

**TOWN OF SHELBURNE
SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 24, 2023**

***Hybrid meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Ashooh (Chair); Luce Hillman, Kate Lalley, Matt Wormser. (Cate Cross was absent.)

ADMINISTRATION: Lee Krohn, Town Manager; Peter Frankenburg, Finance Director; Paul Goodrich, Highway Superintendent; Andy Dickerson, Assistant Fire Chief; Jacob Leopold, Rescue Chief; Nini Anger, Assistant to Town Manager; Kevin Unrath, Library Director; Betsy Cieplicki, Recreation Director; Bart Sherman, Water Superintendent; Diana Vachon, Town Clerk.

OTHERS PRESENT: Members of the public participating in the meeting included Shelburne Town Host, Gail Albert, Peggy Coutu, Jane Zenaty, Rowland Davis, Bill Deming, Susan Moraska, Tom Zenaty, Judy Raven, 18022337611, Adrienne Morris, Don Porter, Linda Riell, Steve Kendall, Jeff Hodgson, Margaret Wiener, Media Factory.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Ashooh called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

2. APPROVE AGENDA

MOTION by Kate Lalley, **SECOND** by Luce Hillman, to approve the agenda as presented. **VOTING:** unanimous (3-0)[Matt Wormser not present for vote]; motion carried.

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

4. MINUTES

January 10, 2023

MOTION by Luce Hillman, **SECOND** by Kate Lalley, to approve the minutes of 1/10/23 as presented. **VOTING:** unanimous (3-0)[Matt Wormser not present for vote]; motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

6. SELECTBOARD COMMENTS

None.

7. TOWN MANAGER REPORT/UPDATE

Lee Krohn reported:

- The name of Bumblebee Brook, as proposed previously by a group of schoolchildren, has been officially accepted by the State.
- Shelburne Tree Committee received a grant from the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry program for approximately \$8,000 for continued tree work regarding the emerald ash borer problem.

8. INTERVIEWS/APPOINTMENTS

Planning Commission

The Selectboard interviewed Jeff Hodgson for a position on the Planning Commission. Mr. Hodgson expressed his interest in being involved in the bylaw rewrite and serving the Town.

MOTION by Kate Lalley, SECOND by Luce Hillman, to appoint Jeff Hodgson to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission effective immediately and running to April 1, 2024. VOTING: unanimous (3-0)[Matt Wormser not present for vote]; motion carried.

CSWD

The Selectboard interviewed Margaret Wiener to be the Shelburne representative on the CSWD board.

MOTION by Luce Hillman, SECOND by Kate Lalley, to appoint Margaret Wiener as the Shelburne representative on the CSWD board effective upon the resignation or term expiration of Tim Loucks and running for a two year term per CSWD bylaws. VOTING: unanimous (3-0)[Matt Wormser not present for vote]; motion carried.

9. WAIVE LATE PENALTY/FEEES ON PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT

Kathleen Speedy – Criteria #3 & #7

MOTION by Luce Hillman, SECOND by Kate Lalley, to waive the penalty and interest totaling \$58.04 for Kathleen Speedy. VOTING: unanimous (3-0)[Matt Wormser not present for vote]; motion carried.

Gary Margolis – Criterion #7

MOTION by Kate Lalley, SECOND by Luce Hillman, to waive the penalty and interest totaling \$96.58 for Gary Margolis. VOTING: unanimous (3-0)[Matt Wormser not present for vote]; motion carried.

10. PUBLIC HEARING: FY2023-2024 Budget

MOTION by Kate Lalley, SECOND by Luce Hillman, to open the public hearing to consider the proposed Town budget for FY2023-2024. VOTING: unanimous (3-0) [Matt Wormser not present for vote]; motion carried.

Staff gave a summary of the budget showing a 3.7% increase to be presented to the voters at Town Meeting in March 2023. The budget also includes a transfer of \$180,000 from Cash Reserves to help decrease the tax burden. Bond items (fire department radios, water meter replacement) and the open space allotment are not in the budget number and will be vote separately, if included on the ballot by the Selectboard. There was discussion of not including the fire truck in the bond vote and potentially using future revenue from the local option tax (provided the voters approve the tax) for the fire truck and sidewalk machine. Assistant Fire Chief Dickinson reminded the Selectboard of the two year lag time between placing the order for the fire truck and receiving the vehicle, and suggested at least putting in the order (\$5,000 down payment would likely be needed) to lock in the price. Assistant Chief Dickinson will gather more information on the down payment and ordering the vehicle.

MOTION by Matt Wormser, SECOND by Mike Ashooh, to place the \$980,000 fire engine tanker on the ballot for the March 2023 Town Meeting. VOTING: 2 ayes, 2 nays (Kate Lalley, Luce Hillman); motion did not carry.

The fire truck bond vote was removed from the warning.

Concern was expressed about not being able to deliver the services expected by the townspeople with the budget as proposed. Following discussion, the Selectboard added \$15,000 to the Town Manager salary line item, \$10,400 to the Town Manager Assistant line item (considering that this might possibly transform into an Assistant Town Manager position), \$75,000 to Highway for salary, benefits, and overtime for an additional employee, and \$10,000 to the parity pay increase line item. The impact of the add-ins is roughly 1%, for a budget increase of 4.7%.

MOTION by Kate Lalley, SECOND by Luce Hillman, to close the public hearing on the proposed town budget for FY2023-2024 and to adopt the proposed budget as discussed to present to the voters, including the three new fee schedules as proposed for mooring fees, facility fees, and zoning applications. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

11. ADOPT TOWN MEETING WARNING

MOTION by Luce Hillman, SECOND by Kate Lalley, to adopt the Town Meeting warning as presented, amended, and discussed. VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

12. AD IN SHELBURNE NEWS re: LOCAL OPTION TAX

The Selectboard reviewed the information sheets and made edits to reduce the text to two pages. Mike Ashooh will ask the newspaper to publish the information in an op-ed or guest commentary. If this is not possible then a double sided one-page public notice will be published.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Kate Lalley, SECOND by Luce Hillman, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTING: unanimous (4-0); motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.

RScty by tape: MERiordan

For the Selectboard

Date