

**Town of Sherman
Board of Selectmen Monthly Meeting
Mallory Town Hall
August 27, 2026 at 7PM**

Present: First Selectman Don Lowe; Selectman Bob Ostrosky; Selectman Joel Bruzinski; Treasurer Andrea Maloney

Absent: Chris Fuchs

Invited & Audience: PW Supervisor Kris Fazzone; Business Manager Liz LaVia; Nelson Fall; Mike Wilson (WestCOG); John McGovern (ADA); Michelle Santoro

Clerk: Nicole Zegley

1. Call to Order: First Selectman Don Lowe called the meeting to order at 7:00PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comment: None

3. Correspondence: None

4. Administrative Items:

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the July 27, 2026 meeting.

Approval of July 27, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motioned: Selectman Joel Bruzinski

Seconded By: Selectman Bob Ostrosky

All in Favor: Unanimous

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2026 meeting.

Approval of August 13, 2026 Special Minutes

Motioned By: First Selectman Don Lowe

Seconded By: Selectman Bob Ostrosky

All in Favor: Unanimous

Financial Review: Business Manager Liz LaVia updated the Board on the 2025/2026 year end summary and the 2026/2027 monthly summary. 2026/2027 is tracking with nothing to report. The 2025/2026 year end combined with the school, will be returning 450,558 to the general fund. The school will be returning \$2,630. There was a \$35,000 surplus to the health insurance due to a census change. The first of three audits are currently underway.

Treasurer Andrea Maloney spoke on revenues. Final figures are unavailable as the audit was still in progress. They are projecting more money to be returned to the general fund. Additional revenue will be coming from the bondings interest bearing account as well as the town clerk, building permits, and zoning permits.

Tax Refunds/Tax Suspension: First Selectman Don Lowe announced the tax refunds for approval.

A Motion was made to approve a tax refund in the amount of \$6,031.42.

Motioned By: First Selectman Don Lowe

Seconded By: Selectman Joel Bruzinski

All in Favor: Unanimous

Acknowledgments/Appointments: First Selectman Don Lowe shared one appointment.

A Motion was made to appoint Michael Conforte as the Sherman Representative for the Candlewood Lake Authority.

Motioned By: First Selectman Don Lowe

Seconded By: Selectman Bob Ostrosky

All in Favor: Unanimous

5. Information & Discussion:

- a. **SVFD:** First Selectman Don Lowe read an update from the Fire Chief, Chris Fuchs.

Good morning Don,

Please find below the monthly report for the Sherman Volunteer Fire Department.

The total number of emergency calls that we have responded to so far this year is 271. It has been a busy month, with many emergency calls and several incidents on Candlewood Lake.

Members have been training with the new mini pumper, as well as continuing to build their search and rescue skills.

Sherman's members proudly marched in the Bridgewater parade and brought home a trophy for best-appearing commercial pumper for the new Engine 3.

We are pleased to welcome 3 new members who joined our ranks this past month.

*Finally, our members are thankful for the community's support of our annual Firemen's Ball, which was a great success.
Respectfully,*

*Chris Fuchs
Chief*

- b. ADA Study and Review:** First Selectman Don Lowe turned the meeting over to Mike Wilson, Senior Planner with WestCOG and Brett Gordon, Project Manager. They discussed a transition plan for municipal and historic buildings bringing them up to ADA standards by interviewing building staff and touring the town.
Fiscal Impact :

Phase 1: \$546,286
2: \$481,549
3: \$685.998

Option: \$521,275

Smart Practice: \$55,999

Phases 1-3 Total \$1,713,833

Overall: 2,291,107

- c. Public Works Update:** PW Supervisor Kris Fazzone gave an update on the tree clean up and washout repairs from all of the storm damage. Kyle will be attending the 6 day T2 Academy.
- d. Public Works Government Bid Items and Future New Truck:** PW Supervisor Fazzone discussed the replacement of truck 3, which was part of his capital plan. If the Town continues to use the dark green truck color, the order needs to be placed this fall.

First Selectmen Bob Ostrosky inquired about the cost and Mr. Fazzone explained it was approximately \$180,000.

First Selectman Don Lowe requested that all the information be ready for the September meeting.

Business Manager Liz LaVia and PW Supervisor Kris Fazzone spoke to the Board about listing items in online government auctions. This process provides no seller fees, only buyer fees and is overall a better option for the town.

A motion was made to approve the Government Bid process for excess capital gear.

Motioned By: First Selectman Don Lowe

Seconded By: Selectman Bob Ostrosky

All in Favor: Unanimous

- e. **Sherman School Renovation Project:** First Selectman Don Lowe explained the progress on the school. Financially, the project remains on budget. The crew has been working to get clean up done before school starts next week.
- f. **Sherman Senior Center Building Committee:** First Selectman Don Lowe explained that the Committee has chosen Christopher Williams as the architect. have made it to the interview process. The decision was made on August 5th. The town's attorney is currently working on contracts for Civil Engineering and the Landscape Engineer.
- g. **Town Beach Dock Slips Project Report:** First Selectman Don Lowe moved the meeting to discuss the boat slips. The Town is pursuing a proposal with First Light and CLA to add 6 additional boat slips in the easiest way possible.
- h. **Scam Awareness:** First Selectman Don Lowe explained that there has been a rise in scams recently. He added that businesses that go door to door need to obtain a permit from Town Hall (which Sherman does not issue). He urged the town to be aware of scammers and not to entertain them. The town kept this item on the agenda as there seems to be more instances that have arisen.
- i. **Mallory Town Hall Security:** First Selectman Don Lowe explained that the town is looking for a system to make employees feel safer when they are in the building and working after hours. One quote has been received, but two additional quotes are being pursued.

j.

Other Business: Selectman Bob Ostrosky commented that the potty on Veteran's Field had been tipped over. PW Supervisor Kris Fazzzone. Explained that they cleaned it up and security footage will be checked.

Public Comment: Marie commented on the Lantern Flies in town.

Adjournment:

Motioned By: First Selectman Don Lowe

Seconded: Selectman Joel Bruzinski

Time: 8:10 PM

Respectfully Submitted By Nicole Zegley