

Shaftsbury Select Board  
April 1, 2019  
6:30 pm

- 1) Call to order at 6:30 pm. Present were Select Board members Tim Scoggins, Ken Harrington, Art Whitman, and Tony Krulikowski. 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) Approval of minutes
- 4) Warrants
  - Check warrant #29: \$4,050. Mr. Whitman moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.
  - Payroll warrant #19: \$24,622.02. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.
  - Retirement warrant # 3: \$11,251.10. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.
  - Check warrant #30: \$53,197.62. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.
- 5) Announcements
  - Mr. Scoggins announced vacancies on the Planning Commission, Development Review Board, a lister, and as town agent.
  - Mr. Scoggins urged citizens to complete a survey on internet coverage in the town. See [www.shaftsburyvt.gov](http://www.shaftsburyvt.gov), call Mr. Scoggins, or find hard copies at the Town Clerk's office.
- 6) Public comments
  - A citizen complained about road conditions on Blueberry Hill in recent weeks. He said it was in a crisis state. Emergency staff couldn't have made it up the road. The road crew needs to address the hills first, the lower elevations later. He said the road crew needed better grader training. He asked what the plans for the town roads were. A second citizen complained that the roads are in awful shape when, at the same time, the town built a new garage. It is bad optics. He said ditching is essential, that Myers Road is ten feet wider now than when he moved here. Mr. Kiernan said under a new plan, the grader will be running all year long except in the winter time (two graders will go out in the springtime). The town will be hiring contractual help, and has asked state engineers to advise on repairs.
- 7) MHG solar proposal – solar net metering credit
  - A representative of the company presented the proposal – a twenty-five year subscription, of a sort, in an existing solar array. (Most of their solar arrays are located in old slate quarries south of Fair Haven.)
  - They focus on school districts and municipalities because they are likely to be in business over the long term. Through a system of credits offered by GMP to MHG for the net-metered energy, MHG would be able to offer a 7.5% reduction in energy costs to the town -- in the case of Shaftsbury about \$1200 annually or \$35K-\$40K over twenty-five years. In discussion, it was noted that 25 years is a long time when the industry is so changeable, both as

regards regulation and in terms of advances in technology. Mr. Scoggins asked for a sample contract to review.

8) Planning Commission appointments – Michael Cichanowski, Michael Foley

Mr. Whitman moved to appoint Mr. Cichanowski and Mr. Foley to three years terms on the Planning Commission. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed.

9) USDA Community Connects grant

Mr. Scoggins noted that at the last meeting, the Select Board voted to pursue a USDA Community Connects grant. He has since learned that the grant isn't something the town can use right now, and he will not pursue it.

10) Treasurer's report

Melanie Dexter presented the semi-monthly report. Delinquent taxes are coming in. The end of year picture is starting to come into focus and it is right on target. All further garage expenses will be paid from the garage reserve.

11) DPW report

Mr. Kiernan reported on Michael Yannotti's behalf. A bid will be put out for a number of grants-in-aid projects for projects on Cider Mill, Cold Spring, Murphy Hill, West Mtn, Horton Hill, and Holy Smoke (if an environmental issue can be resolved). These must be done by June 30 to comply with grant requirements.

The class 3 road fund will be used to address projects on Shaftsbury Hollow and West Mtn. Road.

The substrate beneath the dip on White Creek Rd. will be sampled per state request.

In future, the town will stockpile gravel from Wallingford at the new garage.

Mr. Kiernan showed a slide of a compactor attachment for the grader he would like to purchase at a cost of \$39,550 delivered and installed. The town has that sum in the equipment fund even after purchasing, as pledged to N. Bennington, a used truck. There was no objection to putting the equipment out to bid. Mr. Kiernan will call around to find out when the possible vendors would be able to deliver the equipment. If necessary, an emergency meeting can be held to approve purchasing the unit in time to use it this spring.

The Hollow Hideaway project costs are being updated. It will be built summer 2020.

12) Personnel Policy Amendment – Cellular Phone Usage

The new policy would make it clear that the use of a cell phone while on duty, except in the case of an emergency or while on break, is prohibited. Mr. Whitman noted that CDL drivers are covered by federal regulations and that by law those prohibitions must be spelled out to employees. Mr. Scoggins was concerned that the rule might prohibit a road crew member from taking a picture of a problem, and would like to postpone a decision until the next meeting.

13) Cole Hall/Garage Update

- a. Mr. Kiernan said he'd received a bid for \$1800 to seal the balcony as required by the fire safety. To be built after the turn of the fiscal year. The fire wall will make light storage possible. The board did not object to entering into that contract.
- b. Correctional Industries will charge \$4386.58 for two 48" x 72" conference tables for the meeting rooms and three desks, delivered and installed. The Hawkins fund can cover

those costs. Mr. Whitman moved to authorize Mr. Kiernan to purchase the furniture. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

- c. EV charging station: Mr. Scoggins reported that the zoning administrator noted that a grant could be secured for a charging station, which could complement the redesign of the exterior of Cole Hall. We will notify Goldstone Architects, which is preparing a design of the new exterior of Cole Hall, that we'd like to hold a site for it in the newly designed landscape.
- d. The Certificate of Occupancy for the garage has been issued. The POET has been installed and will be tested this week by KAS. A CO2 detection system is being examined. Site work will begin in a couple of weeks. Signs will be going up. TAM is responsible for transfer station signage. A regional road foreman's meeting is to be held there on April 21.

#### 14) Cooperative Agreement for Forest Service fire equipment

The town has an excess equipment slip-on fire unit loaned by the Forest Service to help fight brush fires. Mr. Harrington moved to sign the cooperative management agreement with the FS regarding the use of the equipment. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

#### 15) Other business

Mr. Whitman reported that RT 7A in town is dangerous, especially north of the Iron Kettle. The shoulder is collapsing. Mr. Kiernan noted that VTrans has a schedule of repaving and that 7A is well down the list. He thought the Board should send a letter to our representatives. Mr. Scoggins and Mr. Whitman will draft such a letter and share with the Board.

#### 16) Review of action items

- Water fountain and playground at Howard Park
- Consolidating funds, including cemetery funds
- Cole Hall open house was announced.
- USDA grant not appropriate.
- Mr. Kiernan got quotes for furniture.
- Mr. Kiernan will seek bids for the compactor attachment and possible delivery dates.
- MHG's representative will submit sample contract.
- Mr. Shewell will be authorized to build the balcony fire wall.
- Mr. Scoggins and Mr. Whitman will write a letter re Rt 7A.

#### 17) Adjournment

Mr. Krulikowski moved to adjourn at 7:45 pm. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.