

Shaftsbury Select Board
July 15, 2019
6:30 pm

- 1) Call to order at 6:30 pm. Present were Select Board members Tim Scoggins, Ken Harrington, Art Whitman, Joe Barber, and Tony Krulikowski. Also present was town administrator David Kiernan. Mr. Scoggins requested changes to the agenda: opening of two bids, announcements re cell survey
- 2) Conflict of interest statement
No one reported a conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.
- 3) Approval of minutes
The outstanding minutes were not distributed to the board and were postponed to a later date.
- 4) Warrants
Check (retirement) warrant #4, \$10,298.88. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
Check warrant #1, \$99,401.38. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
Payroll warrant #1, \$22,141.77. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
- 5) Announcements
Mr. Scoggins welcomed representative David Durfee.
Mr. Whitman noted that the McCullough Library in N. Bennington recently won an award for "overcoming adversity."
- 6) Public comments
None.
- 7) Treasurer's report
Ms. Dexter reported that the close of year report not quite ready. The report is therefore for July only. Cash in the bank totals over \$200,000, and we may not need to take out a loan. Ms. Dexter showed a spreadsheet she uses to track finances which she has cleaned up a bit by removing inactive accounts.
- 8) Roads report
Mr. Yanotti said they had moved into the new garage but they're not completely settled yet. He said they'd been doing some ditching on Cold Spring Rd., have been helping with the Howard Park playground project, are planning two underdrain projects on West Mtn. Rd., have ordered culverts for replacement. Mr. Kiernan said they've recently had a road erosion and culvert survey done as part of a Stormwater Master Plan, which hasn't been submitted yet. The Plan already got the town another grant. The roller has been installed on the grader. Right now the roads are very dry, and the crew is trying to figure out how to water at the same time so as to achieve good compaction. Mr. Whitman initiated a discussion of use of chloride. Mr. Yanotti asked the Board what policy it wished to adopt re chloride. Mr. Kiernan suggested using chloride as a suppressant of dust, without

compacting. The crew is now using magnesium chloride. The depression on White Creek Rd., Myers Rd. apron , and North Rd. hill will be paved. A portion of Shaftsbury Hollow will be completely rebuilt. Both these initiatives have gone out to bid. Mr. Yanotti said the North Rd. hill needs a guardrail. Mr. Yanotti said Lake Paran Rd. had been graded in early June, but has already gone washboardy.

One bid was received for the paving project on North Rd., Myers, and White Creek. Bowdoin bid \$49,240. Mr. Krulikowski moved to award the bid to Bowdoin. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0. Road closures will be necessary for all the sites.

Shaftsbury Hollow from Hideaway up 700' was bid upon by only Weaver Excavating. The bid from Weaver is \$97,000. Mr. Kiernan said he wished to discuss the bid with Mr. Weaver as it is higher than he expected. The three gentlemen will so discuss. The sum will come out of the Town's class 3 road fund.

9) 2G MicroCells for cell phone service – state surplus

Mr. Scoggins said he'd talked to Corey Chase at Public Utility Commission. The State has a couple of hundred of these short range cell structures. They are 2G. They provide voice and text short range. The firehouse and the school reported they have spotty cell service at their facilities. They would cost the town about \$1800 annually. But the PUC is simply gaging interest at this point and the program might not get off the ground. Mr. Whitman asked Representative Durfee is cell coverage is something the legislature will be working on. Mr. Durfee said there is definitely an awareness about the need, but the expense would be enormous.

Mr. Scoggins reminded the cable audience that the Town had conducted a survey of cell and broad band and measured cell coverage on all roads in town. He displayed maps showing some of the results of both. They could help residents find a service provider other than Comcast to suit their needs, at least for the time being. The final analysis will be posted on the website as soon as it is done. Mr. Durfee said the broadband bill which became effective July 1 can provide a facilitator will soon be available to assist the Town in charting a path toward broadband service.

10) Other business

Mr. Harrington mentioned to Mr. Durfee that new inspection protocols are very onerous and unaffordable.

11) Review of action items

Efforts to consolidate reserve funds are in the hands of the attorney.

Pete Levine reported a spike in his water bill. His meter was retested and it passed again. It seems the water board must meet to discuss this issue. Mr. Kiernan said the board will need to meet more frequently beginning in September.

Mr. Kiernan and Mr. Yanotti will meet with Mr. Weaver re the bid for Shaftsbury Hollow.

12) Adjournment

Mr. Krulikowski moved to adjourn at 7:31pm. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed by acclamation.