

## Shaftsbury Select Board Meeting

March 20, 2023

In person, Cole Hall, and remotely via Zoom

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were selectpersons 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 2 minutes. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-1. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the March 13 minutes. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion. Mr. Whitman asked that the report on the vote for vice-chair be amended to a vote of 4-0-1 as Mr. Krulikowski did not vote for himself. The amended minutes passed 5-0-0.

### 4. Warrants

Check warrant #31, \$34,994.87. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

### 5. Announcements

Mr. Krulikowski asked that the Select Board send a letter to Karen Mellinger thanking her for helping to organize the pot luck supper at Town Meeting.

### 6. Public Comments

There were none.

### 7. Treasurers report

Ms. Dexter explained the February reports. Delinquent tax receipts were unusually high for that time of year. Apparently a few large debts were cleared. Several checks were written, resulting in a lower cash balance than usual. It was rectified by a transfer from the reserve fund in March. She said a flow-through grant for Shires Housing received last year at this time makes year to year budget comparisons hereafter non-informative. Some water payments came in.

She cautioned folks to hold on to their tax bills for tax reporting purposes.

### 8. Traffic Ordinances

- Speed Zone

Mr. Kiernan said the new speed regulations would be posted on the town website on March 21. A vote will be taken on the revised regulations at the next select board meeting. That vote will be warned in the Banner and elsewhere; citizens will have forty-five days to appeal it. The ordinance will go into effect 60 days after the vote. If necessary, the ordinance can be amended in the future.

- Stop Sign

Mr. Kiernan said the stop sign policy is vague and out of date. He said a new ordinance is required. It will require field surveys. Citizens will be able to comment as well.

## 9. Bid Openings

### •Howard Park

The bid is for work on stormwater management only. Repairs to other infrastructure will be covered by a separate bid process.

Kurtz Excavating bid \$19,800. Matt Morse Excavating bid \$18,500. Both are local companies. The bids will be reviewed by the DPW foreman who will report back to the Select Board.

### •Granger Hollow Culvert

The bid is for work designed by VTRans for work required by VTrans.

Weaver Excavating bid \$211,373.98. Kurtz Excavating bid \$156,725. Both are local companies. Both bids will be shared with the DPW foreman, who will report back to the Select Board.

## 10. DPW Report

Mr. Kiernan reported the crew has been plowing. They handled the storm very well. A few mailboxes were lost, but such damage is unavoidable during severe storms, he said. Mr. Whitman noted that the board approved a policy several years ago disclaiming any responsibility for damaged mailboxes. When not plowing, the crew has been doing brush work and preparing for grant applications to be submitted beginning in April. Mr. Kiernan said the crew is considering replacing its sidewalk snow plow machine in the not too distant future. Mr. Kiernan said the cost of gravel went up 45-50% this winter, some minor "mud seasons" occurred requiring more than the usual volume of gravel, and the gravel budget has been spent. Funds for gravel will be found elsewhere.

## 11. Other Business

Ms. Cornwell said she received information on how the town of Bennington handles community appropriations requests. Mr. Kiernan will share that information with the select board.

The hearing for the Grandview sidewalk project has been scheduled for Thursday April 27, 6 p.m., at Cole Hall. It will also be a special select board meeting. Engineers will explain alternative designs, with projected costs, which will have been shared ahead of time on the town website.

Mr. Kiernan said he would hang a TV screen in the meeting room to assist with Zoom presentations. A new microphone, an "Owl," will also be purchased.

## 12. Review of Action Items

## 13. Adjournment

Ms. Miller moved to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion which passed 5-0-0.