

MINUTES
SHARON SELECT BOARD
April 12, 2022

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 Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing – On premises wine and malt alcohol license – The Savory Spread

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

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

Ms. Ashley Smith introduced herself to the Board and provided information on her business, The Savory Spread located across from Town Hall on East Chestnut Street. She explained that she has a charcuterie business. She advised the Board that she will only offer beer and wine on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings during instructional classes where she will teach others to prepare charcuterie boards.

The Board thanked Ms. Smith for attending tonight and welcomed her to Sharon.

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

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

MOTION: To approve the on-premises wine and malt liquor license for The Savory Spread located at 3 East Chestnut Square.
(Smith-Lee- Switekowski)

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

Consider and appoint Anthony Cadogan as full-time police officer

Chief Coffey introduced Mr. Cadogan to the Board. Anthony was born in Barbados and moved to the United States in 1988. He has worked for the Boston College Police Department for the past 22 years and is currently in the Detective Bureau. Prior to becoming a police officer, he worked at Boston College as a cook for many years and worked as a security guard at the Boston Trade Center. Anthony is 51 years old and brings experience, maturity, and an extensive training background. He also has been an Attleboro Special Police Officer for about 5 years. Training includes:

- Women's Self Defense Instructor
- Mountain Bike Certified

- Sexual Assault Investigator
- Health and Wellness Instructor
- Behavioral Observation Detection

Anthony is a trained Comfort Dog Handler and has his own comfort dog that he uses for a number of community-based initiatives.

He comes highly recommended by the Boston College Police Administration. During his background investigation some of his supervisors answered with a “sigh.” Meaning they were upset he was leaving and added, he “is an awesome officer and someone they could rely on.” Chief Coffey recommends that the Board appoint Mr. Cadogan as a full-time officer.

The Board thanked Mr. Cadogan for attending this evening and welcomed him to the Town of Sharon.

MOTION: To appoint Anthony Cadogan as a full-time police officer.
(Smith-Lee- Switekowski)

Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
Heitin: AYE

3-0 **PASSES**

Conservation restriction – 256 Mansfield Street

Ms. Arguimbau of the Conservation Commission explained that the residents of this property approached Conservation about two and half years ago to begin this process. This conservation restriction allows a portion of their property to remain undeveloped and its proximity to Canoe River makes this a significant act of preservation. The property will be monitored by the Conservation Agent and the rights succeed in perpetuity. The Board expressed their gratitude to owners Mr. Martino and Ms. Hadlock for their willingness to preserve this property.

MOTION: To approve the conservation restriction on a section of the property located at 256 Mansfield Street as discussed. We, being a majority of the Select Board of the Town of Sharon, hereby certify that at a public meeting duly held on April 12, 2022, the Select Board voted to approve the foregoing Conservation Restriction from Anita E. Hadlock and John A. Martino to the Town of Sharon, acting by and through its Conservation Commission, in the public interest pursuant to Section 32 of Chapter 184 of the Massachusetts General Laws.
(Switekowski - Smith-Lee)

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

National Guard cyber security program

IT Director Don Hillegass attended the roundtable discussion facilitated by Senator Timilty with the National Guard to hear about their penetration testing program. Mr. Hillegass has indicated that he feels this vulnerability testing would be beneficial for the Town. Information about the program was include with the Board’s materials. Ms. Smith-Lee expressed concern regarding safeguarding resident data. Mr. Turkington advised he would have Mr. Hillegass confirm this prior to any testing begins.

MOTION: To approve Sharon’s participation in the National Guard security penetration testing program as discussed.

(Switlekowski - Smith-Lee)

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

Public Hearing – BYOB and live music fees and regulations

MOTION: To open the public hearing.
(Switlekowski – Smith-Lee)

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

The Board has had discussions at prior meetings about allowing Sharon restaurants currently licensed as a common victualler but holding no alcohol license the ability to have their patrons “bring their own bottle” or carry in alcoholic beverages to be consumed with a meal provided by the restaurateur. As the current regulations are silent on the policy, it is presumed allowed. It is felt that by codifying regulations, the practice could be limited to beer and wine only as well as measures appropriate for safe and responsible consumption. Draft regulations had been provided for the Board to review which they indicated seem fair and responsible. The regulations were drafted to include a \$500 annual fee and renewal would take place to coincide with renewal of all other alcohol licenses in the fall. There was a discussion about whether the \$500 fee was excessive.

Mr. Shemtov of a La Esh commented that the fee is indeed appropriate. He stated that the fee represents a barrier for responsible practice. He clarified that this shouldn't give the appearance that an establishment can provide a basement atmosphere for folks to hang out and drink.

Mr. John Kim of 24 Rhodes Ave expressed that he felt this is good for small businesses. He asked whether restaurants would be able to charge a corking fee. The Board responded that they would.

Seeing no further comments, the Board closed the public hearing.

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

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

MOTION: To approve the regulations for BYOB/carry-in service for restaurants with an annual fee of \$350 and the stipulation that applicants must come before the Board for approval.
(Heitin – Smith-Lee)

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

Changes to outdoor dining program at Sharon Community Center

Mr. Shemtov who held the first contract was given the right of first refusal if the program is continued for another season. There has been some minor modification suggested for the agreement. Mr. Turkington advised that last year there was a \$150 minimum per night or 10% of revenue. Mr. Shemtov would like to see a minimum and remove the floor of 10% of revenue. He would also like to promote the program as Beer Garden by Tapped to leverage brands. There was an issue last summer with live music and he wishes to have the opportunity to provide acoustic music for ambiance, such as acoustic guitar or maybe a duet.

Linda Berger, Recreation Director expressed concerns around calling this program a beer garden and asked whether a police presence would be required. She also mentioned that Recreation Advisory sees the value of the outdoor dining initiative for the community but calling it a beer garden changes the element. There was a discussion surrounding capacity and traffic coming and going as the driveway to the property is one lane in and out. Although there were no incidents, there were concerns last year about safety due to the potential for drawing a crowd with live music. It was agreed that the events would be capped at 100 people.

MOTION: To approve the changes to the agreement for outdoor dining at the Sharon Community center with a 100-person capacity.
(Heitin – Smith-Lee)

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

Logistics and equipment for hybrid meetings

This was a continuation of a discussion from the previous meeting. Mr. Turkington has followed up with Amy and Isaac from Sharon TV to confirm the equipment necessary for hybrid meetings. They have advised that there is one OWL system that was purchased and has been used to provide a hybrid option for two School Committee meetings. The OWL is placed in the middle of the table and the camera/microphone moves to whomever is speaking. The camera will split if two people are talking back-to-back to each other. This system costs between \$1,000 to \$1,200 and an additional \$1,200 for a laptop to run the program. As it is not yet known what the State intends to do beyond the sunset provision for remote meetings, purchase of additional equipment is not recommended at this time.

Although there is a benefit to resuming in-person meetings and the Board favors the increase in engagement due to the ability to meet remotely, the Board feels it prudent to wait and see how things continue to progress.

Vote position on Sharon Gallery sewer connection

Discussions are ongoing with the Sharon Gallery development and the sewer connection through Sharon Woods, specifically related to the Costco building. The article for Town Meeting would allow an easement for the sewer infrastructure allowing a connection to the Town of Foxborough. This sewer line provides existing service to the homes located in Sharon Woods. It was mentioned that the Finance Committee spent over an hour reviewing this topic last night, covering it from all angles. Sharon will not take over maintenance of the sewer line.

<u>Article #</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Vote</u>
22	Establish Outdoor Water Use Bylaw	WMAC	3-0 Support

Consider engagement of Special Counsel for PFAS litigation

Mr. Heitin recused himself for this discussion. Mr. Crosby and the members of the Water Management Advisory Committee recommend that the Town consider joining neighboring communities such as Foxborough, Mansfield, Walpole, and Easton in a class action lawsuit for PFAS. Proceeds gained through litigation could help offset costs of treating the drinking water for PFAS and disposal of the treatment media. Ms. Smith-Lee mentioned that there was information in the packet from two firms. She acknowledged that it may matter who counsel is in a case of this nature and would like more time to understand the impacts of a decision on this matter. It was agreed that this topic would be tabled and discussed again at the next meeting.

Consent Calendar

Review and approve the consent calendar

- I. Vote to approve the following minutes:
 - a. March 8, 2022 Executive Session
 - b. March 22, 2022 open session
 - c. March 23, 2022 open session
- II. Vote to approve the following banner requests:
 - a. Sharon Community Chorus Annual Pops Concert – June 6-13, 2022, in 2nd position
 - b. Sharon Garden Club Annual Plant Sale – May 16-23, 2022, in 2nd position
- III. Vote to approve a block party request for Bird Fest, 12 noon to 5:00 pm on June 25, 2022, from 14 Osprey Road to 28 Falcon Road
- IV. Vote to approve display of the Unity/Progress Pride flag banner on the façade at Town Hall during Pride Month from June 1 to June 30, 2022
- V. Vote to approve display of the Unity/Progress Pride flag on the flagpole at Veterans' Memorial Beach on June 12, 2022, before the car parade
- VI. Vote to approve the Pride car parade on June 12, 2022
- VII. Vote to accept donation of \$8,500 from the Sharon High School Class of 2021 for a sign at the new Sharon High School

MOTION: To approve the consent calendar.
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

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

Town Administrator's report

We received / exchanged approximately 28 pieces of correspondence between 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 21 and 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 7. Topics included:

- Emails requesting that mask mandates never return;
- A series of emails regarding the timely notification of hydrant flushing activities;
- Three emails regarding a truck exclusion on South Walpole Street;

- Information from Michael Butler, former Dedham selectman, providing informational statement of net position he prepared using publicly available data for each Norfolk County community;
- An email providing information and proposing a ban on the use two-stroke, gas-powered leaf blowers due to air pollution and noise pollution concerns;
- An email requesting information on Town election and platforms of candidates for Select Board;
- A series of emails relative to conduct of Board meetings using hybrid live/remote technology; and,
- Notices regarding invitation to Iftar Interfaith Dinner on April 9 hosted by the Muslim community at Temple Sinai, invitation to Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Bennett Snyder on June 4, request for a block party on Osprey and Falcon Roads on June 25, three banner requests, and notice of appearance by Sharon HS students on WGBH *High School Quiz Show* program on April 16.

The Board's next meeting will be on April 27.

Topics not anticipated within 48 hours of posting

None

Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:31 pm
(Smith-Lee - Switekowski)

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

List of Documents

- Hearing notices (2)
- Application materials
- Recommendation/bio
- Conservation restriction
- Vote of acceptance (2)
- Correspondence
- Canvass of fees
- Draft regulations
- MMA letter
- Letter from Rodman, Rodman, and Sandman
- Email from David Crosby
- Sample contract
- Minutes
- Banner requests (2)
- Block party request
- Pride month request letter
- Memo
- Town Administrator's report