

**Town of Shaftsbury
Regular Selectboard Meeting
Monday, January 7, 2013
Cole Hall - 61 Buck Hill Road**

Members present: Lon McClintock (Chair), Craig Bruder, Karen Mellinger
Members absent: Carl Korman, Billy Obenauer
Others present: Margy Becker (Town Administrator), Oliver Durand (Fire Warden), Bill Fisk (Town Treasurer), Sandra Mangsen (Recording Clerk), Jerry Mattison (Emergency Coordinator), Jay T. Palmer, Terry Stacy (Road Foreman), Jeri Schoof

1. 5:00 PM – Call to Order of Budget Work Session

Lon McClintock called the Budget Work Session to order at 5:10 p.m.

Continued discussion of budget lines, including highway budget, insurance premiums, emergency generator installation and maintenance costs, Cole Hall maintenance and upgrades.

2. 7:30 PM – Call to Order of Regular Selectboard Meeting

Lon McClintock called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

3. Announcements

Lon McClintock briefly summarized the budget session, reminding those in attendance of the aims of keeping the budget consistent with the current year. He noted that the new garage, if it is approved by the voters and goes forward, may entail more expenses.

There were no other announcements.

4. Public Comments

None were offered.

5. Conflict of Interest Statement

None were expressed.

6. New Town Garage: MSK Engineering Presentation

Jim Secor gave the initial presentation, assisted by architect Jeff Goldstone. They presented preliminary plans for development of the new town garage and responded to questions from the Selectboard and the public. In particular they covered site and building design, access road, heating, energy efficiency and security issues. During the discussion it was recommended that a handout be made available for the public during the Town Meeting.

7. Shaftsbury Fire Department – Radio Upgrades – Status

Jerry Mattison reviewed the problems encountered with radio communication, in part a result of newly narrowed bandwidth. Problems include dead spots in radio coverage and interference with state police radio (since installation of new Vcom tower at the State Police barracks).

8. Purchasing Policy –Waiver for Purchase of Shop Pickup

The failure of a truck with 250,000 miles on its odometer, with an estimated \$3,000 repair cost, led to a recommendation from the Road Foreman that the truck be replaced with another used vehicle. Terry Stacy has located a replacement vehicle, at a cost of \$4,000. Funds are available from the gravel budget, which has been underspent in the current fiscal year.

MOTION. To authorize the purchase of a replacement pickup truck at a cost of \$4,000. Moved by Karen Mellinger; seconded by Craig Bruder. Carried 3-0-0.

9. Town Highway Access (Curb Cut) Ordinance – 4th reading

a) Review of Draft

Selectboard members have reviewed the draft proposal. The Development Review Board has forwarded comments, which were reviewed at the meeting. Lon McClintock updated the existing draft based on Development Review Board comments and Selectboard discussion.

MOTION. To adopt the proposed Town Highway Access Ordinance as presented and amended at this meeting. Moved by Karen Mellinger; seconded by Craig Bruder. Carried, 3-0-0.

b) Determination of whether Ordinance applies to Legal Trails

Selectboard members are in agreement that access to Legal Trails is better treated in a separate ordinance.

10. Emergency Management – Generator Installation

Issues were examined during the Budget Work Session.

11. Town Administrator’s Report

a) Zoning Bylaw Amendments – Open Space Subdivision

Margy Becker noted that a public hearing will be necessary.

b) VSP - Neighborhood watch – schedule special meeting

The need for a special meeting was noted.

In addition, Margy Becker reported on several other matters:

The recent state survey of the town's water system infrastructure (which takes place every five years) has been completed; Shaftsbury has received an outstanding review. The need for a few small upgrades in the future (e.g., backflow protection) is noted in the report.

An appeal to the Vermont Traffic Committee has been made for a lower speed limit on Rte. 7A within the Village. The reduction requested is from 35MPH to 25MPH.

There is a heating problem in Cole Hall. Heat is not easily controlled, and replacement of the control unit with a two-stage thermostat may be helpful. The staff working at Cole Hall need to be able to troubleshoot when the system fails to work properly. Margy Becker is further investigating options.

12. Other Business

Margy Becker reported that Merton Snow had asked whether the Selectboard would agree to place the question of tax-exempt status for the Shaftsbury Taconic Grange on the ballot for Town Meeting. Selectmen agreed to place the question on the ballot, since it had passed 5 years earlier by a wide margin.s

MOTION. To Place the Grange question on the ballot. Moved by Karen Mellinger; seconded by Craig Bruder. Carried, 3-0-0.

MOTION. To rescind the previous motion. Moved by Karen Mellinger; seconded by Craig Bruder. Carried, 3-0-0.

MOTION. To place on the ballot consideration of the tax exempt status for the Grange for a period of five years beginning in fiscal 2014. Moved by Karen Mellinger; seconded by Craig Bruder. Carried, 3-0-0.

13. Minutes – Dec. 13th special; Dec. 17 regular meeting; Dec. 22nd & 1/03/13 Specials

MOTION. To approve the minutes of Dec 13, 2012, special meeting, as circulated. Moved by Karen Mellinger; seconded by Craig Bruder. Carried, 3-0-0.

MOTION. To approve the minutes of the Dec 17, 2012, regular meeting, as circulated. Moved by Karen Mellinger; seconded by Craig Bruder. Carried, 3-0-0

Consideration of the other sets of minutes is deferred.

14. Warrants

MOTION To approve Check Warrant Report #P18R in the amount of \$134.94. Moved by Craig Bruder; seconded by Karen Mellinger. Carried, 3-0-0.

MOTION. To approve Check Warrant Report #P17R in the amount of \$6,032.36. Moved by Karen Mellinger; seconded by Craig Bruder. Carried, 3-0-0.

MOTION. To approve Payroll Warrant PRW #27 in the amount of \$9,370.87. Moved by Craig Bruder; seconded by Karen Mellinger. Carried, 3-0-0.

MOTION. To approve Payroll Warrant PRW #26 in the amount of \$10,406.89. Moved by Craig Bruder; seconded by Karen Mellinger. Carried, 3-0-0.

MOTION. To approve Check Warrant Report #18 in the amount of \$90,864.15. Moved by Craig Bruder; seconded by Karen Mellinger. Carried, 3-0-0.

15. Adjournment

MOTION. To adjourn the meeting. Moved by Karen Mellinger; seconded by Craig Bruder. Carried, 3-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Mangsen (Recording Clerk)