

Shaftsbury Select Board
December 4, 2017

1) Call to order

The meeting came to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were board members Tim Scoggins (chair), Art Whitman, Ken Harrington, and Joe Barber. Also present was Town Administrator David Kiernan.

2) Conflict of interest

There were no conflicts of interest reported.

3) Treasurer report

Ms. Dexter noted that much of the activity was related to taxes. An insurance payment was received. The first \$1million has been moved to the school's account. Delinquent tax payers are down as compared to last year. Ms. Dexter is working to set up "Municipay" on the web site. (The software is free to the Town but a fee would be charged to the taxpayer.)

4) Approval of minutes

Mr. Whitman moved to approve the October 16 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. Mr. Whitman moved to approve the November 6 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. Mr. Whitman moved to approve the November 20 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. Mr. Whitman moved to approve the November 14 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-1, with Mr. Barber abstaining.

5) Warrants

Check warrant #16, \$41,679 to buy a Dodge Ram. Mr. Whitman moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

Payroll warrant #11, \$19,887.95. Mr. Whitman moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

Check warrant #17, \$171,333.82. Mr. Whitman moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

6) Announcements

Mr. Scoggins noted that there will be a number of openings in town government in March 2018. Planning commission: two openings; DRB: three openings plus two alternates.

7) Public Comments

Lynn Sternberg re state's efforts to achieve 90% renewable energy by 2050. She asked the Select Board to agree to warn a resolution for Town meeting to commit to taking further local action to achieve this goal, e.g protecting town lands from fossil fuels infrastructure, denying easements for pipelines on Town land, and more.

Ed Corey asked for a copy of the test results for the new town garage. Mr. Kiernan explained that it won't be drilled until spring 2018. Mr. Corey said he would ask the Town to test the well before building the garage.

8) FY 19 Budget meeting

a. Development Review Board

Tom Huncharek mentioned again that only four full time board members and no alternates are serving. He urged the zoning administrator to better prepare applicants for what is a quasi-judicial proceeding.

b. Planning Commission

Chris Williams said the PC doesn't need any more money; if anything, it might need less. Mr. Kiernan noted that permit fees were up a few thousand in FY 2017. Mr. Williams said only three serve on the commission at present; a quorum is sometimes hard to get. The PC has worked a lot on economic development issues, e.g. a country-store like business and developing trails to and around the town forest. It has worked on a hybrid housing issue

(which may be replicated elsewhere in town) that isn't covered by the bylaws, and how the bylaws might be amended to cover it. He spoke also of how to insure that such facilities are safe and compliant with life safety code. He said the PC has also discussed whether to develop a town energy plan and decided to forego the effort for now.

c. Fire Department

Joe Vadacan **sp?** spoke. He said they want to move forward on replacing windows in the fire department. He reminded the board that they'd moved some money from the equipment fund into the maintenance fund to pay for the effort and they intend to stay within budget. Mr. Kiernan noted that additional contributions are being made into the reserve fund so as to be able to replace trucks every five years. They will no longer lease trucks.

d. Town Clerk

Marlene Barriere spoke. Mr. Scoggins said the Board has decided that in 2018, at the end of the last year of the term she is serving, it will provide health care insurance at a cost of about \$14,000 next year. Ms. Barriere said she'd like to increase her hours to thirty-five weekly. She noted that in a year or two the town would need to expand its vault shelving and described what it might look like. Mr. Kiernan said the state archives will store books if necessary.

e. Recreation Committee

All maintenance and upkeep are done by Public Works. A budget of \$2975 has again been suggested.

f. Cemetery Committee

Maintenance will go up \$2000, for Grandview Cemetery.

9) Roads Report

Mr. Kiernan said the crew hopes to do some spot grading. They've been filling potholes, mowing, taking down small trees, and ditching.

10) Town garage/transfer station project

Mr. Kiernan said there is nothing new to report.

11) Contract for POET system maintenance

Culligan is to install the system on December 7. KAS will do the engineering and testing work, along with its usual groundwater testing, biannually. Mr. Whitman moved to contract with KAS at a cost of \$4425 up front and \$1660 annually to set up the test, maintain the system, and do the tests. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

12) MOU SVSU-SFS

Mr. Whitman moved to second the MOU for use of the firehouse for emergency evacuation. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

13) Copier Lease

The lease would offer a new copier, which does more than our existing copier, at a savings of \$36 monthly.

14) Personnel policy

VLCT will charge about \$300 to review the revised personnel policy.

15) Other business

There was none.

16) Review of action items

Old: David has ordered a name plate for Mr. Barber and is working on fixing the E911 address for Mr. Moffit. Going forward, crew drug testing will be done at SVMC. The new truck was purchased. Bennington Rescue Squad will appear on December 18. The website is under construction.

17) Executive session

Mr. Whitman moved to enter executive session to review the Town Administrator's performance review. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

18) Adjournment