, as there are conflicts with members of the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board. More information to follow.
- He has asked Town Counsel to prepare warrant articles relative to several zoning changes involving marijuana and solar on the landfill.
- On February 1, the Lieutenant Governor will be in Sharon to sign the Community Compact with the Town of Sharon. The signing will take place at 2:15pm at Town Hall.

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

None

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:17pm
(Heitin - Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

List of Documents

- Beach fees materials provided by Recreation Director Linda Berger:
 - Hearing Notice
 - 2018 Beach Fees Structure
 - Spreadsheets - Fee schedule, budget, staff schedule & budget
- Recreation Department FY2019 Budget documents
- SYBSA Opening Weekend Schedule of Events (Carnival)
- SharonCARES Petition to place a ballot question concerning recreational marijuana
 - Marijuana and Adolescent Brain Development PowerPoint
 - Lessons learned after 4 years of marijuana legalization
- Police Department FY2019 Budget documents
- Fire Department FY2019 Budget documents
- DPW notification letter to residents of the fee structure new trash program
- MSW/Recycling Revolving Fund - Budget for FY2019
- Executive Performance Evaluation Forms for Fred Turkington
- January 9, 2018 Board of Selectmen Minutes
- January 9, 2018 Board of Selectmen Executive Session Minutes
- Proposed 2018 STM Dates from Town Clerk Marlene Chused
- Gavins Pond Transfer Vote language
- Gavins Pond Transfer Quitclaim Deed
- List of 2018 Police Chief Screening Committee Candidates
- Banner request from Sharon Garden Club requesting to reschedule dates
- Letter from Sharon Police Dispatchers Union request to grandfather on call dispatchers pay rate
- Memo from Fire Chief James Wright requesting out of state travel
- Class II Auto Dealer's License Application for DC Auto Sales
- Historical Commission Letter of recommendation for Michaela Jergensen
- Janelle Dominique - Historical Commission Board & Committee application
- Report of the Town Administrator
 - Memo from Frederic Turkington to Division of Capital Asset Management
- Miscellaneous Correspondence