

## **Town of Shaftsbury Select Board**

Monday, June 5, 2023

In person at Cole Hall and remotely via Zoom

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were selectpersons Art Whitman (chair), Mike Cichanowski, Martha Cornwell, Naomi Miller, and Tony Krulikowski.

### 2. Conflict of Interest Statement

Ms. Cornwell will recuse herself from the discussion regarding the Community House as she is the president of that organization.

### 3. Minutes

Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the minutes for May 1. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the minutes for May 15. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-1, with Ms. Cornwell abstaining.

### 4. Warrants

Check warrant #40, \$10,830. Mr. Cichanowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Check warrant #39, \$31,179.15. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

### 5. Announcements

- No Parking Zone VT Route 7A and Church NW Corner

Mr. Whitman reported that the State of Vermont granted a permit to prohibit parking on the west side of Route 7A in the 100' or so north from the northwest corner of Church and 7A. The work order has been put in place and the prohibition will go into effect as soon as the site is painted by Vtrans. Mr. Kiernan said he has notified the owner of the adjacent apartment building.

Ms. Miller said the Planning Commission is hosting a presentation by the BCRC on a proposed enhanced energy plan on June 14. All are welcome.

### 6. Public Comments

Rich Jorgensen of 39 Bank Street spoke. He said he's been following the discussion of sidewalks and speeding on Grandview and Hawks. He asked for an update on increased patrols by the Sheriff. Mr. Kiernan said he'd met with the sheriff but hasn't yet received new patrol sheets. He cautioned that the Town has budgeted for ten hours a week total at present because the Sheriff's office is understaffed (though it is seeking additional staff). Mr. Kiernan also said he requested BCRC to re-survey traffic on Hawks Avenue but hasn't yet received that information. Mr. Jorgensen said he advocates for digital speed monitors at all entrances to Shaftsbury. He noted that speeding is a year-round issue, especially so in warm weather when people are out on the streets more often. He asked that the Town do whatever can be done, consistently. He said ticketing has worked in the past.

Paula Colbert of Hawks Avenue said there are about eleven children living on the street now. She said she finds it hard to believe that most drivers travel at twenty-five miles per hour. Early mornings and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. are busiest times. Construction, logging, agricultural, and other heavy trucks use the street very often except on weekends. Traffic has gotten worse since the state improved the intersection at The Left Bank. She urged the Town to contract for additional Sheriff's hours.

Mr. Whitman asked Mr. Jorgensen about trash cans left out on Bank Street. He said there is no garbage can ordinance and the Select Board wonders if one is needed.

#### 7. Treasurers Report

Ms. Dexter said water bills are due by June 7. They may be paid online if people wish. It appears there is plenty of cash to make it through the end of the fiscal year. It remains to be seen whether a line of credit will be needed in the new fiscal year. The auditors will appear later this month. Mr. Whitman noted that they'd been told at the evening's earlier water board meeting that the program to help those who are delinquent on their water bills has been extended. Information on how to apply is on the town's website.

#### 8. Sewer Feasibility Study Grant Application Complete

Mr. Kiernan shared paperwork for a refundable loan of \$125,000 to be submitted in July. It will give us an idea of what is practicable for all or portions of South Shaftsbury. Ms. Cornwell moved to approve submitting the application. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

#### 9. ARPA Fund Distribution

Ms. Cornwell explained that the Historical Society requested \$20,000 as a matching fund for repairs to the Galusha house and the Community House had requested \$67,000 to repair its roof. She said the Economic Development Committee now recommends that both requests be funded.

Mr. Cichanowski moved to disburse \$20,000 to match other funds to be raised by the Historical Society. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Ms. Cornwell stepped away from the table. Mr. Kiernan clarified that the original request from the Community House was about \$20,000 for the south side of the roof, which was in very poor shape. It was later increased to include as well the north side of the roof with the steeple. (As an aside, Ms. Cornwell noted that the Galusha House has sustained such severe water damage that the Historical Society has had to begin to rent space for presentations from the Community House.) Mr. Cichanowski moved to disburse \$20,000 of the ARPA funds to the North Shaftsbury Community House. Mr. Krulikowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

#### 10. Transfer Station New Rate Schedule Adoption

Mr. Kiernan noted the suggested changes have been posted on the website since they were first discussed two Select Board meetings ago. He received one comment which indicated confusion about the proposed changes. Mr. Kiernan summarized the changes to be effective on July 1 – a price per bag by size (rather than by weight), \$15 per refrigerator, an increase in tire fees, and no more tractor or truck tires. Mr. Cichanowski moved to adopt the new rate schedule effective July 1. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

#### 11. Cole Hall Renovation RFQ Submittals

Mr. Kiernan said he received three responses for requests for qualifications, all very good, from firms from Brattleboro, from Burlington, and Bennington. Most members of the Cole Hall committee are ill this week, so Mr. Kiernan suggested that the discussion of the responses therefore be postponed.

#### 12. DPW Report

- Buck Hill Paving Bid Opening

Mr. Whitman opened the Springfield Paving bid, for \$207,640. It does not lock in a price but notes that the price may change depending on changes to the price of asphalt. Mr. Whitman opened a bid form Peckham Highway Corporation, for \$214,855.20. It appears to be a locked-in price. Mr.

Yannotti will review the bids and report back to the Select Board.

- Trumbull Hill GIA Bid Opening

Mr. Whitman opened a bid from Morse Excavating for \$36,400. Mr. Whitman opened a bid from Kurtz Excavating for \$41,200. Mr. Yannotti will review the bids and report back to the Select Board.

Mr. Kiernan said the crew has been ditching on Tinkham and Myers and mowing generally.

Mr. Whitman asked that Mr. Yannotti be contacted regarding paving on Buck Hill Rd. where the underlying surface is badly damaged. Does it need to be removed altogether?

### 13. Other Business

Ms. Cornwell noted that the next regular meeting is scheduled for Juneteenth, a national holiday. It will be rescheduled to June 20.

Mr. Kiernan said a new monitoring/ventilation system for the landfill has been ordered for \$3000. A concrete pad will be installed and an electrician will be hired to connect it.

Mr. Whitman wondered whether a temporary speed indicator would be acceptable. Mr. Kiernan will explore options.

### 14. Review of Action Items

### 15. Executive Session – Real Estate

Mr. Cichanowski moved to enter executive session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss a real estate matter. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

### 16. Adjournment