

**MINUTES OF THE SHAFTSBURY SELECT BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
October 8, 2009
COLE HALL
SHAFTSBURY, VERMONT**

Board Present: Lon McClintock (Chairman), Bill Pennebaker, Cinda Morse, Karen Mellinger, Craig Bruder. **(Others Present:** Margaret Becker (Town Administrator), Ken and Rose Carlson, Alice Miller (State Representative), Ron Daniels (Road Foreman).

1. Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Lon McClintock called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

2. Announcements: There were none.

3. Conflict of Interest Statement:

Chairman McClintock asked if any Board member has a conflict of interest with any topic on tonight's agenda. None did.

4. Public Comments:

There were none.

5. Public Hearing: 2010 Enhancement Grant Application Submittal

Lon McClintock convened the public hearing regarding the Town's intent to submit an application to the VT Department of Transportation for 2010 Federal Enhancement funds to complete new sidewalk construction around the "Mance" property at the corner of Church Street and Rte. 7A.

Karen Mellinger explained the project would entail installation of sidewalk from the southern property boundary around the corner, with approximately 350 feet of sidewalk. The curb cut onto 7A is projected to be 50 to 60 feet. The curb cut onto Church Street will be approximately 40 feet. 3 light posts are proposed.

Karen Mellinger said the budget for the project is being developed. MacDonald - Secor Associates is preparing an estimate of construction costs. The range of costs that are being considered is in the \$65,000 to \$85,000 range. The Town's local share is 20%. At least half of the local share must be in cash. The other half may be in-kind services to the project. Ms. Mellinger further stated there may be some funds available from the present grant(s) that can be rolled over into the 2010 grant - but that is still to be negotiated. She has estimated \$7,000 will be left in the Sidewalk Fund to be applied toward the 2010 project, after State reimbursements on the current project. She then asked that the Board budget a FY2011 set-aside of an additional \$10,000.

Cinda Morse agreed and stated her support for the project, noting that the sidewalk improvements to-date have made a huge difference for pedestrian safety in the Village as they did in Bennington.

Village Resident Ken Carlson reported that the owner of the corner property, Trevor Mance, is concerned about the safety of walkers across the lot. Pedestrians have to weave through haphazardly-parked vehicles and across very wide curb cuts to get from Church Street over to Rte. 7A. The proposed sidewalk project would make pedestrian traffic much safer.

Alice Miller, State Representative, stated she viewed this as the most critical part of the whole sidewalk project. She inquired why it was not done first.

Ken Carlson responded that until now the owner of the corner lot had been uncooperative. Trevor Mance is very interested in working with the Town and VTrans to assure the segment of sidewalk is constructed.

Alice Miller stated her support for the project.

Rose Carlson said she supports the project, noting that the corner of Church Street and Rte. 7A includes very wide curb cuts. Vehicles cut through the corner lot, and the sidewalk project would narrow the curb cuts and discourage this practice.

Road Foreman Ron Daniels asked that the sidewalk alignment not affect traveled way width.

Hearing no other public comments, Chairman McClintock closed the public hearing.

Cinda Morse made the MOTION that the Selectboard enthusiastically supports the submission of the 2010 Enhancement Grant applicaton. Bill Pennebaker seconded. The MOTION carried.

Chair McClintock agreed to submit to VTrans the Selectboard's letter of support.

6. Road Repairs – Ledgey and Westview Drive, Stevens Lane

Ron Daniels reported that he will hear back from Peckham regarding their paving schedule for October. He is fairly certain that Cleveland Avenue, Ledgey and Westview Drives, and Stevens Lane are in their schedule.

Ken Carlson pointed out there is no base on Stevens Lane and Westview Drive, and only minimal base on Ledgey Drive. The asphalt sits on clay.

Cinda Morse said it does not make sense to pave this fall until repairs are made. Margy Becker reported that VTrans has tentatively granted the Town an extension on the Class 2 paving grant until 6/30/10. Cinda Morse recommended that the Town ask an engineer to take a look at the roads and make recommendations for drainage improvements. The Selectboard agreed to authorize Margy Becker to contact an engineer for this purpose.

Ron Daniels said he estimates \$18 - \$19,000 in material and fabric alone to repair the base on the roads. This is not a refined estimate, he cautioned. He stated that if the surface el-

evation of Westview Lane was raised, water would shed off the road properly. Ron Daniels said he also estimates that at least 700 – 800 cubic yards of material would have to be excavated for the project, and that an independent contractor should be hired.

Ron Daniels reported on the status of the Meyers Road project – which will take a week to complete. He estimates a day to complete the Shaftsbury Hollow Road project. Mr. Daniels reported that the guard rail posts that were to be installed on East Road were stolen. He has contacted Lafayette to come down to perform the work at Fairpoint’s expense (an estimated \$4400).

Cinda Morse made the MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM. The MOTION was seconded and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Margy Becker