

Town of Shaftsbury Select Board meeting
August 7, 2017

1. Call to order

The meeting came to order at 6:30 pm. Present were board members Ken Harrington, Art Whitman., Tony Krulikowski, Joe Barber, and chair Tim Scoggins. Town Administrator David Kiernan was absent. Cameraman Mike Cutler from CAT-TV videographed the meeting.

2. Conflict of Interest statement

There were none reported.

3. Approval of minutes

July 17, 2017 Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-1.

Special meeting July 31, 2017. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

4. Warrants

Check warrant #4: \$16,093.23. Mr. Whitman moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

5. Announcements

Mr. Scoggins will be away for the next meeting. Mr. Whitman will also be absent. Mr. Scoggins will contact Bennington Rescue Squad to reschedule their presentation.

6. Treasurer's report

Ms. Dexter was away, but emailed report to Mr. Scoggins. She said that the Town will need to make use of the cash-flow loan shortly. A recent notice to taxpayers from the state has caused some confusion: no action on their part is needed.

7. Public comments

Mr. Corey entered into the record a request to postpone the garage for a year so as to be able to afford to repair damage caused by weather in summer 2017.

8. Road foreman report

Mr. Washburn was absent.

Mr. Whitman said cutting back brush along roads should become a higher priority. Mr. Harrington said he's been researching a bush hog attachment for the backhoe, but the result won't be pretty. Mr. Scoggins said he'd prefer to have it done more cleanly in the winter, during down time.

9. Town insurance report from Dave Newell

Mr. Newell passed out several items. He said costs for FY 2018 are up about 5%; town cost has gone up about 3%, and rates have gone up slightly.

Mr. Newell explained some of the costs, including WC, a large portion of the total cost; property coverage, including what will happen when construction begins on the new garage and equipment, including fire trucks; employee bonding; liability; an umbrella that increases

coverage in a number of areas; public officials coverage; recreational coverage; and treasurer's bond.

Mr. Newell shared a claims report. There were a number of vehicle-related liability claims, perhaps indicating that training for the road crew is in order. It was unclear whether the road crew calls DigSafe before ditching. Mr. Scoggins will follow up with the road crew.

Mr. Newell suggested that contract snow plowers should have a million dollars liability and a million dollars umbrella coverage.

10. Town Garage

Mr. Whitman noted that the architect in charge of the bid document submitted some questions, which he and Mr. Harrington will answer.

11. Town report

For Town report, we will send out an announcement to all households that they may request a hard copy if they wish. A postcard might be sufficient. Mr. Scoggins suggested we may rethink the material it might cover. He suggested reducing the content by eliminating officers list, previous year's town meeting and school meeting minutes, election results from a year ago, some spreadsheets or columns in spreadsheets, and reports from partner organizations and community organizations (the latter could be packaged separately.) Only the auditor's report is required by law. At the same time, the board might think about what other information should be shared and how.

12. Town website

Mr. Scoggins asked Michael Cichanowski for suggestions as to how to streamline and reorganize it.

13. Other business

There was none.

14. Review of action items

- Reschedule the Bennington Rescue Squad presentation for September.
- Have David Kiernan check with road crew re DigSafe issue.
- By what process did the Arlington Rescue Squad invoice get paid this month?

15. Executive session

The session was postponed until the Town Administrator can be present.

16. Adjournment

Mr. Krulikowski moved to adjourn at 7:40 pm. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.