

Shaftsbury Select Board  
October 21, 2019  
6:30 pm

- 1) Call to order at 6:30 pm. Present were Select Board members Tim Scoggins, Ken Harrington, and Tony Krulikowski. Also present was town administrator David Kiernan.
- 2) Conflict of interest statement  
No one reported a conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.
- 3) Minutes  
Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the 9/3 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.  
Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the 9/16 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.  
Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the 10/2 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.  
Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the 10/7 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.  
Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the 10/14 special meeting minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.
- 4) Warrants  
Check warrant #10, \$56,093.90. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.
- 5) Announcements  
Mr. Scoggins noted that a new draft town plan will be reviewed at public hearings scheduled for Nov. 4 and Dec. 2. The draft is available at the town website and at the town clerk's office.
- 6) Public comments  
A resident of Myers Road said he has had a problem with his neighbors the Nadeaus for many years. Their cattle often trespass on his property, including one and a half weeks ago, when the entire herd of about thirty animals found its way onto his land. The herd was removed by the state police. Mr. Nadeau was asked to report to the police barracks the next door to be issued a summons. The citizen shared photos of the cows on his land with the Board. The cows could easily enter the pool deck and fall into his pool. They are a safety hazard and a threat to his property. The Select Board said they sympathize with his plight but can do nothing.
- 7) Treasurer's report  
Melanie Dexter reported she'd taken in about \$500,000 in taxes this month. She reminded people that a yearly filing of the homestead exemption is required. She urged everyone to look at their bills as soon as they arrive, as in early weeks some corrections are possible. Delinquent water bills are coming in. A grant for playground equipment was received. She said the last time she looked, spending was on target.
- 8) Road Reports  
Mr. Kiernan said the crew did a great job responding to the storm last week. Some tree clean up remains. The work in the Hollow is almost finished. After completing about 150' on Myers Rd., all of the season's projects will have been completed, except for work near the

apple orchard on West. Mtn. Rd., which will be completed next spring. Mr. Kiernan is looking at grants for new, large projects. The grant-funded Shaftsbury Hollow culvert replacement will be rescheduled to another year. (It has not reached the end of its lifetime.) Prices continue to climb.

Mr. Scoggins reported that Mr. Whitman hasn't been able to find any documentation of a municipal exemption for a requirement to cover loads of gravel, and therefore the town should pursue covers for tandem trucks. (The smaller trucks don't haul gravel.) The cost will be about \$2500 each for two trucks. Mr. Krulikowski moved to retrofit the two tandem trucks with tarps to cover gravel loads. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

9) Town ordinance and policy review

Mr. Kiernan said most of the town's policies and ordinances need to be updated. He will start drafting new policies and ordinances, or deleting old ones, and sending a few of them out prior to each meeting for review. He hopes to have the revised dog ordinance ready for approval in November. Ordinances and policies can be approved by the Select Board.

10) Cole Hall exterior

Goldstone Architects have not given an estimate for various changes, such as installing a new elevator, removing the stairs to the second floor, and making the front of the building more inviting. Meanwhile, some changes have to be made now: the elevator needs frequent repair; the garage needs to be taken down. The board discussed how the elevator might be located without reducing the historical value of the building.

There are about \$35,000 in various funds, as well as several tens of thousands of dollars in the Hawkins fund – enough to explore further what to do with the Cole Hall complex.

11) FY 21 budget

Mr. Kiernan put together a budget for fiscal year 2021, to start the discussion. He hasn't talked with a few departments, including the fire department. As it stands, seventy seven percent of the increase (about \$125,000) would be in highways: \$5000 more to trees, \$10,000 more to chloride, \$1600 more on highway rentals, an increase in funds for maintenance on all the vehicles (in part to get the road crew out on the roads rather than in the garage trying to fix trucks). The culvert reserve, the class 3 road fund, the paving reserve (which is used as match for state grants) will all increase in this budget. Mr. Harrington suggested that the floor vote on the budget be replaced by a vote on the following day via Australian ballot. The first budget year for which this could apply would be 2022. Mr. Kiernan said VLCT provides language for discussion. Mr. Scoggins will submit an editorial to the Banner regarding the concept.

12) Other Business

Mr. Kiernan struck agenda item 14 (executive session).

13) Review of Action Items

The reserve funds are still before the judge. Sheriff responsibility for dogs will be explored in the revised ordinance. Mr. Scoggins will submit an editorial on voting by Australian ballot on the budget to the Banner.

14) Adjournment

Mr. Krulikowski moved to adjourn at 7:40 pm. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.