

**TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECTBOARD MEETING
April 21, 2022
(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Carol A. Fachini, Michael G. Denault, and Pamela Tworig.
Brandon Field was not present.

Visitors: Carolyn Brooks, Susan Flash, Thomas Nazzewski, Beth Phelps, Bruce Richardson, Wojciech Rum, and Natalie Yorke.
David R. Tatro, Road Commissioner.
William Levine, Emergency Management Director.
Lori Shepard, Selectboard Secretary.

Nancy Bushika called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, welcomed everyone, and read a statement with procedural rules for the meeting. There were no changes to the agenda or its order.

OPEN MOWING BIDS

The board received one bid from Yard Work By Dan to mow, trim and clean off clippings at the rate of \$170.00 each time. Last year's bid was \$145.00 each time.

MOTION by Carol Fachini to accept the bid from Yard Work By Dan to mow the Stamford School yard at the rate of \$170.00 per mowing for the 2022 season. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. 3 in favor (Mike Denault abstained). Motion APPROVED.

HEARING OF VISITORS

None.

MINUTES

MOTION by Carol Fachini to accept the regular meeting minutes of April 7, 2022 as written. SECONDED by Pam Tworig. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

- WARRANT #15 \$ 9,158.45 payroll
- WARRANT #16 \$45,340.00 accounts payable

FINANCIALS

The Selectboard reviewed and confirmed financial statements for the months of February and March.

ROAD CONDITIONS

1. The highway crew has been grading roads.
2. The road sweeper should be in town the first week of May.
3. The Lincoln Road project site visit is scheduled for Monday, April 25, 2022 at 9 a.m. at the job site. A draft of the easement has been given to the property owner for review.

RECYCLING

1. Dave Tatro brought some appliances to Readsboro. He had to pay for the disposal. He learned that Apkins buys many appliances and thinks that may be a better disposal solution. Nancy Bushika noted that Readsboro accepts computer paraphernalia for free.

2. Mike Denault received a complaint about a red truck dumping trash at the recycling center. The board realized it was Carol Fachini who was recently hired to bring up the school trash.
3. The summer hours at the transfer station will begin on April 27, 2022, the last Wednesday of the month, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

CONDITION OF ROADSIDE TREES

Bruce Richardson, the Tree Warden, met with Dave Tatro. He feels several trees have reached a dangerous condition and should be removed. He will prioritize the trees and come back with a list.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

There were several broken tree branches that came down, some took wires down with them, in the recent storm.

DEERFIELD VALLEY FIBER COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT

Bill Levine stated that the first spools of fiber are being delivered tomorrow and the next step is to install the fiber cable to the telephone poles.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Pam Tworig thanked the Fire Department and volunteers for their outstanding service.

COMPLAINTS

1. Pam Tworig received a complaint that Bilmont's Store is keeping their gas pumps on all night when the store is closed. The complainant said this is against the law. Bill Levine will see what the state's position is and who has jurisdiction and will get back to the Selectboard. Bill Levine suggested getting the complaint in writing.
2. Pam Tworig received a complaint of ATVs riding on East Road and passenger children riding without helmets.
3. Pam Tworig also received a complaint concerning trash being dumped on East Road. Carolyn Brooks found bags of medical waste along the road also. Pam Tworig suggested people put up trail cameras. Mike Denault agreed that cameras have been very helpful on Risky Ranch Road.

UNIFORM MUNICIPAL EXCESS WEIGHT PERMIT

MOTION by Mike Denault to approve the Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit application from Casella Construction. SECONDED by Pam Tworig. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The appropriate fee and insurance information was received from the applicant.

OFFER TO PURCHASE TOWN PROPERTY

MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the offer made by Doreen Johnson to purchase the Stamford portion of Lot 218 in Alpenwald for \$400.00. SECONDED by Pam Tworig. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

2021 AUDIT

MOTION by Mike Denault to approve and sign the management representation letter to the auditing firm Love, Cody & Company confirming all financial statements and records were presented for the 2021 audit for the Town of Stamford. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

DELINQUENT DOGS

Reminder letters have been sent out to all dog owners who have not yet licensed their dogs.

COMMUNITY EVENT

Clay Zeller-Townson and his band Ruckus will be performing at Sheep Hill in Williamstown on Thursday, April 28, 2022 at 6 p.m. All are invited to attend.

GREEN UP DAY

Susan Flash introduced herself and reminded everyone that Green Up Day will be next Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

BUDGET

Income and Expense reports were provided to the board for the first quarter. Lori Shepard invited board members to review the reports and let her know if they had any questions.

TELEPHONE/INTERNET SERVICE

Wojciech Rum advised that he lost telephone and internet service over Easter weekend and Consolidated Communications swapped his connection to the phone box at the corner of County Road and Klondike Road. He was concerned that if this happened in January when there was a lot of snow, the phone company could not have accessed the box until spring. He wondered if the town would consider plowing to Klondike Road. Mike Denault stated that the town can't plow the road unless it was upgraded because that section is a Class 4 road. The Selectboard felt that Consolidated Communications has ways to repair their lines in the winter.

SELECTBOARD RULES AND PROCEDURES POLICY

The board discussed the new policy and how meetings are run.

MOTION by Mike Denault to table discussion of the policy until the next meeting. SECONDED by Pam Tworig. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

INSURANCE POLICY

1. The Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) was consulted. Vicki Abare from VLCT advised that general liability coverage in the amount of \$1 million per occurrence and \$2 million aggregate was the most common. She said the board could reduce or increase the amount of insurance liability required based on the potential high or low risk of the job to be performed. The board would like to add the \$2 million aggregate requirement to the current policy and will review it again at the next meeting.
2. The board discussed whether an umbrella policy for the town should be considered.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Carol A. Fachini
Clerk

/las

REMINDERS

1. Please visit the town's new official website: www.stamfordvt.net for town information and updates.
2. The summer hours at the transfer station will begin on April 28, 2021, the last Wednesday of the month, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.