

MINUTES
SHARON SELECT BOARD
June 8, 2021

The meeting of the Sharon Select Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Select Board Chair William Heitin remotely via Zoom. Select Board members Hanna Switekowski and Emily Smith-Lee were in attendance as was Town Administrator Frederic E. Turkington, Jr. and Assistant Town Administrator, Lauren Barnes. The meeting commenced with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing – Al alcoholic beverages license for Griddle and Grill, 384 South Main Street

MOTION: To open the public hearing for the all alcoholic beverages license for Griddle and Grill located at 384 South Main Street, Sharon MA.
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

The Board was introduced to Marianna Shayeveich, owner of the newly established Griddle and Grill of 384 South Main Street. Ms. Shayeveich has twenty-five years' experience in the restaurant industry. Currently, Griddle and Grill serves breakfast and lunch but Ms. Shayeveich hopes to expand the menu on weekends with the addition of liquor service.

The Board confirmed that all application paperwork presented was adequate. Seeing no questions from attendees of the hearing, the Board thanked Marianna for her time and wished her luck in this venture.

MOTION: To close the public hearing.
(Switekowski - Smith-Lee)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To approve the all alcoholic beverages license for Griddle and Grill located at 384 South Main Street, Sharon MA.
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Pride Month

Ms. Trisha Asklar was in attendance to discuss the details of Sharon Pride and the upcoming Pride car parade on Sunday, June 13. She explained what it meant for the LGBTQIA+ community to hold this event in Sharon, going on to say that this type of event fosters a sense of community and inclusion for many Sharon residents. She is grateful for the Select Board's support of these events.

MOTION: To approve raising the Pride flag below the U. S. flag at Veteran's Memorial Park Beach before and during the Pride rally/parade and to display the Pride banner from the railings at Town offices beginning June 23, 2021 through June 30, 2021.
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Continued discussion on Indigenous Peoples Day

The Board continued discussions from previous meetings. The Board reviewed additional information provided with their meeting materials. After a brief discussion, Ms. Smith-Lee and Ms. Switekowski felt comfortable voting this item tonight rather than waiting for the DEI Committee to meet again to discuss what was felt might be an unlikely change in their original position.

MOTION: To approve a proclamation replacing the Columbus Day holiday traditionally observed on the second Monday in October with Indigenous Peoples day.
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Consider and vote change to the existing DEIC charge

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee has discussed and recommended minor changes to the current charge of the Committee. It was explained that DEI has worked with the Select Board and Town Administrator's office on training and continues their work on strategic planning for the principles that arise from the training sessions. Ms. Pierre-Louis explained the Committee's preference and proposal to eliminate "designated" seats with the exception of a representative from the Sharon Police Department and a student from Sharon High School. The Committee would also prefer to have a representative from the School Committee rather than a designee as it seemed that the designee would be circumvented in certain instances for a School Committee member.

The Board agreed to consider the Committee's preferences and would vote on changes to the charge at their next meeting.

MOTION: To extend the terms for current members of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for twelve months unless a member expressly requests not to be reappointed.
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Discussion on Governance Study Committee charge

The Board discussed a schedule and process for conducting interviews for the newly established Governance Study Committee. An application deadline was set for June 15. Potential dates to conduct interviews was circulated and it was agreed that they would take place on Wednesday June 23. The Board will work with Mr. Turkington and develop questions. The Board feels it is important to ask each candidate the same set of standard questions.

Trial beer gardens

Since the last Select Board meeting, there has been a meeting between Ms. Berger, Chief Brewer, Lieutenant Coffey, Mr. Shemtov, and Mr. Turkington to discuss such items as a limit on beer purchased by individuals, size of cup, and duration of events. All parties have worked through these concerns and have provided for an enlarged area, agreed upon a 2-hour time limit.

It is the position of the Police Department that, having never done an event like this, there is a need for tight control for public safety but potentially not for such strict measures for the second event. The cost for detail officers could be in the area of \$750 to \$800 for 3 officers. Given the limited duration of the events, there are reasonable concerns about sobriety. No objection to floating expense but not expecting to do so going forward. The Police Department cited the example of Zenleaf where the police presence was heavy initially, but eventually tapered off.

All parties want these events to be safe and successful. Given all info provided, the Select Board is ready to vote and move forward.

MOTION: To approve two trial beer gardens as recommended by Recreation Advisory Committee.
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Temporarily waive residency requirement for ZBA alternate, Sam Reef

Mr. Reef who serves as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals is moving out of Sharon. A provision was passed at Town Meeting a number of years ago which allowed for the Select Board to waive the residency requirement on an as-needed basis. Recently this was done for Jay Schwab of the Board of Health until his retirement. Mr. Reef still owns property and operates a business in Town. The Board of Appeals, along with the Select Board, feels that Mr. Reef's expertise as an attorney is an asset to ZBA. At this time, the Select Board continues to seek candidates to fill vacancies on the Board of Appeals. The Board appreciates Mr. Reef's willingness to continue to serve.

MOTION: To approve a temporary residency waiver for Sam Reef of the Zoning Board of Appeals.
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Select Board appointments and alternates for Priorities and Capital Outlay Committees

MOTION: To appoint William Heitin and Hanna Switekowski to Priorities Committee for the fiscal year 2023 budget cycle with Emily Smith-Lee as alternate.
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To appoint Emily Smith-Lee and Hanna Switekowski to Capital Outlay Committee for the fiscal year 2023 budget cycle with William Heitin as alternate.

(Switlekowski – Smith-Lee)

Heitin: AYE
Switlekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Consent Calendar

- I. Vote to approve items for Recreation
 - a. India Day flag raising ceremony at Deborah Sampson Park
 - b. Receipt of scholarship donation in the amount of \$3,500 from the Rothberg family
- II. Vote to approve the SYBSA carnival, June 24-27, 2021 at Deborah Sampson park holding Fiest Shows responsible for any damages to the property
- III. Vote to approve the resolution to authorize the Town Administrator to file applications and execute agreements for grant and/or loan assistance for the Community Septic Management Program
- IV. Vote to approve the Flag Day Proclamation

MOTION: To approve the consent calendar holding item 2.
(Switlekowski – Smith-Lee)

Heitin: AYE
Switlekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Mr. Turkington explained that with the SYBSA carnival, it has been arranged with Fiesta Shows that any damages to the property will be repaired or expenses for repair will be reimbursed to the Town. Mr. Heitin acknowledged that the Town has worked with the company in the past, and they have been great to work with.

MOTION: To approve item 2 of the consent calendar.
(Switlekowski – Heitin)

Heitin: AYE
Switlekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Report of the Town Administrator

Mr. Turkington provided the following update.

He has met recently with staff regarding proposed beer garden at two Recreation Department summer concerts, participated in videoconference on May 26 regarding cable access logistics for remote or hybrid public meetings after September 1, participated in videoconference on June 1 to discuss Sharon Day planning met with developers of 303 North Main Street proposed 15-unit (4 affordable units) LIP project on June 2, and participated in the MMMA Spring Videoconference on June 3.

There are a few new Human Resources Matters including two new vacant positions in the Assessor's office which have opened with the May 14 departure of Jeanette Berrios to the City of Taunton and Jen Florio on May

28 to be the assessor in Randolph. DPW secretary Alicia Cirino will transfer to the Assessor's office on June 7. We have advertised to fill the other Assessor's office slot and the DPW secretary position now open.

Animal Control Officer, Diane Malcolmson is retiring next week. She has been out on injury leave for nearly two years, with coverage provided by stand-by, part-time ACO's. We are studying calls for service and reaching out to determine the best way to staff this service. There are sufficient funds in the FY2022 budget for a 30 hour per week employee, two-three part-time employees, or a combination including a job share with a neighboring town.

The Police Lieutenants collective bargaining unit remains to be negotiated with an expiring contract in June 2021. The only agreement expiring in FY2022 is with dispatchers. Talks with the police lieutenants began on April 7 and continued on May 24. A tentative agreement has been reached consistent with the wage settlement agreed to by the police officers and sergeants (1.5%/1%/1.5% for FY2022, 2023 and 2024). It includes the COVID-19 stipend of \$840 in FY2021 and the same small increase in uniform allowance, EMT stipend, and physical fitness stipend negotiated with the police union.

We received or exchanged 28 pieces of correspondence between 12 noon on May 20 and 12 noon on June 3. The topics included: continuing advocacy for traffic mitigation measures and sidewalk installation on Old Post Road; comments regarding the designation of October 11, 2021 as Indigenous People's Day; applicants for Governance Study Committee; and questioning the continuing need for water use restrictions:

A total of 16 emails from citizens interested in serving on the Governance Study Committee;
A total of 8 emails relative to the DEIC recommendation to designate October 11, 2021 as Indigenous People's Day and the month of October as Italian-American Heritage Month;
An email questioning whether the rainfall over Memorial Day weekend means the water restrictions imposed through June 22 can be lifted; and,
A total of 3 emails exchanged concerning requests to install sidewalks on Old Post Road and other measures to address traffic concerns on Old Post Road.

Topics not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours in advance of the meeting

The Board extended their congratulations to Sharon High School Class of 2021. This has been a big year, with significant impact for many students. Best of luck to all students on their future endeavors.

Adjourn

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session at 8:20 pm for the purposes of discussing strategy with respect to the purchase, transfer, or sale of real property located at 66 North Main Street and adjourn for the evening at the conclusion.

DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS IN OPEN SESSION MAY HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE BARGAINING POSITION OF THE TOWN

(Heitin – Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

List of Documents

- Liquor license application
- Correspondence
- Charge and composition
- List of interested candidates
- Safety protocols
- Beer garden parameters

- Memoranda
- Authority to file
- Certified ATM vote
- Proclamation
- Schedule
- Report