

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

# Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District

Saturday, June 4th, 2011- Annual Meeting

Committee Members Present: David Bonney, Marty Feit, Clerk-Treasurer; David Devane, Road Superintendent, , Nancy Devane, Jack Sayward

Committee Members Absent: Giles Beaudoin,.Gerry Grondin

Public Present:

The meeting is opened at 2:00 pm.

Location: Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street

Meeting Introduction; I.A.W. - M.G.L. CH39- Section 23C.

**Approval of May 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes-** A motion to approve the minutes from the May 7th Meeting is made, motion is seconded; Unanimous Approval.

## **Sherwood Forest Road Superintendent's Monthly report- Covering May 1<sup>st</sup>-31st 2011.**

### **Calls/Complaints-**

Howard Lerner: 21 Mystic Isle Way, Steven Porter: 146 Mystic Isle Way, Arnold Thompson: 163 Mystic Isle Way, Carolyn Summit: 171 Mystic Isle Way. The complaints were in reference to the road conditions. Mr. Devane advises that he has driven all the roads in Sherwood Forest and that Mystic Isle Way is no worse off than any of the other roads. Mr. Bonney confirms that since the complaints were received, the roads have been graded and are presently in good condition, Mr. Devane confirms. Nancy Devane states that the residents have been informed that if they see a contractor doing any damage to the roads, they are report that damage.

Dragon Way- Reports of a tree down, across from the store. Mr. Devane advises that the branches were cut and removed. Committee members question the fact that it took two hours to take down the one limb. Mr. Bonney adds that he also needs to put in for the dense grade.

Mr. Devane advises that the weather has been difficult and due to all the rain, the grading process has been slowed down. Mr. Bonney advises that Sherwood Drive, Winter Drive, Pinedale Circle, Mountaintdale Drive, have all been done. He adds that Jester's Lane has also been worked on. It is brought to Mr. Devane's attention that issues with the drainage ditches, culverts and tree work have not yet been properly done and that all this is adding to the bad conditions of the roads. David again explains hat the inclement weather has much to do with the current issues. David confirms that there is a lot of culvert work that is scheduled to be done this year. Mr. Sayward states that in his opinion, they should have three different crews out all at the same time: one crew working on the trees, one working on the waterways and the third taking care of the roads and doing the grading. Mr. Devane explains that this is a costly process and that he needs to wait until the tax money is collected. Marty advises that going forward they need to make a list and prioritize it, they then can work their way through the list as quickly as possible.

Dave Devane, Road Superintendent

**Committee Report-** Mr. Bonney explains that they will discuss the mailing costs at the annual meeting. Marty advises that he was told that if they can, they should contribute \$100.00 towards the mailing costs.

**Agenda and Meeting Date for July-** Committee members discuss the upcoming July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, and members suggest that the meeting might be better off scheduled on the second weekend of July instead of the holiday weekend. Mr. Bonney asks all present if July 9<sup>th</sup> would be a good day to schedule meeting; committee members present agree that it is fine.

**Annual Meeting Warrant-** Mr. Bonney briefly reviews the amended annual meeting warrant with all present, explaining that some of the articles were not worded quite right, thus the amendments. Marty advises that it is now worded correctly and it should be fine. Mr. Bonney confirms that the warrant is essentially the same, just a bit clearer and worded properly.

**Treasurer's Report-** Marty advises that he customarily goes over the treasurer's report in great detail, however states that he will wait until the annual meeting to do so. Marty briefly reads and reviews the report with all present. He confirms that with the taxes being released at different times this year that was the cause of a lot of confusion. Marty advises that at this point, moving forward they should be in much better shape and that all looks well.

**Warrant Approval-** Marty reviews the warrant for June with committee members. He presents warrant to members for approval and signatures. Marty adds that White Wolf has done a great job and has truly kept the costs down for them. Mr. Bonney solicits for a motion to accept the warrant as presented, a motion is made to accept the warrant; motion is seconded; unanimous Approval.

**Public Participation-** member of the public states that he is disappointed in the progress of the road conditions and states that the committee should not always use the bad weather as an excuse. Mr. Devane again goes over the schedule of road work to be done with the members of the public present.

**Any Other Business-**Mr. Bonney asks if there is any other business to be brought before the committee at this time, hearing none, he motions for adjournment. Meeting is adjourned at 2:46 pm. Annual meeting scheduled to begin at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marty Feit  
Clerk-Treasurer

**Annual Meeting 3:00 pm, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Meeting is called to order at 3:00 pm

Article 1: To see if the district will elect a moderator for the 6/4/11 meeting. A motion is made to elect Mr. Steven Rosenthal as moderator, motion is seconded; unanimous approval.

Article 2: To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money as needed for the operating budget for fiscal year 2011-2012. Mr. Rosenthal advises that the budget has been posted and suggests that everyone present should take a few minutes to read and review. He advises that any items that require a discussion will be moved to the end. Mr. Rosenthal asks if there is anyone who would like to further discuss any of the line items before them, he asks if so, to please raise your hand and state the line item in question. Member of the public asks that the Town of Becket line item be put on hold. The attorney and the accountant are also requested to be put on hold. General Roads are also put on hold. Mr. Rosenthal makes a last call for any line items to be held for discussion. A motion is made to vote on and approve all other line items not mentioned; motion is seconded. Unanimous approval for all other line items.

Line items to be discussed: 1. General Roads- Member of the public points out that there is a discrepancy in the amount difference from last year. Marty explains that that was an error and corrects the amount as presented. Member of the public questions why the budget is going up when there was money that was not spent from last year. Marty explains that the money was moved from last year and that they were just holding back, waiting for the tax bills to be released. Mr. Bonney advises that the actual budget has not gone up, that they simply moved the money around. Mr. Rosenthal asks for a vote to approve the \$94,800 for the general roads; unanimous approval.

2. Town of Becket- member of the public questions what the amount paid to the Town of Becket is and why is the amount so high. Marty explains the costs payable to the Town of Becket to all present. Mr. Rosenthal asks for a vote on the \$7500 to be paid to the Town of Becket; unanimous Approval.

3. Attorney fees- Marty explains that the proposed amount of \$1000 for attorney fees is very conservative and explains that they do not expect to incur any major attorney costs. He also advises that this amount is down from the \$3000 amount that was budgeted for last year. Mr. Rosenthal calls for a vote on the \$1000 for attorney fees; Unanimous Approval.

4. Accountant- the \$300 amount for accountant fees is accepted; no need for further discussion. Mr. Rosenthal asks for a vote on the accountant fees, Unanimous Approval.

Mr. Rosenthal announces that the entire budget unanimously passes.

Article 3: To see if the district will approve the following amending of the by-laws.

1. To see if the district will allow alternate members to serve in absence or conflict of Prudential Committee members in the position that were elected and have voting rights when attending a meeting in place of a prudential committee member.
2. To see if the district will vote to amend SFRM District's by-laws, chapter 3 section 2 to read as follows: All Prudential and alternate committee members shall be elected to serve for a term of two years as of June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Motion to move Article 3-1 is made; Nancy reads the amended article to Mr. Rosenthal (see attached), motion is seconded; Mr. Rosenthal explains what the word "recuse" and advises that it generally happens when someone has something to gain. Article 3-1, as amended is unanimously passed.

Motion to move Article 3-2 as amended (see attached), is made. Ms. Devane reads the article as amended. Mr. Rosenthal explains to the public present how this allows for a stronger committee and board by allowing these members to be elected for a term of two years.

2011	<u>No.</u>
Regular Resident	2
Alternate Resident	1
Non-Resident	1
Alternate Non-Resident	1

2012

Regular Resident	1
Non Resident	1
Alternate Non-Resident	1
Clerk/Treasurer	1

Mr. Rosenthal then moves for a vote on Article 3, numbers 1 and 2; a motion is made, seconded; unanimous Approval.

Article 4: To see if the district will elect the following positions:

- a. Prudential Committee 2 regular resident positions
- b. 2 non-resident positions (1-2yr 1-1 yr)
- c. Resident Alternate
- d. Alternate Non Resident

Mr. Rosenthal explains the process to all present, explaining that the person nominated needs to get 11 votes which is a basic quorum, and then their name will go forward. He explains that a person may be nominated for multiple positions. He advises that this process will be done by written secret ballot.

Regular resident- Jack Sayward is nominated for a regular resident. Steve asks those to vote for Jack to raise their hand, 11 plus hands are counted. Nancy Devane is nominated for regular resident #2, 11 plus hands are raised to support the nomination. Mr. Rosenthal asks if there are any other nominations on the floor, hearing none, he moves forward.

Regular Position Non-Resident- Gerry Grondin is nominated, Mr. Bonney advises that he has his word, however, no written letter with him .Mr. Rosenthal advises that as long as he is absolutely sure that he will accept the nomination , Mr. Bonney confirms. Eleven hands are raised in support of Gerry Grondin.

Regular Position Non-resident- Marty nominates Gill Beaudoin, Eleven hands in support are raised.

The nomination for Gerry Grondin is moved to Alternate Non-Resident

Nancy Devane makes a motion to have a slate of nominees as opposed to an individual vote; motion is seconded; unanimous Approval.

Mr. Rosenthal asks the people to vote by writing for the slate of individuals that have been nominated. He explains that it is a yes or no vote.

Alternate Regular-resident- 1 year position- this will be a separate vote. Ms. Devane nominates Al Barvenik for this position, motion is seconded; Unanimous approval.

Mr. Rosenthal counts the votes and announces that 20 votes are counted and that the slate has been approved.

Mr. Rosenthal solicits for a vote to adjourn, Mr. Bonney makes a motion to adjourn; motion is seconded, meeting is adjourned at 3:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Feit, Clerk-Treasurer