

SHAFTSBURY SELECTBOARD
EMERGENCY MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2012
MINUTES

ATTENDING: **Board Members present:** Lon McClintock, Karen Mellinger, Bill Pennebaker, Craig Bruder, Carl Korman. Town Staff: Margy Becker, Town Administrator.

1. Call to Order

Chairman McClintock called the meeting to order at 10:10AM.

2. Announcements:

Margy Becker announced Buck Hill Fire Station repairs are complete (from Irene damage). Karen Mellinger informed the Selectboard Ed Corey had contacted her to voice his disapproval of using the landfill site for the proposed town garage.

3. Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

4. Conflict of Interest Statement

Chairman McClintock inquired if any Board member had a conflict of interest with any matter on the agenda. No conflict noted for the record.

5. FY13 Budget

Craig Bruder made the motion to rescind his approval of the FY13 budget. Bill Pennebaker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectmen discussed the fact that though audited, the Treasurer reports the fund balance for 2010 has been changed. This affects the carry forward of surplus property tax dollars into the current operating budget and presentation of the FY13 budget. Selectmen discussed at length their lack of faith in the figures presented as a 'fund balance' versus a budget surplus or deficit – which is easier to defend. Selectmen agreed to insert into line U73 under "revenues" the FY10 audited surplus figure of \$116,414.

Selectmen then reviewed Karen Mellinger's proposed changes to FY11 actuals to best reflect modified accrual year-end adjustments. Revenue categories affected included current taxes, Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) and Access Permit income. Minor adjustments were made to FY11 actual expenses under DRB/Planning "stipends" and "recording clerk wage" line items.

Selectmen noted receipt of a valid petition to add an article to the warning. Supporters of Historic Park McCullough House have petitioned the voters for a community appropriation in the amount of \$1,500.

The Selectmen discussed the fact that the proposed budget increase was 5.4%, after adjustments noted above. It was agreed this was unacceptable.

After further discussions revenue and expense line items were adjusted as follows:

Line 22 State Highway Aid increased to \$151,000 from \$145,477

Line 27 Access Permit Revenue increased to \$9,500 from \$9,000.

Line 227 Fire Warden operating supplies budget was decreased from \$600 to 400.

Line 264 Salt expenses were increased slightly to \$37,800 – to account for the \$61.10 current price plus 3% increase.

Selectmen discussed again whether to recommend establishment of a Park Reserve Fund for capital improvements to parks. They agreed the article should remain on the ballot, and the \$1,000 transfer into the reserve fund will remain in the budget.

After further consideration of proposed “Transfers to Reserves”, the Selectboard agreed to reduce the transfer to the Fund Balance Reserve Fund (the Town’s emergency – ‘rainy day’ fund) from \$5,000 to \$3,000.

It was noted that the proposed increase in property taxes then calculated to be 0%. Total proposed revenues to be raised in FY13 are \$1,802,771. Total property taxes to be raised = \$1,281,614. The budget increase is 5.2% after adjustments, which is .1% less than the prior budget that had been approved. Total proposed expenses are \$1,802,771.

Carl Korman made the motion to approve the FY13 budget. Karen Mellinger seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Town Meeting Warning

Selectmen reviewed changes to the Town Meeting Warning, to reflect changes to the budget and receipt of the Historic Park McCullough House petition.

Karen Mellinger made the motion to approve the amended Town Meeting Warning. Bill Pennebaker seconded. The motion carried 5-0. Selectmen will the Warning on Monday evening January 30, 2012.

7. Other Business – Personnel Policies

Craig Bruder made brief suggestions concerning overtime policies. The Board will meet in a work session on January 30th.

8. Adjournment

Karen Mellinger made the motion to adjourn at 12:50pm. Bill Pennebaker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by
Margy Becker