

Shaftsbury Select Board
September 2, 2021

1) Call to order

The meeting came to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were selectmen Art Whitman (chair), Ken Harrington, Tony Krulikowski, Joe Barber, and Mike Cichanowski. 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

The minutes were tabled to the next meeting.

4) Warrants

- A check in payment of \$455,000 for the Shaftsbury Hollow project, approved earlier, was signed. The project has been completed.
- Payroll warrant \$20,915.59. Mr. Barber moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
- Check warrant #6, \$53,347.94. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

5) Announcements

Mr. Whitman noted that the Town is in need of a part-time cemetery commissioner, whose responsibility will be arranging for selling plots, lot visits, and burials only. Maintenance of plots will be another's responsibility. For now, the town will expand the contract with Sycamore Landscaping.

The Town is looking for a lister to fill a third, now vacant, listers slot.

There continue to be vacancies on the Planning Commission and Development Review Board.

6) Public comments

There were none.

7) Treasurer's report

Mr. Kiernan shared the reports created earlier by Melanie Dexter. He noted significant tax receipts, and expenses for the Shaftsbury Hollow road project and payroll. The cash balance as of Aug. 31 was \$267,419. He noted some changes to the reserve accounts suggested recently by the independent auditors. This year's audit went very smoothly.

8) Waite Cemetery solar project

The Planning Commission has reviewed and recommended to the Select Board that it approve a proposed solar project at the north end of Waite Cemetery Road. Mr. Krulikowski moved that the Shaftsbury SB supports the conclusions of the Shaftsbury PC in reviewing the Waite Cemetery project. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

9) DPW report

a. Shaftsbury Hollow additional charge request

Craig Weaver reported on two flooding events at the Shaftsbury Hollow culvert project, which resulted in increased costs for the project of \$4800 for the crane, \$4800 for the crew demobilization and remobilization, rental for a six inch pump, and increased materials costs, for a grant total of \$14,072.85. Mr. Barber moved to approve the charges. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion. In the discussion, Mr. Weaver said a similar thing happened in Winhall in previous years. The town did not pay the overage.

Mr. Kiernan said the town would have to dip into the next year's reserve fund to pay the overage, as all of the funds in the class three road fund for this fiscal year have already been spent. He thought ARPA would not cover the expense.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

Re other DPW operations, the rental mower has had to be moved elsewhere for a short period but will be brought back.

The crew patched at Hidden Valley, regravelled the top of Harvest Hills, and is doing routine grading and maintenance. There are a couple of outstanding projects.

10) Cole Hall exterior and ADA renovations

Mr. Kieran said he's been looking into grants. He has talked with a couple of veterans about relocating and updating the memorial. He may be issuing a request for qualifications for architects or landscape architects in a few weeks. Several ADA-related measures must be implemented. The keystone to the renovation of the outdoor environment will be veterans' involvement. Any interested veteran should contact **Vic Harwood**, chair of the committee.

11) ARPA funding

\$1,025,386 will be issued in ARPA funds. The projected cost of the phase one water main is \$1,100,000.

12) Other business

Mr. Kiernan reported that the cemetery committee recommends Betsy Habberfield as a new committee member, as there is now a vacancy. Mr. Harrington moved to appoint Betsy Habberfield as a new member of the cemetery committee. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Power Guru has suggested mounting solar panels on the town garage roof in a net-metering project. They will make a presentation to the Select Board.

13) Review of action items

Mr. Kiernan will post a cemetery superintendent job description on the website next week.

14) Adjournment

Mr. Krulikowski moved to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.