

Shaftsbury Select Board

July 6, 2023

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), Mike Cichanowski, Martha Cornwell, Naomi Miller, and Tony Krulikowski. Town administrator David Kiernan was also present.

2. Conflict of Interest Statement

No one reported a conflict of interest with any item on the agenda. Mr. Whitman noted, in changes to the agenda, there would be no treasurer's report, and that a discussion would be held re permitting the town administrator to apply for a grant to fund an energy audit on Cole Hall and the fire houses.

3. Minutes

Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the June 5, 2023 minutes. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Mr. Whitman made a correction: the amounts of the bids put in by Morse and Kurtz were reversed; the Kurtz bid was the lowest. The minutes as amended were approved 5-0-0.

Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the June 20, 2023 minutes. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Mr. Whitman noted that re the sheriff's contract for 2024, no action was taken. The minutes as amended were approved 5-0-0.

4. Warrants

- Check warrant #1, \$64,943.27. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
- Check warrant #4, \$12,273.27 (employee pensions). Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
- Payroll warrant #25, \$25,403.68. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.
- Payroll warrant #26, \$27,780.22. Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the warrant. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

5. Announcements

Ms. Cornwell said the Planning Commission seeks input on the Enhanced Energy Plan survey, which can be found on the town website. She recommended that citizens review the Powerpoint presentation on the Plan before completing the survey. The presentation is also on the website.

Mr. Whitman reported that the PUC will be hosting a site visit and a public meeting on the Shaftsbury Solar project on July 21. The times will be posted on the town website.

6. Public Comments

Carl Korman spoke for the Shaftsbury Historical Society. He reported that a historian will present on the colonial era on July 13 at 7 p.m. at the North Shaftsbury Community Center. The Society will also hold its next meeting at that facility on that date. He said the Society requests public input on what resources the Society should invest its funds in. shaftsburyhistoricalsociety@comcast.net. Finally, Mr. Korman said the Society is concerned about the restoration of the Town Charter, now held in the vault. He recommended that the selectpersons view the document and consider authorizing funds to restore it. Mr. Whitman asked that the matter be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

7. Treasurers Report

There was none.

8. FY23 Sullivan Powers Audit Agreement

Mr. Kiernan said the agreement is for an audit already underway. It is very much like the former agreement at a cost of about \$300 more. Mr. Cichanowski moved to authorize the Town Administrator to hire Sullivan and Powers. Ms. Cornwell seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

9. MSK Geotechnical Engineering White Creek Road

Mr. Kiernan said the proposal is an update of one presented by MSK pre-Covid, which was approved by the Board. Mr. Whitman said the engineering study would put the Town in a position to apply for grant funds to repair the road, which is essentially collapsing. Mr. Kiernan said a couple of grant programs might fit the problem. The study would cost \$13,635 and would cover a one-day boring project. More might be necessary. Mr. Krulikowski moved to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract with MSK. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Kiernan asked the board to appoint him as representative to apply for funds for an energy audit of Cole Hall and the fire stations. Ms. Miller moved to authorize Mr. Kiernan to be the representative for Municipal Energy Resilience Program grant applications. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Kiernan said he was told that by waiting until August the Town could likely receive a full loan with subsidies for the wastewater treatment plant feasibility study. He will learn more in a conversation with an agency rep on July 10.

10. DPW Report

Mr. Kiernan said the Granger Hollow culvert project is done. The site was inspected by the state rep from River Corridors last week. Weaver Excavating did the project.

Another project will be started soon. Grading and ditching is underway. Buck Hill preparation is underway for paving in August and is the priority project for the summer.

11. Other Business

There was none.

12. Review of Action Items

Mr. Kiernan has three tasks to initiate. Review of the town charter will be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Times for Shaftsbury Solar meetings will be placed on the website.

Mr. Kiernan noted that the town website has been made entirely accessible.

13. Executive Session – Real Estate

Mr. Krulikowski moved to move to enter executive session to discuss real estate. Mr. Cichanowski seconded the motion, which passed 5-0-0.

14. Adjournment