

Shaftsbury Select Board

May 2, 2022

1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order in person and via the remote platform Zoom at 6:30 p.m. Present were selectpersons Art Whitman (chair), Mike Cichanowski, and Martha Cornwell. 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.

4. Warrants

Check warrant #33, \$51,580.88. Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

Payroll warrant #22, \$24,173.17. Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

Payroll warrant #21, \$24,181.79 Ms. Cornwell moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

5. Announcements

Mr. Whitman reported that Route 7A construction has begun from near Paulin's to near West Mountain Rd. The end date is November.

Mr. Kiernan reported that Green Up Day will be held this Saturday morning. Bags were distributed around town, and more are available at Cole Hall.

6. Public Comments

There were none.

7. Treasurer's report

Melanie Dexter described the cash flow report. The balance as of April 30 is \$456,204.05. Net expenditures are running slightly ahead of last year at this time.

In the reserve accounts, she noted some water payments. She reminded residents that a state program will help with delinquent water and other utility payments. Four more Shaftsbury applicants were recently approved.

8. Closing of Legal Trail to MV btw Dexter and Hickory Hill

Brad Peacock and James Crews spoke about motor vehicle abuse of the trail, and vehicles trespassing on their property and driving up their driveway in the middle of the night. Mr. Peacock said their property extends into the travelled way, and that vehicle drivers are widening the traveled way to avoid ruts and in so doing damaging his property. He said they wished the trail to be open to only non-motorized vehicles and protected with some kind of barrier. They asked that a sign be placed closer to Hickory Hill notifying visitors that a barrier lies ahead. Mr. Kiernan said the process of drafting and approving an ordinance closing the trail to motor vehicles would take about six meetings. Ms. Cornwell

moved to start the process of shutting off vehicular access to the trail. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

9. Traffic Speed Ordinance review

Mr. Kiernan asked citizens to review the list of speed limits placed on the town website and submit comments. Town roads are broken down as to those at 25 mph and those limited to 35 mph. Naomi Miller commented that Old Depot, Maple Hill and Cider Mill should be reduced to 25 mph. Jen Holley asked that Hidden Valley be reduced to 25 mph. Mr. Kiernan thought the ordinance might be drafted for review by the end of the month. Public comments can be accepted for the few weeks thereafter at public hearings.

10. ARPA Advisory Board

Mr. Whitman invited residents to sign up for the board. (Two have signed up already.)

11. Shaftsbury Media Advisory Committee

Ms. Cornwell asked what the goal of the committee should be – marketing? Encouraging social media? Jen Holley, the town’s webmaster, said she thought the committee would largely suggest actions to the Select Board and the town administrator, who would vote the ideas up or down. Mr. Kiernan and Mr. Whitman thought the goal should be to get more people involved.

12. Wastewater Feasibility/Preliminary Engineering Study RFQ

The State of Vermont has agreed to fund a new study, at no cost to the Town, of a wastewater system basically following the contours of the water system. The RFQ would simply ask for qualifications from engineers. Bidders will be referred to the earlier Stone Engineering study. Mr. Cichanowski made a motion to issue the RFQ. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.

13. Sidewalk Scoping – recommendations by committee

The committee recommends that Dufresne be hired to do the study.

14. Other Business

There were none.

15. Review of Action Items

At the next meeting, the draft language for Hickory Hill trail’s closure, ideas re speed limits, and volunteer names for the ARPA and Media committees will be presented.

16. Adjournment

Mr. Cichanowski moved to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 3-0-0.