

## **Town of Shaftsbury Select Board**

April 18, 2022

Cole Hall and remotely via Zoom

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting came to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were selectpersons Tony Krulikowski (vice chair and presiding), Mike Cichanowski, Martha Cornwell, and Joe Barber. 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**

Ms. Cornwell moved to approve the April 4, 2022 minutes. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

### **4. Warrants**

Check warrant, \$62,195.02 Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

### **5. Announcements**

There were none.

### **6. Public Comments**

Mitch Race announced that Jim Cassidy is the new president of the Shaftsbury Historical Society. He said the Society has several shovel ready projects on their list which might make excellent ARPA-fund candidates. He said he'd be glad to work on them with the Town.

Pete Levin complained that he had been overcharged by the water board for seven years despite many complaints to the former water supervisor, and that he had recently been charged for 880 gallons a day. He said he hadn't used nearly as much water as he'd been charged for. He said after the old water meter was replaced, the recorded usage went down to normal.

### **7. Treasurer's report**

Ms. Dexter reminded citizens that they must file their household income and homestead declarations annually. She noted that the cash flow statement showed transfers to the reserve fund (reflecting checks written). A highway state aid check arrived, as well as many delinquent tax payments. The cash balance is about \$530,000, a good number for this time of year.

She said three people have been approved for state payment of utility arrears. Others have applied.

### **8. DPW report**

Spring maintenance is underway, especially grading and tree work.

### **9. ARPA Funds – Motion to Elect Standard Allowance**

Ms. Cornwell moved that the Town of Shaftsbury make a one-time irrevocable decision to elect the standard allowance approach for our ARPA award of \$1,025,386.49, to spend on the provision of government services throughout the period of performance of the grant. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

#### **10. ARPA Advisory Board proposal**

Ms. Cornwell moved to approve the ARPA advisory board. Anyone interested in serving on the board should contact the town administrator. Ms. Cornwell asked for clarification regarding responsibilities of the committee as described in a draft VLCT template. Ms. Cornwell asked if some funding could be made available for public outreach re use of ARPA funds. Ms. Cornwell moved to strike items 5 and 6 in the template. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the original motion, which passed 4-0-0. Mr. Kiernan will put the modified VLCT committee template on the website.

#### **11. Shaftsbury Media Advisory Committee proposal**

Mr. Kiernan said that now that we have a new webmaster, it might make sense to create a committee of residents to work with the webmaster to populate the site with information and linkages. Mr. Kiernan said he hoped such a committee could explore marketing the town, using social media, encouraging volunteers, and other things. Andrea Bacchi reported via Zoom that such a board is a great idea and she would be glad to help. The board will act upon the suggestion at the next meeting.

#### **12. Wastewater Feasibility/Preliminary Engineering Study proposal: Funding through CWRSF ANR Infrastructure Finance Program**

Mr. Kiernan said he learned the Town can enter into a \$125,000 loan cum grant with ANR to update the 2006 wastewater study and produce a design for the highest priority option. Ms. Cornwell moved to seek the study funding. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

#### **13. Cole Hall Roof and Steeple Maintenance proposal**

Mr. Kiernan reported that Doxie Roofing seems to be the only company interested in working on the roof. They have asked for \$4000 to examine the roof, from the roof (the lift is expensive), and if necessary, make repairs to the slate.

Mr. Kiernan said he is having trouble finding someone to paint the steeple. The windows will have to wait for additional funding.

Mr. Kiernan said that in the next few weeks, portions of the Cole Hall surround will be topsoiled and planted with grass seed. Further improvements will await the creation of a plan for the elevator and additional landscaping.

#### **14. Removal of old DPW garage pad proposal**

Mr. Kiernan reported that Matt Morse Excavating has agreed to stand by its proposal of two years ago to remove the pad and the oil tank for \$8000. Mr. Morse will hire geohydrological consultant Paul Miller to handle the permitting for the project for an additional fee. Mr. Cichanowski moved to hire Matt Morse Excavating to remove the garage pad and oil tank. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

#### **15. Other Business**

Mr. Kiernan said the Town should have more information on a wetland delineation in Howard Park shortly. Work in the Park could begin thereafter.

Mr. Krulikowski read the list of nominations for Fire Department officers, whose terms run from May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023: chief, Joe Vadakin; first assistant chief, Mike Taylor; second assistant chief, Ed Shewell. Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the slate of officers. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Kiernan said Green Up Day bags will be given out at Cole Hall that morning (May 7). A container will be left at Cole Hall for trash. Trash bags can also be left on roadways and will be picked up by the DPW crew over the following few days.

A couple of citizens thanked the board for continuing to hold meetings both in person and remotely.

**16. Review of Action Items**

ARPA advisory board on website; media advisory committee to be approved; wastewater study funds to be sought; Matt Morse to be contracted with.

**17. Adjournment**

Ms. Cornwell moved to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.