

**Town of Shaftsbury
Selectboard Meeting
6:30P.M.
Monday July 15, 2013
Cole Hall – 61 Buck Hill Road**

Members Present: Craig Bruder, Margy Becker, Karen Mellinger, Mitchell Race,
Carl Korman, Ken Harrington

Others Present: Andy Crosier, Theresa Crosier, Charlie Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Craig Bruder at 6:30P.M.

2. Conflict of Interest Statement

There was no conflict of interest.

3. Approval of Minutes

**Motion to approve Minutes for July 1, 2013. Moved by Mellinger/Korman 2nd.
Motion carries unanimous (5-0-0).**

Karen Mellinger sought clarification of a TAM certification that was mentioned at the previous meeting on July 1, 2013 by Margy Becker. Margy Becker and Craig Bruder explained that it was in regards to tanker endorsements and that all members of the Highway Department were in the process of obtaining the endorsement.

Mitchell Race announced to the Selectboard that weekly meetings were being conducted at the Galusha House every Thursday for Harvest and Muster fest.

**Motion to approve Special meeting Minutes for July 8th, 2013. Moved by
Mellinger/Korman 2nd. Motion carries (4-0-1). Mitchell Race abstained.**

Mitchell race announced he was absent from the special meeting.

4. Approval of Warrants

Motion to approve Warrant PR01R in the amount of \$126.32. Moved by Mellinger/Korman 2nd . Motion carries unanimously (5-0-0).

Motion to approve Warrant #01 in the amount of \$13,323. Moved by Mellinger/Korman 2nd . Motion carries (5-0-0).

Motion to approve Warrant #02 in the amount of \$99,251. Moved by Mellinger/Korman 2nd . Motion carries unanimously (5-0-0).

Items of interest over \$1,000: William Barney Construction, Blue Cross Blue Shield Vermont, William E. Daley Inc., Edward Legace logging, Endyne Inc., Ferguson Water Works, John Ray & Son, KAS Inc., MSK Engineering & Design, Sycamore Landscape, UI Insurance Services Inc., Vermont League of Cities & Towns, VLCT, Wills Insurance.

Karen Mellinger requested more information on the items of interest involving William Barney Construction & William E. Daley Inc. involving the splitting up of purchases for gravel.

Motion to approve items over \$1,000 carries unanimously (5-0-0).

5. 6:40P.M. Announcements

Margy Becker announced that the logging project at the landfill site is satisfactory to the requirements of the town.

6. Public Comments

Andy and Theresa Crosier joined the Selectboard table to discuss a composed letter they had written about issues regarding Circle Drive. The residents were concerned that the road was not a priority to repair as it has been damaged by washouts. The letter detailed the erosion of gravel onto lawns due to washout. The residents were upset at the lack of response by the town as they felt there was no immediate plan to correct the issues on Circle Drive. Andy Crosier had corresponded with Road Foreman Terry Stacy about solutions to fix the issue. Karen Mellinger noted a concern with debris from gravel ending up on the lawns of other residents in her area.

Carl Korman suggested the town consider retaining an Engineer to analyze and advise the Selectboard of solutions to issues regarding road reinforcement to prevent erosion and water runoff. Craig Bruder commended Andy and Theresa Crosier on their persistent ability to have the issue brought before the Selectboard. He suggested that information gives the Selectboard a “paper trail” to assist in prioritizing what needs to be done.

Charlie Hall joined the Selectboard to provide an update of the current status to issues he had been facing that was addressed to the Selectboard on July 1, 2013. Charlie Hall initially reported issues with regards to flooding on his property, and noted that he was in correspondence with Ken Harrington and other individuals with experience in maintaining roads to prevent the flooding he was currently experiencing. Ken Harrington explained dimensions of culverts and which ones were more effective. Charlie Hall acknowledged that he had also spoke with Road Foreman Terry Stacy about the issue.

7. Parking Ordinance: 3rd Reading of Amendment to limit parking on Dunham Avenue, Buck Hill Road, and Church Street

The Selectboard presented a revised draft of the town's parking ordinance. Margy Becker acknowledged that Carl Korman had been working with her to update and define the waiver penalties and amounts to be paid in terms of fees for violations. Section 7 was re-raftered to notify residents of a \$35 full penalty if the violation was contested and upheld, or a \$25 waiver penalty in which can be paid to avoid paying the full penalty and/or prevent any further legal action on the part of the violator. Language was also added regarding enforcement in appeals processing.

Craig Bruder acknowledged to the Selectboard that after a 3rd reading of the ordinance it was within their right to act on officially adopting the revised ordinance. It was noted that further hearings were needed within the process of formally adopting the revised ordinance. Karen Mellinger entertained a motion to approve the new parking ordinance for Town of Shaftsbury.

Margy Becker noted that a petition to challenge the ordinance was available for residents and that the ordinance must be published in at least five different locations in town. Suggestions to publish the ordinance amendments in newspapers and other circulations was also entertained by the Selectboard. It was noted that 5% of qualified voters could petition to call a meeting of disapproval.

Motion to adopt Parking Ordinance to limit parking on Dunham Avenue, Buck Hill Road, and Church Street. Moved by Karen Mellinger/Mitchell Race 2nd . Motion carries unanimous (5-0-0).

8. Twitchell Hill Road drainage concerns

Selectboard members Craig Bruder, Carl Korman, Karen Mellinger, and Margy Becker noted that a visit of Twitchell Hill Road was conducted to review the stretch of the hill that had been experiencing issues with the weather and proper drainage from water runoff. The Selectboard established a line of communication with several landowners that live on road to discuss concerns including significant washout of driveways and also an issue with rain water flooding yards and basements.

Road Foreman Terry Stacy provided to Craig Bruder a rough cost to do concrete ditching on the east side of Twitchell Hill Road in an effort to stem the flooding and estimated a figure between \$4300-\$5000. Karen Mellinger and Carl Korman were concerned about the money and manpower being used for the project feeling that the expense to the town was substantial. Ken Harrington noted that the issue should be addressed sooner than later to prevent further damage and issue.

9. Sale of 1988 CAT Excavator

Margy Becker addressed the Selectboard to inform the members of an open bid for the sale of a 1988 CAT Excavator being sold by the town. Margy Becker announced that a Salvage and Recycling company provided a bid and it was recommended to the Selectboard as a legitimate offer to be accepted. The sale was pending a receipt of a certified bank check by the buyer. It was also pending upon the Treasurer accepting the formal bill of sale.

Motion to accept bid for the sale of one 1988 CAT Excavator. Moved by Karen Mellinger/Carl Korman 2nd . Motion carries unanimously (5-0-0).

10. Financing Proposals for FY14 Equipment Purchases

Margy Becker announced that the town received formal proposals for the financing of the future equipment purchases. It was noted that the local financing company that previously worked with town has not been competitive enough. Margy Becker cited Municipal Leasing Consultants of Grand Isle, VT as having the most competitive rate moving forward. Municipal Leasing Consultants offered a finance rate of 1.98%. It was noted that the total cost for the equipment being financed came in at \$250,629.

Carl Korman inquired about the options within the Lease agreement. The Selectboard looked into the various fees and costs on the part of MLC and determined that further investigation of the rates was needed before a decision was to be made on which finance company to move forward with.

A motion was entertained to obtain a seven year lease purchase with MLC and was later withdrawn by Karen Mellinger. Carl Korman 2nd the motion to withdraw and was carried unanimously by the Selectboard.

11. Health Care Reform – Review/discussion of upcoming changes

The Selectboard suggested a special session workshop to understand and collect information regarding the upcoming Health Care Reform facing employees of the Town of Shaftsbury. Karen Mellinger suggested that the VLCT come down for workshop to help assist with the decision making process. Margy Becker asked to recuse herself from the final decision process citing a conflict of interest.

12. New Town Garage Status Report

Karen Mellinger addressed the meeting and explained how the committee was currently in the process of requesting figures on a bare bones pre-engineered Garage and that the committee also is looking into every way to save money on the project. It was noted that the committee sought professional consultation from experts, and that an engineer initially agreed to do a phone conference to advise the committee on how to move forward with the project. Karen Mellinger reminded the Selectboard of committee meetings being held every 2nd/4th Wednesday of every month.

Karen Mellinger believed that by next meeting the committee should be able to come before the Selectboard to prepare the SB for a bond vote. It was mentioned that Peter Cross Engineering will be working with the committee as they have worked on garages in North Vermont in the past.

13. Town Administrator Report

Margy Becker announced to the Selectboard that the Methane Pump at the town's landfill is down again and has become a discouraging problem. It will continue to be monitored and worked on in an effort to correct the problem. Margy Becker noted how Bill Pennebaker doesn't think its the line or the pump in particular, and that the issue needs to be resolved as soon as possible

14. Other Business

Karen Mellinger cited concern of areas around town which require landscaping maintenance and sought more information about possible resources that could made available.

Karen Mellinger announced that work was being done to procure grants for the town sidewalk project.

15. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn Selectboard meeting. Moved by Carl Korman/Ken Harrington
2nd . Motion carries unanimous (5-0-0).**

Prepared by:

Shawn M. Sterling