

## **Town of Shaftsbury**

Select Board Meeting Monday, February 21, 2022

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order remotely via the Zoom platform at 6:30 p.m. Present were selectmen Art Whitman (chair), Tony Krulikowski, Ken Harrington, and Joe Barber. 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. Harrington moved to approve the January 27 minutes. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. At this point, selectman Mike Cichanowski joined the meeting. Mr. Harrington moved to approve the minutes of February 7. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-1, with Mr. Barber abstaining.

### 4. Warrants

Check warrant #26, \$114,686.82. Mr. Harrington moved to approve the motion. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

### 5. Announcements

There were none.

### 6. Public Comments

There were none.

### 7. Treasurers report

Ms. Dexter said that in the reserve funds, a small amount of water collections has come in. In the cash flow report, the \$340,000 sum is an in-and-out item representing a grant received by the Town for Shires Housing. That item has skewed the cash balance as a result. That balance will be reduced by \$340,000 as soon as a check is sent to Shires Housing. Ms. Dexter noted that the state is helping citizens out with utility bills and other expenses. There are information and forms on the town website. A few households have taken advantage of the program this year.

### 8. Proposed revised Town Webpage

Jennifer Holley, webmaster, presented the new website. Ms. Holley used the US Web frameworks to maximize speed and accessibility over devices. Mr. Cichanowski and Mr. Kiernan said they'd reviewed it and liked it. Ms. Holley led a tour through the website. She invited everyone to send her content.

### 9. DPW Report

#### • Bid Award New Truck

The total bid package from Allegiance in Hoosick Falls (formerly Delurey's) is \$175,545. Mr. Yannotti reviewed the bid and reports that it represents what was asked for. Mr. Harrington moved to approve the bid. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

### 10. ARPA Funding Options

Mr. Kiernan reminded the board that the final rule allows greater flexibility of spending than was originally allowed. He highlighted a few options:

- Partial Funding Water Main Replacement Phase 1

Rather than using the entirety of the ARPA funds for the new water mains, a portion only of those funds could be allocated to the main replacement and the remainder of the funds spent on projects benefiting the whole town.

- Cole Hall – EOC modernization and access improvement, emergency generator for EOC

ARPA funds could make a big difference in realizing the town's modernization goals for Cole Hall. Any funding goingt here could be used to leverage additional funds.

- Infrastructure

Culverts can be covered now.

Mr. Whitman asked the public for input. Mr. Kiernan suggested that public input be formally sought after Town meeting. We don't want to wait too long as competition for contractors will be high.

#### 11. Water Infrastructure Loan – State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) – Information

Mr. Kiernan said it is time to put the Town on the priority list again, for 2023. It comes with no strings. Mr. Kiernan asked for simple consent to request that the town be placed on the priority list. The select board unanimously so consented.

#### 12. Lake Paran Study

Mr. Whitman said that a senior at Bennington College undertook a study of water flow into Lake Paran, which has for years had a milfoil problem. Since most of the Lake's watershed is in Shaftsbury, Mr. Whitman suggested that someone from Shaftsbury should be on the committee reviewing these data and plans for them. He invited anyone from the public who might be interested to volunteer. It could require taking water samples at times.

#### 13. Town Meeting vote – elimination of Listers Office – contract professional assessor.

Mr. Kiernan reminded citizens that there will appear on the Town meeting ballot the dissolution of the listers office and the replacement with an assessor's clerk, in addition to continuing to contract with a professional assessor. Mr. Whitman noted that at the same time, there will appear on the ballot a candidate for lister in case the former proposal does not pass. That lister candidate is the same person the town would hire to be an assessor's clerk.

At 3 p.m. on Sunday February 27 the Town will hold an informational meeting regarding the budget and ballot items via Zoom. The listers office and other items will be discussed at that time.

#### 14. Transfer Station Platforms – Bid preparation

Mr. Kiernan reported that designs for the platforms have been prepared. They would be ADA compliant. (As a consequence, the cost is greater, but larger bins can be used. This would reduce the cost of trucking and make it easier for customers to use the bins.) Mr. Harrington moved to issue a bid request for the ramps and the decks at the transfer station. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

#### 15. Board Term expirations 2022 – PC/ DRB

- Re-appointment Mike Foley PC

Mr. Foley has requested to be reappointed to the Planning Commission. Mr. Harrington moved to appoint Mr. Foley to another term on the PC. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

#### 16. Other Business

Mr. Whitman noted that the next PC meeting will be held March 7 and wondered whether the mask mandate would still be in place. It appeared the mandate would still be in place. Mr. Krulikowski said the board could meet in masks, rescind the mask mandate, and continue the meeting without masks.

Mr. Whitman reminded citizens that an informational meeting on the ballot and budget would be held remotely on Sunday at 3 p.m. The CAT TV channel carrying the meeting is noted on the official warning on the website, and in a letter that went out to citizens. Balloting will take place on Tuesday March 1 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Town Garage.

#### 17. Review of Action Items

#### 18. Adjournment

Mr. Harrington moved to adjourn at 7:07 p.m. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.