

Town of Shaftsbury Select Board Meeting

April 3, 2023

In person at Cole Hall and remotely via Zoom

1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Art Whitman (chair), Mike Cichanowski, Martha Cornwell, Tony Krulikowski, and Naomi Miller. Also present was town administrator David Kiernan.

2. Conflict of Interest Statement

No one reported a conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes

Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the March 20 minutes. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

4. Warrants

Check warrant, retirement contribution, \$16,474.48. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Check warrant #33, \$45,974.68. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Payroll warrant #19, \$31,027.15. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Payroll warrant #20, \$28,558.41. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Whitman asked the selectpersons to sign warrants approved in July 2022 on which signatures were omitted. (The auditors asked that the documents be signed.)

5. Announcements

Mr. Kiernan said he'd spoken with the solar developers. The state has approved the curb cut on Route 7 "in concept." The developer hopes to organize an informational presentation for the public in early May, probably at the school. Several experts will be present to share information on all the topics that have come up at various public meetings.

6. Public Comments

Roberta Carroll asked whether the new sheriff will meet with townsfolk. Mr. Whitman said such a meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2023. Mr. Whitman said the number of hours to be devoted by the sheriff's office to Shaftsbury will be among the items to be discussed.

Ms. Carroll said a gigantic rusty culvert was left years ago on the south side of Cold Spring Road. Mr. Yannotti said the crew will remove it.

Ms. Carroll asked what is the material left on the side of the road that seems to have hardened into a cement-like substance. Mr. Whitman said it is stone chips. He said a power broom would remove the pile.

7. Treasurers report

Ms. Dexter reported on the cash flow, which totaled \$725,293.22 as of March 31. A cemetery transfer of \$33,980.52 was made via a journal entry by the professional auditors. The reserve funds

totals \$1,516,788. Delinquent taxes owed at this time exceed those owed last year at this time. All the information a tax payer needs to complete her taxes are online on the town website.

8. Constable Appointment – Bob Perry

Mr. Whitman reported that the select board wishes to appoint Mr. Perry as returning constable. Ms. Miller moved to appoint Mr. Perry as constable for one year. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

9. DPW Report

- Granger Hollow Culvert Contract Award

The bids were opened at the March 20 meeting, from Kurtz Excavating and Weaver Excavating. DPW foreman Yannotti reviewed each. He said he talked with each contractor, and recommends Weaver. The company has always been very responsive. The project is complicated by the need to reroute Shaftsbury Hollow and Granger Hollow Roads temporarily. And unlike Kurtz, Weaver has experience working in rivers with the approval of VT DEC. Ms. Cornwell moved to award the contract to Weaver Excavating. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.

- Howard Park Stormwater Contract Award

The bids were opened at the March 20 meeting, from Kurtz and Matt Morse. The bids are nearly identical, for which reason Mr. Yannotti recommends the low bid from Mr. Morse. Mr. Cichanowski moved to award the bid to Mr. Morse. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Yannotti said the crew has started grading in some parts of town. He said there are a lot of potholes. (It helped that the crew touched up some spots during the winter.) The crew has a couple of days of tree work left on Buck Hill. Six or seven culverts will be replaced and ditching done on the road before it gets paved this summer.

- VTRANS Annual Town Financial Plan Certification, FY 2024

Mr. Cichanowski moved to sign the document. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

- Annual Adoption Town Road and Bridge Standards

Mr. Cichanowski moved to adopt for Shaftsbury the state's town road and bridge standards. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

- Compliance with town road and bridge standards and state network inventory.

Ms. Cornwell moved to sign the statement. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

10. Traffic Speed Ordinance Adoption

Mr. Kiernan said all proposals are on the town website. The ordinance will become official 60 days from tonight' vote, unless it is appealed by petition. Mr. Cichanowski moved to adopt the traffic speed ordinance. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

11. Revised Dog Ordinance Introduction

Mr. Whitman said the process would resemble that of the speed ordinance. Mr. Kiernan said the new ordinance would be modeled on a document created by VLCT, but would depart from that document in several important ways, among them loosening requirements for calling a hearing regarding a potentially violent dog. Fees for violations should be identical, he said, except for those for a potentially violent dog. The draft ordinance can be viewed on the town website. The discussion of the ordinance will continue at the next select board meeting.

12. Proposed Stop Sign Ordinance Discussion

Mr. Kiernan asked citizens to suggest locations for stop signs. An example is the situation at Murphy Hill/LaClair/Tinkham. Mr. Whitman said he hoped to have someone from VTRans respond to the suggestions.

13. Other Business

There was none.

Mr. Kiernan will not be present for the next meeting. Ms. Miller said she will not be able to Zoom in for the next meeting.

14. Review of Action Items

There were none.

15. Adjournment

Mr. Cichanowski moved to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0—0.