

Shaftsbury Select Board
March 15, 2021

1) Call to order

Town Administrator David Kiernan called the meeting came to order remotely via the Zoom platform at 6:01 p.m. Present were select men Art Whitman, Ken Harrington, Tony Krulikowski, Joe Barber, and Mike Cichanowski.

2) Election of officers

Mr. Kiernan called for nominations for Select Board chair. Mr. Harrington nominated Mr. Whitman. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-1, with Mr. Whitman abstaining. Mr. Whitman asked for nominations for vice-chair. Mr. Harrington nominated Mr. Krulikowski. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-1, with Mr. Krulikowski abstaining.

3) Conflict of interest

No one reported a conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.

4) Rules of procedure

Mr. Whitman paraphrased the rules as laid out in a rules document.

- Select board meetings are open to the public.
- The chair or acting chair shall enforce all rules, be the official signer of all documents, be the primary media contact unless discussed otherwise, may sign warrants including if pre-approved or in the budget.
- All meetings are recorded. Minutes are posted on the town website.
A minimum of three members constitutes a quorum. Lacking a quorum, the meeting must be adjourned.
- The public can participate and rules of participation will be outlined at the beginning of each meeting. Any speaker must be recognized by the chair.
- The agenda must be posted. It can be changed by consensus of the board. Items must be addressed in the order in which they appear on the agenda unless agreed otherwise.
- Meetings can be recessed.
- All members shall abide by the conflict of interest policy. Where there is a conflict the member may not vote but can participate in the discussion.
- Meetings will be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.
- Selectmen also serve as liaisons with town

Mr. Harrington moved to accept the rules as stated. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Kiernan noted that the board is still operating under Covid rules, where the chair is authorized to sign for the whole board when a vote has been legally taken.

5) Liaison responsibilities

Mr. Kiernan shared the list of responsibilities. Without objection, board members will review the list and vote on it at the next meeting.

6) Appointment policy

If there is a vacancy on the Planning Commission or the Development Review Board, those entities should seek replacements to recommend to the Select Board. The Select Board has sole

authority to appoint such replacements. Mr. Harrington moved to accept the policy. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

7) Town officials

Mr. Whitman read the slate of town officers, each of whom has agreed to serve for a one year term.

- Animal control officer: Tracy Mulligan
- BCRC commissioners: Cinda Morse, Ken Harrington
- Energy coordinator: Ben Hulett
- Health officer: Jackie Myers
- Deputy health officer: Tracy Mulligan
- Town service officer: Jackie Myers
- Emergency management director: Paul Dansereau
- Tree Warden: Jim White
- Emergency management coordinator: David Kiernan

Mr. Harrington moved to accept the slate of officers. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

8) Schedule of meetings

- Select Board: first and third Monday, 6:30 p.m.
- Development Review Board: first and third Wednesday, 7 p.m.
- Planning Commission: second and fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m.
- Recreation Committee: fourth Friday, 10 a.m.
- Economic development committee: TBD
- Cemetery committee: April-November, first Wednesday, 9 a.m.
- Mr. Harrington moved to follow the plan outlined. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

9) Water commissioners

Mr. Harrington moved to appoint Mr. Cichanowski and Mr. Barber to the Water Commission for the length of their terms on the Select Board. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Whitman said he asked Mr. Scoggins to serve as a non-voting member of the water board until the issue with North Bennington has been resolved. Mr. Harrington moved to so appoint Mr. Scoggins. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

10) Minutes

Mr. Harrington moved to approve the February 15 meeting minutes. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion. A footnote was added to clarify that Mr. Tom Dailey was indeed the town moderator. Mr. Harrington moved to approve the change. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the change. The motions passed 4-0-1 with Mr. Cichanowski abstaining.

Mr. Harrington moved to approve the minutes of the Feb. 25 meeting. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-1 with Mr. Cichanowski abstaining.

Mr. Harrington moved to approve the Feb. 28 minutes. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-1 with Mr. Cichanowski abstaining.

11) Warrants

Payroll warrant #18, \$26,292.51. Mr. Harrington moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Check warrant #28, \$36,984.84. Mr. Harrington moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

12) Announcements

Mr. Whitman noted that the CDC has made changes to its recommendations re those who have been vaccinated.

13) Public comments

There were none

14) Treasurer's report

Melanie Dexter noted that delinquent taxes were unusually high for the last month. Expenditures for this year are slightly lower than last year; revenues are higher (due to the sale of equipment). There is not much going on in March.

15) Fire Department extrication equipment

The FD proposes to purchase a battery-operated extrication cutter. The FD would contribute about \$5553 and the Town will contribute \$6000 from its fire department budget. Mr. Harrington asked what would be done with the current device. Mr. Kiernan didn't know. Mr. Whitman noted that the item is in the FD's budget, and it is up to them to decide how to spend it. Because it is part of their budget, the Select Board doesn't need to vote on the matter.

16) Transfer station contract with Casella

The contract expires on June 30. Mr. Kiernan wants to know how the Town will negotiate with Casella as there are a number of things on the table. Mr. Kiernan said the matter could go out to bid, but he doubted that the town could get a good price, and Casella may not submit a bid. Mr. Kiernan said the town had never put the TAM contract out to bid. Mr. Kiernan described the difficulty of finding a company of a size necessary to handle the town's trash. Mr. Harrington felt certain a competitor could be found. Mr. Kiernan will try to find other carriers. Mr. Whitman asked for a volunteer to help him with the negotiations. Mr. Harrington volunteered. Mr. Kiernan said he'd reach out to Casella to get a sense of how they view the contract expiration. Mr. Whitman asked the board how it feels about having a town employee at the station. Mr. Kiernan said the town employee's only authority is selling the stickers; she has no control over anything that happens on the ground there. A kiosk with a credit card reader could be installed to dispense tickets. (Still, someone would need to be present to ensure that the price is being paid.)

17) Hazard mitigation plan

Mr. Whitman sought comments. There were none. It will be forwarded to FEMA. When received back, a formal resolution of approval from the board will be sought.

18) DPW report

Mr. Kiernan said the crew is grading and adding materials to areas with a need. On the east side, East Road is the worst. One of the graders is in the shop, but the town was able to borrow one from N. Bennington.

Mr. Kiernan asked the board to authorize necessary overtime during mud season. Board members agreed to give that authority to Mr. Yannotti.

Mr. Whitman noted that the work near Sally Gannon has made an enormous difference there this mud season.

19) Other business

Mr. Whitman asked that each board member come to the next meeting with a list of goals for the year.

20) Mr. Barber moved to enter executive session at 6:35 p.m. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.