

Shaftsbury Select Board

Tuesday, June 20, 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. Also present was town administrator David Kiernan. Mr. Whitman noted that the Sheriff's contract would not be signed tonight, and the executive session would also include legal matters.

2. Conflict of Interest Statement

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

3. Minutes

There were none.

4. Warrants

Payroll warrant #24, \$29,264.61. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Check warrant #41, \$34,333.15. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

5. Announcements

Ms. Cornwell reported that staff from the BCRC presented on the enhanced energy plan on June 14. The presentation is on the town website, as well as a survey asking for public input on what the plan should contain.

Mr. Kiernan said Vtrans activity on the NW corner of Church and Route 7A indicates that the no parking zone will be striped soon.

6. Public Comments

There were none.

7. Treasurers Report

Ms. Dexter turned to May's reports. Delinquent taxes came in. As is normal this time of year, outgoing funds dwarf incoming funds. Nonetheless, the town is very much on target as to the budget. She has initiated procedures to take out a line of credit from the bank early in July, just in case. In response to a question, Ms. Dexter said she doesn't know how Shaftsbury's delinquent taxes compare to other towns. She said the numbers are pretty consistent from year to year.

As for the June reports, she noted that the first batch of education taxes has been received. With June payments, the balance is approaching the \$100,000 that will probably trigger seeking a line of credit. Funds were transferred from the Town Clerk to the land records restoration fund.

The professional auditors will be visiting later in the week. FY 2023 will be closed out shortly.

8. DPW Report

Mr. Yannotti reported on his review of bids opened at the previous meeting. He said the two bids for Trumbull Hill were very similar. He recommended the low bidder Kurtz Excavating. As for Buck Hill, the two bids were, it turns out, very similar except as to price (a difference of about \$7000). However, both intended to suggest a floating asphalt price while only Springfield Paving expressly called

it out. Mr. Yannotti recommended accepting Springfield Paving, the low bid. Springfield should be able to begin paving later in August. Mr. Yannotti said some preparation work remains on Buck Hill Road.

Mr. Krulikowski moved to accept the Kurtz bid for the Trumbull Hill project. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Ms. Cornwell moved to award the Buck Hill project to Springfield Paving, the low bid. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Kiernan said he and Mr. Yannotti hope to create a parking area in the lot to the northeast of Cole Hall, and to put down soil and sow grass in order to create an event space for later in the season. Mr. Yannotti said gravel would cost about \$3500. Other costs would include renting a machine, purchasing and spreading soil, and erecting a fence. The Town of Arlington has volunteered the use of their hydroseeder. Ms. Miller moved to appropriate up to \$5000 of ARPA funds for the Town green. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Yannotti said mowing is still something of a learning experience. Mr. Yannotti said he thought manpower would not suffer greatly with one person out on the mower nearly every day. He and Mr. Kiernan said they might want to consider adding a person to the crew in the next budget year.

In answer to a question, Mr. Yannotti said he thinks electric chain saws and hand tools are great, especially in the winter. Many towns are using them. Mr. Whitman urged him to consider electric in the future.

The crew will be focusing on Buck Hill and on mowing in the next couple of weeks. He said grading will continue, mostly to address washboarding.

9. Sheriff Contract FY24

10. Other Business

Ms. Cornwell asked whether the next meeting, scheduled for July 3, should be rescheduled. It was agreed to reschedule to July 5.

Mr. Kiernan said he filed a pre-application for a state planning grant to hire a consultant to design the future for the new parcel northeast of Cole Hall. The application is due July 12 and will be reviewed in November. An accessibility grant will be applied for in November 2023. An implementation grant will be applied for in spring 2024. ARPA funds will be used as matching funds.

Mr. Kiernan said he sent the revised contract to the town's insurer for comment as it had been changed significantly.

Mr. Yannotti will let the bid winners know of their having been chosen.

11. Review of Action Items

12. Executive Session – Real Estate

Mr. Krulikowski moved to enter executive session to discuss real estate and legal matters. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0. The Zoom recording was terminated for the evening.

13. Adjournment