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Town of Shaftsbury

Municipal Offices at Cole Hall

Meeting Minutes

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Special - Select Board Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Wednesday January 15th, 2025 – 6:00pm

Town of Shaftsbury Select Board Meeting

Present: Michael Cichanowski, Naomi Miller, via: Zoom Tony Krulikowski, and Martha Cornwell

1. Call to Order

1.1 Naomi Miller, Chair of the Shaftsbury Select Board, called the special meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Conflict of Interest Statement

2.1 Board members were asked if they had any conflicts of interest regarding the agenda items.
2.2 No conflicts of interest were stated.

3. Public Comments

3.1 No public comments were received.

4. Selectboard Vote on FY26 Budget

4.1 The board reviewed and discussed the proposed FY26 budget.

- Adjustments were made to public safety, libraries, and law enforcement.
- Discussion on increasing the budget allocation for law enforcement to ensure adequate coverage.
- The calculation of sheriff hours was reviewed, and it was determined that the budget allows for approximately 1,125 hours for the fiscal year.
- The board agreed to present this as the total number of hours rather than a fixed weekly allocation.

4.2 Discussion on budget transparency and ensuring accurate representation of law enforcement hours.

4.3 The board acknowledged the challenge of communicating budget details in a fragmented media environment and agreed to use multiple channels to inform residents.

4.4 A motion was made to approve the FY26 budget as presented.

- Motion: Made and seconded.
- Vote: Unanimous approval.

5. Other Business

5.1 Recognition of the work done by Paula and board members in finalizing the budget.

5.2 Discussion on media and communication strategies to ensure public awareness of budget details.

5.3 Suggestions for improving the readability of budget documents, including formatting adjustments for printed reports.

6. Review of Action Items

6.1 Finalized budget to be sent to Marlene for inclusion in the town report.

6.2 Explore formatting options to improve the readability of budget tables in the printed town report.

7. Executive Session: Legal

7.1 Motion to enter executive session for legal discussions was made and approved.

7.2 The board returned from executive session with no legal actions to take.

8. Adjournment

8.1 Motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

8.2 Vote: Unanimous approval.

8.3 Meeting adjourned.