

MINUTES
SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
May 10, 2016

The meeting of the Sharon Board of Selectmen was called to order in the Town Hearing Room at the Community Center at 5:30pm with Chairman William A. Heitin, Clerk Walter B. Roach, Selectman John J. McGrath, and Town Administrator Frederic E. Turkington, Jr.

Spectra Energy Natural Gas Pipeline Project - Letter of Opposition Discussion

Mr. Turkington developed a draft letter based on the support of the citizen's petition at Town Meeting, which will be sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, with copies to our federal legislative delegation and to the Governor.

MOTION: To approve the letter
(Roach - McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**

Mr. Turkington commented that the resolution offered suggested action items for the Board and noted that resident Bri McAlevey and her group shared a list of upcoming meetings in Milford, Acushnet, Weymouth and Walpole. He contacted his colleagues in communities that would be impacted by the proposed pipeline; he wants to hear from them about what those communities are doing and possibly work together to share resources. He added that he contacted Town Counsel, who noted that the Town would be better served to hire special counsel, which would like be at a higher hourly rate than Town Counsel.

Bri McAlevey, 14 Sentry Hill Road, asked for a copy of the letter. Mr. Turkington replied that he will send the letter once signed and pointed out that the letter will go directly to FERC, and the language from the citizen's petition resolution will go to the state legislative delegation. Ms. McAlevey referred the scheduled FERC scoping meetings and asked if the Board will request a FERC scoping meeting here in Sharon or in neighboring Walpole. Chairman Heitin noted that Mr. Turkington is reaching out to neighboring communities to share and pool resources. He said that the Board can request FERC hold a scoping meeting in Sharon.

Selectman McGrath asked Ms. McAlevey what she is looking for from the Board. She replied that there is a woman, Cathy Kristofferson of Stop NED, that can be engaged to assist. There is a DPU hearing in Walpole on May 23 and also recommends outreach to FERC.

Mr. Turkington noted that the Board had a previously scheduled forum set for May 24, but given the fast moving actions, he may believe that postponing the forum until there is more news to report. After some discussion, the Board felt they wished to proceed with a discussion with folks from the northern tier so they can share their experiences on the FERC process.

Consent Calendar

- I. Vote to approve regular session minutes of April 26, 2016
- II. Vote to approve reappoint Robert Levin to the Sharon Cultural Council for a term through June 30, 2019
- III. Vote to appoint Georgette Kafka to the Sharon Cultural Council for a term through June 30, 2019
- IV. Vote to approve the following banner requests:
 - a. Council on Aging Lakeside Gallery Exhibit - June 6-13, 2016 in the second position
 - b. Cottage Street School PTO Fun Fair - March 20-27, 2017 in the first position

- V. Vote to approve and refer to Finance Committee request for additional appropriation to Fire Department budget
- VI. Vote to approve the 2016 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Contract with Stericycle formerly known as PSC Environmental Services, LLC
- VII. Approval and execution of collective bargaining agreement with Mass COP Local 166 for period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018
- VIII. Vote to approve the Southeastern Regional Services Group Contract for Water & Sewer Treatment Chemicals IFB for a twelve month period commencing July 1, 2016 in the amount of \$103,901
- IX. Vote to approve the Southeastern Regional Services Group Contract for Paper Supplies to W.B. Mason Co. Inc. per IFB for a twelve month period commencing July 1, 2016 in the amount of \$54,325.40
- X. Vote to approve the Southeastern Regional Services Group Contract for DPW Supplies IFB for a twelve-month period commencing July 1, 2016 in the amount of \$390,601

MOTION: To approve the May 10, 2016 consent calendar
(McGrath - Roach) 3-0 **PASSES**

Town Administrator's Report

The Town Administrator reported the following:

- There are a couple of reserve fund transfers before the end of the fiscal year for the Finance Committee to consider.
- New MBTA commuter rail schedules go into effect May 23, 2016, with some modifications to the proposed schedule based on commuter feedback.
- The Council on Aging staff is conducting a survey as part of a community needs assessment. The survey will be mailed out to seniors aged 55 and over.
- MacIntosh Farms are meeting with town staff and Eversource officials tomorrow to discuss mitigation measures and fencing around the proposed switching station.
- Interviews will take place later this week/early next week for the Financial Assistant position in the Treasurer/Collector's Office.

Public Service Announcements

Chairman Heitin noted the following public service announcements:

- The schedule of activities for Memorial Day are as follows:
Friday May 27, 2016
6:00 P.M. Decoration of Veterans Gravesites - Rock Ridge Cemetery Sharon, MA

Sunday, May 29, 2016
1:30 P.M. Gravesite Services - Rock Ridge Cemetery Sharon MA
2:00 P.M. Civic Ceremony at the Civil War Monument on East Street
3:00 P.M. Civic Ceremony at Town Hall
- The Sharon Cultural Council is holding a reception on June 1 for the 2016 grant recipients from 7-9pm in the Lakeside Gallery at the Community Center.

Selectman Roach reminded voters to bring non-perishable food items when they vote at the Town Election on Tuesday, May 17.

Sharon Gallery Project Update

Attorney Robert Shelmerdine, Sharon Gallery owner David Spiegel and Carl Chudnofsky, President of CB Ventures appeared before the Board.

Chairman Heitin pointed out that this is the retail portion of the development, Sharon Gallery.

Mr. Shelmerdine noted that the road is being laid right now and will service the retail project and the residential projects. He went on to describe some of the progress that is being made, including grading from South Main Street to the cul-de-sac, drainage installation is at 75%, the old asbestos water pipe has been safely removed and they met with MassDOT officials for a preliminary conversation regarding getting permits changed from the previous owner to them.

Mr. Chudnofsky explained that they are making progress in getting tenants in to Sharon Gallery; they are talking to anchor-type tenants, like a supermarket. He went on to describe the different categories of retails that he is marketing to, including supermarkets, a movie theater, medical centers (such as an urgent care), fitness centers, etc. He explained that deals move slowly but they are not at stage one; they haven't signed any leases. They are working on a national sports goods store. He noted that they need to sign an anchor tenant and a lot of smaller tenants will then sign.

Mr. Spiegel noted that he wants to get the major tenants signed sooner rather than later; it's important for him and for the town. It has to be done with quality tenants; it has to be the right atmosphere for Sharon and for him as the property owner.

Mr. Shelmerdine noted that some of the tenants may be not fit under Business District D and may request an expansion of business uses in the Zoning By-Law.

Selectman Roach would like to see this come to fruition. When there were two anchor stores last time, he felt there was a time lag that cost us those anchors. Mr. Shelmerdine also noted that the downturn in the economy was a factor as well. Selectman McGrath noted the Board is supportive of commercial development without residential development. Chairman Heitin asked what the Board could do to help. Mr. Spiegel noted that they are looking for support in expanding the business uses in the Business District D. Mr. Turkington expressed his desire to help with a potential warrant article for a Fall Town Meeting.

The Board thanked the gentlemen for their time.

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

None

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 6:07pm
(Roach - McGrath) 3-0 **PASSES**