

Shaftsbury Select Board
January 7, 2019
6:30 pm

- 1) Call to order at 6:32 pm. Present were Select Board members Tim Scoggins (chair), Ken Harrington, Art Whitman and Joe Barber. Also present was town administrator David Kiernan.
- 2) Conflict of interest statement
No one reported a conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.
- 3) Approval of minutes
No minutes were available.
- 4) Warrants
Check warrant #20, \$273,786.18. Mr. Whitman moved to approve. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.
Retirement warrant #2, \$9418.98. Mr. Whitman moved to approve. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.
- 5) Announcements
The Select Board will continue to meet at the school while construction is underway at Cole Hall. Mr. Scoggins reported that there are open positions on the Development Review Board and Planning Commission. Interested persons should submit a letter to interest to the town administrator.
The first of two hearings on proposed changes to the zoning bylaw will be held Friday Jan. 18, 5:30 pm, at Cole Hall.
- 6) Public comments
There were none.
- 7) Treasurer's report
Melanie Dexter described the December report. Delinquent taxes began to come in. Voter approved appropriations were send out. The balance of school taxes was paid. \$580,000 cash remains for the fiscal year, a figure a little lower than last year's. Both revenues and expenses are a little ahead of last year. We are very close to budget. The audit has been promised by the end of the week.
- 8) Roads report
Mr. Kiernan reported the crew had been working on trees as well as plowing. He and Mike Yannotti have been organizing 2019 grant-funded projects, of which there are many. He summarized some of the priorities for the field season. He mentioned a state initiative to assist towns in slowing the spread of the emerald ash borer. Mr. Whitman noted that the state's new road policies require ditches deeper than the road base; the public may notice the change in ditch maintenance. Mr. Kiernan said such activities would result in noticeably better roads. A citizen asked about ditching increasing erosion on adjacent private lands. Mr. Kiernan reassured him that the road crew would be working with landowners on such issues. Another citizen said the water in front of his house on Myers Rd. has no where to go and ponds in the front yard. The road has also increased in width over the years.

9) FY 2020 budget

Mr. Kiernan said the Board would need to warn the final budget at the regular meeting on January 21.

Community appropriations:

WBTN reported it would seek to secure a petition for a community appropriation of \$5000. (Voters will vote on community appropriations line by line.)

BRS Funding: Mr. Harrington moved to fund Bennington Rescue Squad at the \$25,000 level. Mr. Scoggins seconded the motion. Mr. Whitman moved to postpone the discussion until Mr. Krulikowski can be present. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

10) Annual liquor license approvals

Mr. Whitman moved to approve the 2019 Paulin Inc liquor license. Mr. Barber seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Whitman moved to approve the 2019 Thyme Tables liquor license. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

11) Town garage/Cole Hall update

Work at both continues. The windows downstairs at Cole Hall will be renovated in June and July under a different contract from the upstairs Cole Hall work. The road to the transfer station bins has been rebuilt. A final top coat of gravel will be placed by the road crew at a later date.

12) Other business

- Citizens complained that noise at Dailey has increased at all hours of the day and night. Evenings were peaceful in 2017, but now loud noises occur more often and always. The noises are keeping people awake at night. Can the town enforce a noise ordinance? Mr. Kiernan and members of the Board responded that it depended on the initial permits granted – if any. (The company pre-dates zoning and Act 250.) Board members will reach out to Brian Lent of Dailey. A citizen suggested Dailey erect a sound barrier. Mr. Barber suggested finding out what the decibel level is at the citizen's home.
- A citizen asked about abandoned vehicles. Mr. Kiernan suggested the person contact the zoning administrator, who will look into it.
- Mr. Harrington asked when the town was going to get rid of the Dodge. Mr. Kiernan said planning the fleet is under way and until finalized, he can't say when the Dodge will go or even if it will go.
- Mr. Whitman said for Mr. Barber's and Mr. Harrington's benefit that the town asked Shires to consider fixing Paran Rd. to the entrance to Paran Acres. State engineers will assist the Town in costing out various restoration alternatives and have those numbers before the Jan 16 DRB meeting. Mr. Whitman expressed concern about the culvert under Paran Rd. The board discussed which parts of the road might best be paved, if any. Mr. Harrington said the developer should pay to pave the road. Mr. Scoggins said other communities are taking an entirely different tack in an effort to attract developers. Mr. Kiernan will share the engineer's findings re Paran Rd. with the Board as soon as he has them.

13) Review of action items

- Glastenbury Rd. hasn't been resolved.

- The cemetery fund issue hasn't been resolved. Possible fund changes will not be presented to the voters in March 2019, but in March 2020.
- Mr. Kiernan will be buying equipment for a Howard Park playground – 2 swing sets, a round-about, and a slide, in addition to a water fountain. It will be installed in the spring, by a contractor. A water fountain for the Cleveland Avenue is still in the works. An ice rink at Cleveland is still in the works as well: it has been hard to find the time to level the site. (A contractor will have to be hired.) Mr. Whitman moved to reinstall the ice rink next winter at Cleveland Park. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. Mr. Kiernan said a new liner at a cost of about \$2800 would be needed.
- Mr. Yannotti will be notified of an issue with new ditches at 115 Grove Road.
- Mr. Scoggins will talk to Brian Lent about increased noise at Daileys.

14) Adjournment

Mr. Whitman moved to adjourn at 7:57 pm. Mr. Harrington seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.