

Town of Shaftsbury Select Board
February 5, 2017

- 1) The meeting came to order at 6:30 pm. Present were Select Board members Tim Scoggins (chair), Ken Harrington, Art Whitman, and Joe Barber. Tony Krulikowski was absent. Also present was town administrator David Kiernan.
- 2) No conflicts of interest were reported.
- 3) Mr. Whitman moved to approve the January 2, 2018 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. Approval of the January 16, 2018 minutes was postponed as Mr. Harrington and Mr. Scoggins were absent for that meeting.
- 4) Announcements: positions are open on the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board.
- 5) Public announcements

Holly Behan spoke, requesting that the Select Board amend the draft 2018 warning, section 2c, to reflect that the compensation for an elected official be shown as \$43,298, to include the health insurance benefits offered “contrary to personnel policy 22, #1.” Mr. Kiernan reported he’d asked VLCT for an opinion, and read from their reply, “It is perfectly fine to set the compensation for a town official as a line item in the budget.” She also distributed a copy of the personnel policy for elected officials.
- 6) Road report:

Mr. Kiernan submitted the annual highway certification for the board’s certification, and reported that the mileage has not changed since the last certification. Mr. Whitman moved to approve the certificate of highway mileage for the year ending Feb 10, 2018, indicating the town has, roughly, 0 miles class 1, 20 miles class 2, 50 miles class 3, 16 miles state highway (totaling 86 miles) and 1.7 miles class 4 and 3.35 miles legal trail. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. Mr. Kiernan reported the road crews are fixing potholes and preparing for the next storm.

Mr. Harrington suggested the board review the rules and regulations regarding taking over a new Town road, and mentioned Birch Hill and Blueberry Hill as issues. He wondered whether in future, before the Town takes over a road, it should ask an engineer to examine it to make sure it meets the Town’s requirements.
- 7) FY 19 budget

The board reviewed the final documents. An increase of about one cent will be required. Money was added for trees and Bennington Rescue Squad. The new rate is less than 1% larger than last year’s rate. At the same time, the Town has created a sinking fund for all highway equipment, resurfaced the tennis court and installed a new well at Howard Park, arranged for annual professional audits, and is building a new garage. Shortly, a postcard will be sent to everyone notifying them of the availability of the Town Report, on line or as a paper document available at Cole Hall. The paper document will be printed out in three sections – annual report, community appropriations, and budget – and people can choose which they wish to have.

Mr. Harrington moved to approve the final budget for \$1,900,300. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. (That number does not include community appropriations, which are voted on separately.)
- 8) Town meeting warning.

Mr. Kiernan described how the warning attempts to avoid a floor vote conflicting with the Australian ballot voting.

Mr. Merton Snow made comments regarding the contents of the Town report. He thought the previous year’s election results should be included. Those records are otherwise recorded in the Town vault.

Ms. Behan asked that the warning explicitly state the new proposed stipends for the Town Clerk and the Treasurer.

Mr. Whitman moved to approve the warning for the Town meeting and vote (incorporated by reference in these minutes). Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.
- 9) Town report changes

Mr. Kiernan noted that some phone numbers should be added.

10) Action items

Old items

- Final garage bids should be received by March 9. (Eight general contractors attended the mandatory bid meeting. About fifteen subcontractors attended.)
- The notice for Town warning is due Feb. 3.

New items

- Look at rules re taking over a private road.
- Make changes to town report.
- Get out postcard re availability of town report.

11) Mr. Harrington moved to adjourn at about 7:40 pm. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.