

Town of Sherman
Board of Selectman Monthly Meeting
November 17, 2022, at 7pm
Mallory Town Hall

Member's Present: First Selectman Don Lowe, Selectman Joel Bruzinski, and Selectman Bob Ostroky

Member's Absent: None

Audience & Invited: Treasurer Eric Holub, Business Manager Liz LaVia, Public Works Supervisor Kris Fazzone, School Building Committee member Pam Bonner, and residents from the community.

Clerk: Margaret Beatty

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance: First Selectman Don Lowe called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm followed by the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: None

Correspondence: None

Administrative Items:

- A) **Approval of Minutes:** 10/27/2022 Board of Selectman Monthly Meeting
Motedioned by: Selectman Bob Ostrosky
Seconded by: Selectman Joel Bruzinski **All in Favor:** Unanimous
- B) **Tax Refunds:** The Town accepts a refund of \$164. 45.
Motedioned by: First Selectman Don Lowe
Seconded by: Selectman Bob Ostrosky **All in Favor:** Unanimous
- C) **Financial Review:** Business Manger Liz LaVia provided a report to the Selectman. Since the meeting was held early in the month, she noted that the report is currently incomplete. If the Selectman have any questions to contact her directly.
- D) **2023 Board of Selectman meeting schedule:** The calendar includes dates for monthly meetings, budget meetings and referendum. Can be subject to change.
Motedioned by: First Selectman Don Lowe
Seconded by: Selectman Bob Ostrosky **All in Favor:** Unanimous

Information & Discussion:

- A) **SVFD monthly report:** Fire Chief Chris Fuchs was unable to attend the meeting but provided a report to First Selectman Don Lowe. To date the SVFD has responded to 338 emergency calls. The department have placed the new battery powered hydraulic

rescue tools in service this pasted week. These tools enhance the department's ability to rescue victims of motor accidents. The firefighters conducted a live-fire training session at the Litchfield County Fire School. Skills practiced included fire attack, searching for victims, and ventilation techniques. Lastly, starting the evening of November 25th, the department will begin the annual Christmas Tree sale and last until we sell out.

- B) **Public Works report:** Public works Supervisor Kris Fazzone informed that the department has been working diligently with Gentile tree removal on some of the Town's most compromised trees. Another round of removal will resume the beginning of December to target more ailing trees. The department is still evaluating equipment needs and requested the Selectman take a moment to do a walk through of the facility. The mower has been repaired. Taber Road has been repaved. The Avant delivery has been delayed but are expecting delivery by Christmas. First Selectman Don Lowe mentioned that he will be revisiting the possibility of securing a LOTCIP grant to help fund Public Works projects and other Town needs.
- C) **Recycling stickers:** To date, there has been no feedback from residents. The Selectman agreed to move forward with the changes. Selectman Bob Ostrosky suggested a Town mailer be sent to remind residents of the new format.
- D) **Traffic enforcement report:** The Selectman agreed to continue with the current schedule of having an extra trooper once a month for 4 hours.
- E) **Speed indicators:** First Selectman Don Lowe concluded that the best deal for the Town was to continue with the current speed indicators but purchase data memory sticks. The Selectman will continue the discussion at the next monthly meeting.
- F) **Sherman Arts Commission proposal:** First Selectman Don Lowe wrote a draft of potential bylaws that the commission would fall under. The Selectman have not agreed on a decision yet but are continuing discussion with the hopes of making one by January.
- G) **Sherman Playhouse lease:** The Selectman have no changes to add to the current lease agreement. The Town will adhere to the current provisions but is waiting for feedback from the Playhouse.
- H) **Report on Mallory Town Hall capital projects (roof, walkway, chimney):** All projects are complete. The chimney project went over budget, but roof and walkway were completed within budget. The boiler is under discussion for repair and Fire Marshal Dave Lathrop has been looking into estimates.
- I) **School Building Committee report: Selectman Joel Bruzinski:** Selectman Joel Bruzinski deferred the agenda item to Pam Bonner. The construction of the playground has been completed. She explained that there is sway in the tower and a stop order was issued for safety purposes. The manufacturer was contacted, and the school received documented proof confirming that the playground is safe for use. The manufacturer has agreed to install extra support to lessen the movement of the entire structure at no additional costs. The rubber surface will be installed in the spring, due to the

unpredictability of the weather. With the completion of the playground the committee is moving onward with the repair of the school building.

First Selectman Don Lowe asked a question, unrelated to the playground, about the timing of debt impact to the Town when the Committee presents the final cost estimate for the large building repair costs. There is no current plan so estimating tax increases and budgetary changes are dependent on what projects are approved by the voters.

Other Business: Selectman Bob Ostrosky would like to discuss adding 'Welcome to Sherman' signs upon entering the Town.

Public Comment: None

Selectman Bob Ostrosky moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Motioned by: Selectman Bob Ostrosky

Seconded by: First Selectman Don Lowe

All in Favor: Unanimous

Notes respectfully submitted by Margaret Beatty on November 22, 2022.