

**Town of Shaftsbury
Selectboard Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday July 18, 2013**

Members present: Craig Bruder, Karen Mellinger, Carl Korman, Mitchell Race,
Members absent: Ken Harrington;
Others Present: Margy Becker, Town Administrator; Tim Scoggins, Safe-Routes-to-School
Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Craig Bruder called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM.

2. Conflict of Interest Statements

There was no conflict of interest expressed.

3. Warrants

CHECK WARRANT #3 DATED JULY 18, 2013 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,190.95.

MOTION by Carl Korman to approve Check Warrant #3 in the amount of \$15,190.95 for installment payment to West Oil for #2 fuel pre-buy (\$5,190.95) and installment payment (deposit) to Woods CRW Corp. towards balance owed on 2013 Excavator (\$10,000). The MOTION was seconded by Mitch Race and carried unanimously.

4. Financing – Highway Vehicles

After brief discussions a **MOTION** was made by Carl Korman to award the financing bid to Municipal Leasing Consultants of Grand Isle Vermont for a 7-year financing proposal at the interest rate of 2.11% with the adjusted lower rates for \$350 documentation fee and \$250 escrow account fee. The **MOTION** was seconded by Mitch Race and carried unanimously.

The combined cost of the highway truck (Dodge Ram 5500 flatbed) and wheeled excavator is \$250,629. 1st payment will be under the budgeted amount of \$38,000.

5. Public Hearing – Submission of Bicycle Pedestrian Grant Application for supplemental funds to complete Around-the-Block Sidewalk Project

Chairman Bruder convened the public hearing at 5:45PM as warned in the Bennington Banner. It was noted that CAT TV was present to video the public hearing.

Karen Mellinger summarized a decade's history of planning for South Shaftsbury Village

sidewalk improvements. A feasibility study was conducted in approximately 2000. The remaining portion of the sidewalk project to be completed is to wrap a sidewalk around the west corner of 7A to connect to the existing Church Street sidewalk. The most recent VTrans Enhancement Grant received (1 of 3) – utilized 2009 cost estimates for the 2010 application. When the Town bid design engineering costs in 2012, bids came in 30% higher than budgeted. New and revised construction estimates put the project at \$132,000 or an approximate \$40,000 overage.

Karen Mellinger explained that supplemental grant funds for the sidewalk and pedestrian safety improvements being contemplated are critical for project completion. The VTRANS Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program requires a 10% match. Sufficient reserve funds are available to meet the match. The Town's application for supplemental funds will be in the \$80,000 range. But additional estimates for speed display signs are forthcoming.

Ms. Mellinger read aloud the grant application criteria, noting the Town should score well on these criteria. The Shaftsbury Sidewalk Committee is very supportive of the project, in addition to the owner of the corner parcel. Ms. Mellinger further noted there are no complex right-of-way acquisition issues or design issues involved with this final project segment.

Tim Scoggins, resident and Safe-Routes-to-Schools Coordinator, commented that the school route goes through this corner, and therefore pedestrian safety improvements such as signage and lighting are very important for school children in addition to the sidewalks and curb cuts. He stated his full support for the Town's application submittal.

The Chair closed the public hearing at 6:30PM.

Mitch Race expressed support for the grant application. Craig Bruder stated concurrence, noting the many potential benefits to the community.

MOTION by Mitch Race to accept the Town's letter of support to Jon Kaplan in support of for a 2013 Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program application. Carl Korman seconded. The MOTION carried unanimously.

6. Adjournment

MOTION by Mitch Race to adjourn at 6:32PM. The MOTION was seconded by Carl Korman and carried unanimously.

Submitted by,
Margy Becker