

Town of Sherman
Board of Selectmen
Regular Monthly Meeting
27 June 2019
7:00 PM. Mallory Town Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Don Lowe, Selectman Bob Ostrosky

MEMBER ABSENT: Selectman Kevin Keenan.

Audience and Invited: Liz LaVia and audience of approximately 20.

CLERK: Linda Whitney

CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman Lowe Called the Meeting to Order at 7:05p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

First Selectman D. Lowe received two letters of resignation. The first was from Sam Addonizio Butts, announcing her resignation from the Zoning Board of Appeals, effective on 20 May 2019. The term she is vacating expires on 1 Jan. 2020. The second letter was from Pat Werme, announcing her resignation from the Commission on Aging, effective immediately. D. Lowe asked that if anyone is interested in filling either of these positions to please contact him.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the Board of Selectmen Regular Monthly Meeting minutes of 23 May 2019 was made by D. Lowe.

Seconded by B. Ostrosky.

Vote For: Unanimous

TAX REFUNDS:

D. Lowe **made a motion** to grant the tax refund in the amount of \$5,396.60.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky.

Vote For: Unanimous.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY REVIEW:

L. LaVia reported that we are at fiscal year end and have about a month to go before final numbers on General Fund spending are finalized. Currently the general Fund spending projection for this fiscal year will come in around \$150,000.00 better than budget. The lease on Happy Acres Farm expires on 31 Dec. 2019. In accordance with the lease, the tenant must exercise his option to renew by 5 July 2019. The town audit begins the week of August 1st.

ALS Proclamation:

First Selectman D. Lowe read a proclamation prepared by the Board of Selectmen proclaiming June 2019 as Alzheimer and Brain Awareness Month in Sherman. Please wear purple in June to show your support.

REEAPPOINTMENTS TO HRRA:

B. Ostrosky **made a motion** to reappoint Don Lowe to the HRRA.

Seconded by: D. Lowe.

Vote For: All.

D. Lowe **made a motion** to reappoint R. Byrnes as an alternate to the HRRA.

Seconded by: B. Ostrosky.

Vote For: All.

TOWN MEETING ITEMS:

A discussion was held on the rescinding of funds for the purchase of a roadside mower. The equipment for the mower is no longer available therefore the roadside mowing has been contracted out for this year, giving D. Burkowski time to investigate and find appropriate replacement equipment.

A motion was made by D. Lowe to rescind an expenditure not to exceed \$35,000.00 to have been taken from the capitol non-recurring fund for the purchase and installation of an /Alamo Industrial McConnel PA 4330 roadside mower.

Seconded by: B.Ostrosky.

Vote For: All.

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION:

SVFD

B. Acosta reported that the SVFD has responded to 11 fire calls and 15 EMS calls so far this month. Four Sherman Volunteer Firemen have been certified in Swift Water Rescue after completing the course they attended with firefighters from Kent.

HAPPY ACRES BARN REPAIR, BARN PAINTING, HOUSE PAINTING BIDS:

D. Lowe awarded the barn and house painting jobs with an amendment regarding lead paint to Dan Havens of Havens Fine Homes & Woodworking.. There was discussion between the Board of Selectmen and Dan Havens regarding the barn repair. D. Havens doesn't agree with the original specs of the repair and although he felt the drawings were comprehensive, he felt the scope of the repairs and the method of repairs should be handled differently.

L. LaVia suggested the town have a third party conduct an impartial evaluation to reevaluate the specs of the barn repair. D. Lowe responded that he may have a contact through P. Korsant to use a barn expert to reevaluate the specs. B. Ostrosky agreed to having a third party reevaluate the barn repair specs.

NEW WELL AT MALLORY TOWN HALL:

There was a discussion regarding the digging of a new well at MTH. The possibility of drilling a well that produces enough to serve MTH and the surrounding buildings was considered.

D. Lowe reported that the most recent water testing shows that the well at the front of the school is now producing potable water.

FLASHING CROSSWALK:

D. Lowe has been in contact with the permits necessary to install a flashing crosswalk sign the State and they have confirmed that Sherman can install a flashing crosswalk sign from the school to the firehouse.

D. Lowe has found signs for about \$1,000.00 and will order them.

SECURITY ISSUES IN TOWN PARKS:

B. Ostrosky has spoken to some people in town and gotten support for the plan to install cameras at the town parks. D. Lowe will put the plan out to bid.

SIDEWALKS:

B. Ostrosky will reach out to Arthur Howland for prices on the sidewalk project.

HAPPY ACRES FARM REPORT:

D. Lowe read an email from J. Motsinger reporting that there are now 15 new calves at HAF, and that he has been busy making hay. There is a community picnic open on Sundays from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bill McCann asked if the town consulted the original engineer with regard to the specs on the barn repair at Happy Acres Farm. D. Lowe and B. Ostrosky both responded that a third opinion will be necessary to clearly define the needed repairs therefore it may not be necessary to meet with the original engineer again.

Bill McCann also inquired about the Right to Farm Ordinance. D. Lowe responded that it seemed very similar to the state statute and asked if there were any benefit to the town. B. McCann replied that the authority is with the state but a local ordinance is beneficial to the community because it shows support for the local farms. D. Lowe replied that it would be discussed at the next town meeting.

B. McCann next inquired if the air monitoring system had been delivered. D. Lowe reported that it has not and added that when it does arrive it will have to be installed on the firehouse. A discussion was held about the installation and the possibility of being reimbursed for the cost of the system. D. Lowe has reached out to Julie Kushner and mentioned the state legislation that says the state will pay for air monitoring for communities near newly built power plants.

Terry Hahn asked the Board of Selectmen if there was a contingency plan to take care of the cows at HAF in the event that the tenant leaves the farm. She expressed concern as the cows are the town's responsibility. D. Lowe and B. Ostrosky assured her that the town will make provisions for the care of the cows.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn: B. Ostrosky at 7:55 PM

Seconded: D. Lowe

Vote For: Unanimous

The next Board of Selectmen Regular Monthly Meeting is scheduled for 25 July 2019 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Whitney