

Shaftsbury Select Board
May 4, 2020

1. Call to Order

The telemeeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were selectmen Tim Scoggins (chair), Ken Harrington, Tony Krulikowski, Art Whitman, and Joe Barber. Also present were town administrator David Kiernan, emergency manager Paul Dansereau, planning commission chair Chris Williams, and Jenny Rozycki, director of the McCullough Library.

2. Conflict of Interest Statement

By polling, Mr. Scoggins confirmed that no one reported a conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.

3. Minutes

Mr. Harrington moved to approve the minutes of the Water Board meeting held 4/20 and 4/23 and Select Board minutes for 4/6 and 4/20. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which upon polling passed 5-0-0.

4. Warrants

Payroll warrant #22, \$22,173.00. Mr. Harrington moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which upon polling was approved 5-0-0.

Payroll warrant #21, \$22,171.09. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which upon polling was approved 5-0-0.

Check warrant # 29, \$24,950.23. Mr. Harrington moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Whitman seconded the motion, which upon polling was approved 5-0-0.

5. Announcements

a. Proposed change of polling place

The Board of Civil Authority has agreed by split decision to hold the August and November elections at the town garage. Concerns over social distancing drove the decision. The BCA agrees that the best thing everyone can do is vote absentee. Absentee ballots can be requested at mvp.vermont.gov (though the paper ballots aren't yet printed).

6. Public Comments

Jennie Rozycki, director of the McCullough Library, reported remotely on library affairs. She said the library, while closed, is open digitally. Thousands of Ebooks and audio books, on-line classes, research databases, homework help, job-seeking resources, and more are available to all members. Those without a library card can enroll on-line. (A link is available at the library website.) A grant from the Fund for North Bennington has allowed the library to bring Linda Library, a program devoted to technology, entrepreneurship and similar matters, to the website. A summer reading program will be offered to children. The library is considering offering curbside pickup; Ms. Rozycki is waiting until best practices have been adopted as she isn't yet confident that it can be done safely.

7. Treasurers Report

Melanie Dexter presented her reports. There is enough in the bank to get us through the end of the fiscal year. School reconciliation funds may be forthcoming. Most of the last payroll in June will be paid in the new fiscal year. A line of credit will be made available as of July 1. The budget is right where we want to be. She reminded taxpayers to get their homestead exemption forms in.

8. Emergency Manager Report – Paul Dansereau

Mr. Dansereau reported that an MRE feeding event at Wm. Morse Airport was held last week. Another with box meals will be offered within the next ten days or so. The Governor's recent addendum 12 requires that all businesses wishing to open complete a VOSHA training; farmers market are allowed to open; various sectors may open with a maximum of ten workers as long as safe work spaces re provided. Mr. Dansereau asked that the Local Emergency Management Plan be adopted. It would enable FEMA funding. Mr. Harrington moved to adopt the LEMP. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which upon polling passed 5-0-0. Mr. Scoggins will sign the document and leave it on the conference table for Mr. Dansereau's signature.

9. Expansion of roadside commercial – PC

PC Chair Chris Williams described the recommendation of the Planning Commission: that Shaftsbury's commercial district should be connected to Bennington's commercial district by zoning Roadside Commercial the area from the southern end of the Village Center district southward to the Bennington town line.

The commission agreed that it made little sense to expand the district northward. They explored the cluster at Route 7A and Hidden Valley, but learned that most landowners there feel there is a good mix there and don't desire a change. In fact they expressed ambivalence about any change. (Those businesses have all been grandfathered.) Mr. Williams explained that Clearbrook Farm exists outside the zoning bylaw because it is an agricultural operation. Mr. Williams said the planning commission would initiate the bylaw change as soon as it hears from the Select Board. The Select Board agreed to take the issue under advisement and make a decision at the next meeting.

10. Roads Report

Routine maintenance continues. Some employees are having to take time off to provide childcare. Mr. Kiernan hopes to get reimbursement from FEMA to help them. Vermont notified the town that no paving or structure grants will be issued until probably late in FY 2021. Any major improvements will have to be postponed until spring 2021. Re the Hollow Hideaway project, Mr. Kiernan needs to confirm the state's \$175,000 will be forthcoming. The culvert is stable. As long as the education money comes in, the town will be able to hire Greater Heights to help with tree removal in this fiscal year.

11. Grand List filing extension

Mr. Scoggins said the legislature has extended the deadline to August 15. Although the town is on schedule to make the original June deadline, the listers recommended that the town file the paperwork for the extension. Mr. Whitman moved to approve moving the grand list filing deadline to August 15, 2020. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which upon polling passed 5-0-0.

12. Appointment of Hazard Mitigation planning team/work with BCRC

Mr. Kiernan said he recommends that Paul Dansereau, Mike Yannotti, Shelly Stiles, himself, and a selectboard member if one so wished be appointed to serve on the team. Mr. Harrington volunteered. Mr. Whitman moved to appoint a hazard mitigation planning team consisting of David, Paul, Mike, Shelly and Ken. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which upon polling passed 5-0-0.

13. Fire Warden and Deputy Fire Warden appointments

Mr. Harrington moved to appoint Eric Bushee as fire warden and Ed Schewell as deputy fire warden effective July 1. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which upon polling passed 5-0-0. Mr. Harrington moved to appoint Ed Schewell as deputy fire warden through the end of FY 2020. Mr.

Whitman seconded the motion, which upon polling passed 5-0-0. The relevant documents will be left on the conference table for signing by Tim, Ken, and Art.

14. Town Operations update – Rescind PAYT increase July 1, 2020

Mr. Barber moved to rescind the increase in the pay as your throw fee from \$1 to \$2 scheduled for July 1. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which upon polling passed 5-0-0.

15. Other Business

(a) Certificate of Completion VBB

Mr. Whitman moved to certify completion of the garage to the Vermont Bond Bank. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0. Tim, Ken, and Art will sign the document.

(b) E911 Board Report

Mr. Kiernan reported that the E911 coordinator discovered that Paran Acres was incorrectly addressed at its origin and asked that the addresses be renumbered. Mr. Kiernan said neither he nor the zoning administrator think this is a good idea: every document the landowners have would have to be changed, and the addresses aren't that far wrong. Mr. Whitman moved to change the majority of the addresses in Paran Acres to confirm with E911 address formulas. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which upon polling was denied 0-5-0.

Mr. Scoggins reported that the Memorial Day parade has been cancelled. A "unattended" event is being planned that will include playing Taps at sunset at the village cemetery. The event will be recorded, and possibly live streamed.

Green Up Day is tentatively rescheduled for May 30. Mr. Whitman said someone cleaned up White Creek Road and left bags for pick up. Mr. Kiernan will let Mike Yannotti know.

16. Review of Action Items

- Mr. Scoggins will send the Planning Commission document to the selectmen.
- Mr. Scoggins will sign several documents.
- Three board members will stop by to sign several documents.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Harrington moved to adjourn at 7:59 pm. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which upon polling passed 5-0-0.