

Shaftsbury Select Board
December 2, 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.
- 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 October 21 minutes. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-2.
Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the November 18 minutes. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-1.
- 4) Warrants
Tax refund warrant, \$25,517.30. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
Water bill #1, \$756. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
Payroll warrant #10, \$22,240.59. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
Check warrant #14, \$2,089,202.48. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
Check warrant #13, \$1,904,109.90. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
- 5) Announcements
The Christmas tree lighting will be held at Cole Hall on Sunday Dec. 8, 4 pm.
Two terms will expire on the Select Board, one term is expiring on the Planning Commission and there is an open seat, there is an open seat and at least one open alternate seat on the Development Review Board.
- 6) Public comments
None.
- 7) Treasurer's report
Ms. Dexter said this year's delinquent taxes comprise about 12% of the town plus school taxes, somewhat lower than the average of years past. The total number of people that are delinquent is down a little as well.
- 8) Road Reports
Mr. Scoggins reported that the highway foreman said they kept up with the storm pretty well. The crew will sand after the Monday snowfall. Otherwise, the crew is doing what it can to stay prepared and ready for winter.

9) Town Plan Hearing

The second Selectboard hearing on the town plan rewrite was called to order. No members of the public attended except for PC members Chris Williams, Mike Cichianowski, and Mike Foley. Mr. Williams called attention to the PC report submitted to the SB on changes made by the SB. The report endorsed the opinion of BCRC that the plan satisfies statute requirements. The PC went on in the report to recommend several changes. The SB largely accepted the PC suggestions:

1. Added language in section four saying new gravel operations should be designed with an eye toward land reclamation.
2. In section twelve, task the zoning administrator with providing information on energy efficient heating and building systems.
3. In section twelve, strength the language stating Shaftsbury will not put additional regulations on renewable energy infrastructure.

Mr. Scoggins mentioned a couple of changes recommended by the recreation committee. The SB kept the language recommending the skating rink be replaced at Cleveland Ave Park, as opposed to also considering Howard Park.

Mr. Whitman moved to adopt the town plan as edited. Mr. Harrington seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

10) Internet: CUD on March Ballot

Mr. Scoggins reported that eleven communities are interested in participating. Sunderland voted to put the question on their town meeting ballot. Bennington will address the issue at an upcoming meeting. A communications union district allows towns to come together to provide internet service to those who don't have it. By law, the district will never cost the town tax monies. Only those receiving the service pay for the service.

11) Budget vote by Australian ballot

Mr. Harrington said that a small group of people attending Town meeting could saddle the entire town with expenses most people did not approve of. Mr. Barber wondered if the citizenry understands the budget. Mr. Scoggins agreed that communicating with tax payers is hard to do well. Mr. Whitman said that by allowing the question to be put on the ballot the Selectboard was NOT endorsing a position on the question itself.

Mr. Harrington moved the question be placed on the town meeting ballot, "Shall the Town of Shaftsbury approve its budget by Australian ballot?" Second by Mr. Krulikowski. Motion carried 5-0-0.

12) Other Business

13) Review of Action Items

Dave: schedule meetings with D&K, Defresne, Otter Creek early December – **done 12/5**

Tim: post info about internet essentials on web – **posted to News**

12/2/19

Tim: put draft budget on web

14) Adjournment