

Town of Shaftsbury Special Select Board Meeting

Thursday March 28, 2024

In person at Cole Hall and remotely via Zoom

1) Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. Present were selectpersons Naomi Miller (chair), Brad Peacock, and Tony Krulikowski. Also present was interim town administrator David Kiernan.

2) Conflict of interest

No one reported a conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.

3) Outstanding minutes

Town floor meeting, March 4, 2024: Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Peacock seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0. It was discovered after the approval that the group could not after all approve those minutes as only two of the three attending selectpersons were members of the select board on March 4.

March 18, 2024: Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Peacock seconded the motion. Ms. Miller asked that the minutes item 2 be changed to "board appointment of town officers;" and that in item 6, "water" not "sewer" would be handled by a state Government Operations committee. The amended minutes passed 3-0-0.

4) Warrants

Check warrant #36A, \$2423. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Peacock seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

Check warrant #36B, \$149.60. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Peacock seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

Check warrant #36C, \$87.39. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Peacock seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

Check warrant #37, \$5923.94. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Peacock seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

5) Announcements

There were none.

6) Public comments

Kit Ausschnitt spoke about a January 18 Select Board meeting, when a discussion was held regarding a Planning Commission recommendation about the siting of solar panels. Mr. Ausschnitt asked whether that recommendation had ever been shared with the developer. Ms. Miller said that yes, it had been shared, and that she thought the Select Board had been advised by counsel that, going forward, only counsel would be allowed to intercede on behalf of the Town. Ms. Miller said she thought the abutters have greater standing than the Town.

Mike Albus spoke. He said he was unclear as to why the Town cannot now re-enter a comment in support of the Planning Commission's recommendation. Mr. Ausschnitt reiterated the point. Ms. Miller again noted the counsel's advice.

7) Rededication of ARPA Reserve Fund

Mr. Kiernan said federal rules regarding ARPA have changed. They can be responded to by rededicating the ARPA Reserve Fund to the Community Center Development Fund. He also described some changes to interim plans, including a reconfiguration of the neighboring parcel and the initiation of community fundraising. Mr. Krulikowski moved to change the name to Community Center Development Fund. Mr. Peacock seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

8) One month extension of interim Town Administrator agreement

Mr. Krulikowski moved to extend the agreement one month. Mr. Peacock seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

9) Other business

Ms. Miller said she heard from our town counsel that an \$85,000 sum from the Mazur estate could be used to support the school in any way the town sees fit. Mr. Kiernan said he'd like to explore further whether the sum could instead go to the town. Mr. Kiernan will place this on the agenda for the April 1 meeting.

10) Review of action items

Agenda items should be shared with the Town Administrator as soon as possible.

Ms. Miller asked Mr. Rondeau on Zoom whether he had any questions. He had none.

11) Krulikowski moved to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Mr. Peacock seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.