

Town of Shaftsbury Special Select Board Meeting

Monday, January 22, 2024

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), Naomi Miller, Martha Cornwell, and Mike Cichanowski. Also present was town administrator David Kiernan. Mr. Whitman announced that “public comments” and “warrants” would be added to the agenda.

2. Conflict of Interest Statement

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

3. Warrants

Mr. Cichanowski read off the warrants.

- Check warrant #29, \$5,000, for a real estate transaction. Ms. Miller moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.
- Payroll warrant 12B, \$192.06. Ms. Miller moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.
- Payroll warrant #12, \$34,007.14. Ms. Miller moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

4. Public Comments

Heather Bullock asked about the status of the Grandview sidewalk project. Mr. Kiernan said the engineering has been completed and approved by the state, and that a public hearing on the draft plans will be held probably in mid-March.

5. FY 2025 Budget Adoption

Mr. Kiernan described the pie chart he shared: the total budget is to be \$2,740,081 (including community appropriations). He noted that 40% will be dedicated to the DPW; 12% to transfer to reserves for various sinking funds; and 3% to community appropriations. He showed a breakdown of DPW expenses.

Mr. Kiernan said the budget is an increase of \$213,035 over the last fiscal year, or about \$38/100,000 valuation additional.

Ms. Miller moved to present the proposed FY 2025 budget to the voters at Town Meeting. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

6. Town Meeting Warning

Mr. Kiernan noted that the warning consists of the budget, community appropriations, zoning bylaw amendments, and important schedules, among other items. Ms. Cornwell moved to approve the town meeting warning. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

7. Other Business

Mr. Whitman said this the last official meeting before Town Meeting. He said the town has come a long way in the last ten years, including building a new garage, and renovating town hall – all in large part because we had a great coach in Mr. Kiernan. He thanked Mr. Kiernan wholeheartedly.

8. Review of Action Items

None.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Cichanowski moved to adjourn at 6:47 p.m. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.