

**Town of Shaftsbury
Selectboard Special Meeting
6:30PM
Monday, December 8, 2014
Cole Hall, 61 Buck Hill Road, Shaftsbury**

Selectboard Members

Present: Tim Scoggins (Chair), Mitch Race, Ken Harrington, Tony Krulikowski,
Art Whitman

Absent: None

TA Present: David Kiernan

Others Present: Trevor Mance, Merton Snow, Terry Stacy

6:30PM Special Meeting

1. **Call to Order**

Tim Scoggins (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

2. **Approval of Warrants:** NONE

3. **Conflict of Interest** Statement: NONE

4. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion: Tim Scoggins moves to approve the minutes from the Selectboard December 1st meeting. Mitch Race 2nds.

Discussion:

Mitch Race asked to add the following to Item #8 “The Treasurer’s Report”:

“Treasurer affirmed on question from Mitch Race that the \$364,000 fund balance includes \$91,150 for sidewalks (The Sidewalk Fund) that has been budgeted but not spent for two years.”

This change stems from a conversation Mitch Race had with Treasurer Bill Fisk after the Selectboard meeting.

Tim Scoggins stated that clarification is needed from Bill Fisk regarding this amount.

Motion: Tim Scoggins moves to postpone the approval of minutes from the 12/1 Selectboard meeting until further clarification from Bill Fisk. Tony Krulikowski 2nds. 4-0-0. Motion passes. (Ken Harrington had not arrived at this point.)

5. **Announcements**

Mitch Race announced that the Shaftsbury Historical Society invites residents to submit nominations for the Ordinary Hero recognition. The honoree will be a Shaftsbury resident who personifies Shaftsbury’s civic pride through their passion for our communal history,

shared values and personal efforts to enhance the well-being of the residents of Shaftsbury. Please send a note to SHS, PO Box 401, Shaftsbury, VT, 05262, explaining why the nominee should be Shaftsbury's next Ordinary Hero.

Mitch Race asked if the draft Resolution to Form a Survey Committee for the Solid Waste Implementation Plan had been circulated or signed yet.

David Kiernan stated that it had not been signed. Mitch Race stated that it needed by cleaned up and run by Mike Batcher of the Bennington County Regional Committee and get it signed at the next meeting.

Tim Scoggins asked what a joint survey committee is. Mitch Race explained that we all pay to have the study done to implement Act 148. David Kiernan explained that the Towns have to agree to link themselves to one another.

Art Whitman asked if we have equal votes. Mitch Race explained that this is not the alliance; this is just to form a joint committee. David Kiernan explained that this will run like a board of directors with a representative from each town.

David Kieran explained that there would be frequent meetings until the approval in July.

Mitch Race stated that the first year has a higher cost due to one-time expenses like setting up a website.

Mitch Race will send Tony Krulikowski all the information, as Tony is the alternate.

6. **Budget Discussions**

a. Solid Waste Facility

Trevor Mance, owner of TAM Waste Management, addressed the Select Board on this topic.

Trevor Mance explained, "This is a challenging time in the garbage industry, and certainly for municipalities as well."

What started out as Act 148, the State now refers to as the Universal Recycling Law.

There is a lot of focus on organics, but organics is just one component of the law.

Shaftsbury is already doing a lot of what is required.

Recycling is currently offered at no charge; however, recycling does cost money and the charge is applied in another way.

Leaf and yard waste is collected, but it is currently pushed to side and not dealt with. The state may call this a landfill item. This will need to be tightened up.

Big producers in the area (supermarkets, hospitals, etc.) started recycling organics this year. In 2020, everyone must divert their organics.

Trevor Mance read items from the timeline of Universal Recycling (see end of this document for the list).

Organics are picked up and brought to the Bennington station to compost. The product will be a high-end organic compost. The projected market is vegetable growers.

Bennington County is currently the only county in Vermont without an alliance or district.

7:00 PM—Ken Harrington arrived.

Where the recycling goes:

1. Cardboard recycling is brought down to New York City and sent to China.
2. Plastic recycling is handled in the U.S.
3. While there are some domestic markets for paper recycling, much of it is shipped to China.
4. Glass, plastic and tin are processed in Albany, NY.

Our garbage is sent to the Clinton County landfill in NY State. It is cheaper to put trash in a landfill than to incinerate it.

The Retrac system is an electronic way to track garbage production.

We may choose to have the Bennington County Regional Commission manage the alliance.

Discussion of TAM taking over the transfer station

Trevor Mance stated that a slimmed-down transfer station can be put on the TAM property close to North Road. MSK Engineering gave a cost estimate to modify permits at \$6700. There will be about \$20,000 needed for dirt work to make the land usable: excavating and leveling. The land will have to be approved for this use.

The management portion would stay the same and the Town would no longer be responsible for the Transfer Station. Trevor Mance would want some compensation for the land.

The new rules will make it increasing difficulty to comply.

Tim Scoggins stated, “It sounds like you are agreeable that we can outsource the Transfer Station to you.”

Trevor Mance replied, “This may help with the Town Garage.”

Tim Scoggins stated, "Handling waste is getting complicated. We are interested."

David Kiernan will follow up with Trevor Mance and we will schedule a discussion at a public meeting.

Mitch Race asked Trevor Mance, "Is it your understanding that the first year cost (of the Alliance) would be higher?"

Trevor Mance answered that there should be a two-year budget to show the ramp-up costs but give the sustained cost as well.

b. Merton Snow, Delinquent Tax Collector

Merton Snow, Delinquent Tax Collector, addressed the Select Board to discuss the budget.

Tim Scoggins asked if Merton Snow about the financial situation for next year.

Merton Snow stated that he furnishes all the supplies except the envelopes.

When he receives the Treasurer's Warrant, he mails it out. He then sends statements as a reminder that payments are due.

In a typical year, 7–8% of total taxes are sent to delinquent collection. Currently, it is 4.6%.

Merton Snow makes an offer of the least amount he will accept for a first payment. This amount is calculated to attempt a full payment before the next tax is due.

When there is a tax sale, notification is sent and a date is set.

Art Whitman asked about the tax collector's compensation. The tax collector is compensated with the 8% penalty that is charged for delinquent taxes. The town collects an additional 1% per month interest on delinquent taxes.

Merton Snow asked if anyone knew what happened at the Hilbrook Motel tax sale. No one had any information.

The delinquent tax collector's budget is \$2100, of which \$604 was spent on envelopes last year.

c. Terry Stacy, Head of the Road Department

Terry Stacy joined the Select Board to discuss the Road Department Budget.

[tms: No big personnel changes are planned so I'm not sure what was actually meant.]
Also, tires are needed for the Grader.

Rather than breakdown the budget into separate sections for each vehicle, there will be one section that will cover all vehicle maintenance. There are 19 vehicles and \$8,000 of the budgets will be slated for tires.

Also, the plow needs a new cutting edge. [tms: which plow?]

Improvements to the Garage

Highway Garage Professional Services will cost \$2,000.

At the town's request VOSHA did a safety inspection of the garage on 12/2/14. [tms: date?]

The garage will need some electrical work as a result of the VOSHA inspection: there are no lit exit signs or emergency lights and a CO detector will be installed.

There are ventilation issues that can be improved.

-en Harrington recommended portable light stands may help with the lighting issue. David Kiernan explained that portable lights are a trip hazard and that the drain in the floor is a trip hazard also.

Tim Scoggins stated the money from the Garage Fund can be used for the garage safety improvements.

David Kiernan stated that a trailer next to the existing garage could be used as a break room/locker room, so that the road crew would not have to eat in an active work area.

Equipment

\$1,000 was put back in the budget for small equipment. These items are often needed and there currently is no line item for them in the budget.

Mower

Terry Stacy explained that \$15,000 in the budget was meant to start a fund to replace the mower or to contract out mowing

The trade-in estimate for the current mower is \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Contracting the mowing out will help to avoid maintenance costs.

Terry Stacy explained hiring a contractor to mow was extremely expensive for one pass.

Mitch Race stated that the current mower has a dry clutch and really should not be used to mow.

David Kiernan asked when the estimates were received. Terry Stacy stated that the estimates were received at budget time last year.

Chloride

Art Whitman asked if the chloride budget only allowed the roads to be covered once during the season.

Terry Stacy stated that usually over 60% is used by this point of the year, but this year only 40% has been used.

Terry Stacy is not opposed to getting a used tractor and putting a new motor in it.

Tim Scoggins stated that a new tractor will cost \$100,000.

Terry Stacy explained that the life cycle of a new tractor would be 20–25 years.

Terry Stacy stated that during the summer, the crew mows every day except when they are working on a capital project.

David Kiernan will work the numbers and think about frequency of the mowing.

The problem with paying a contractor is that a street or corner may need to be mowed more than once during the summer for visibility.

Tim Scoggins stated that the Selectboard had decided not to spend any more money on the current tractor.

Ken Harrington suggested hiring a contractor for one pass and then purchasing a small mower for areas that have ongoing mowing needs (corners and intersections). Tim Scoggins stated that a small mower may not work if the areas needing extra mowing required reaching over a guard rail and into a ditch.

David Kiernan asked if the backhoe can be used.

Terry Stacy stated that a mower cannot be hooked up to a backhoe.

Tim Scoggins stated that the purchase of a \$100,000 mower, the schedule of payments would have to be reviewed.

David Kiernan will check if this purchase can be considered.

Class 3 road improvements

David Kiernan stated that \$40,000 was added to the reserve funds for the Class 3 capital improvement fund.

Terry Stacy gave a list of roads that need improvements (Improvements to be listed in final draft.)

\$40,000 is to be used to rebuild the dirt roads. \$37,000–\$40,000 has been spent this year.

The board went into executive session at 9:00 to discuss personnel and real estate issues. They returned from executive session at 9:30 and adjourned.

Submitted by Jennifer McGean, Recording Clerk

Next meeting is Monday, December 15, 2014. Special budget meeting at 5:00 PM and Regular meeting to begin at 6:30 PM.

Universal Recycling TIMELINE**JULY 1, 2014**

- Transfer stations/Drop-off Facilities must accept residential recyclables at no separate charge
- Food scrap generators of 104 tons/year (2 tons/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

JULY 1, 2015

- Statewide unit based pricing takes effect, requiring residential trash charges be based on volume or weight
- Recyclables are banned from the landfill
- Transfer stations/Drop-off Facilities must accept leaf and yard debris
- Haulers must offer residential recycling collection at no separate charge
- Public buildings must provide recycling containers alongside all trash containers in public spaces (exception for restrooms)
- Food scrap generators of 52 tons/year (1 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

JULY 1, 2016

- Leaf, yard, and clean wood debris are banned from the landfill
- Haulers must offer leaf and yard debris collection
- Food scrap generators of 26 tons/year (1/2 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

JULY 1, 2017

- Transfer stations/Drop-off Facilities must accept food scraps
- Haulers must offer food scrap collection
- Food scrap generators of 18 tons/year (1/3 ton/week) must divert material to any certified facility within 20 miles

JULY 1, 2020

- Food scraps are banned from the landfill.