

TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECTBOARD MEETING
May 21, 2020
(UNAPPROVED)

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Christopher Warren, and Carol A. Fachini.
Daniel J. Potvin and Michael G. Denault were not present.
Visitors: Laura Champagne and Pat Sullivan.
William Levine, Emergency Management Director.
Lori Shepard, Selectboard Secretary.

Nancy Bushika called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. There was participation in person and remotely by zoom video conferencing. Nancy Bushika led with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone. She read a statement with procedural rules for the meeting. The agenda was revised to add some correspondence.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

GREEN UP DAY

Pat Sullivan stated that Green Up Day will be held on May 30, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. They are all set to wear masks, provide gloves, and social distance. Since it's the 50th anniversary of Green Up Day, she hopes to increase last year's participation and looks forward to a great turnout.

BUILDING COMMUNITY GROUP

Pat Sullivan stated that the first bench will be installed very soon. She should have enough rocks to fill the gabions for this bench but said more rocks are needed for the other benches. Please drop off softball to volleyball sized rocks in the bins at the far end of the school parking lot near the library.

MINUTES

The board could not approve the minutes without Mike Denault or Dan Potvin present.

SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

WARRANT #21 \$ 7,484.97 payroll

WARRANT #22 \$26,473.03 accounts payable

ROAD CONDITIONS

No report.

AGREEMENT TO PLOW CLASS 4 ROAD

The road agreement has been sent to the proposed buyer of the County Road property. There has not been a response yet.

RECYCLING

Nothing to report.

DOGS/DOG CLINIC

No report.

CUD HIGH SPEED INTERNET INFORMATION AND SURVEY

Chris Warren stated that the survey responses are positive. At the last Deerfield Valley CUD meeting, Stamford was accepted into the district. They are now interviewing vendors. They are not looking for speeds that are as fast as the Matrix Group had offered which was 100 Mbps both up and down. They are looking at speeds of around 5 Mbps up and 30 Mbps down, which is still better than our current internet. Chris Warren felt the Matrix Group offered a more solid product for a lot more money.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Nothing to report.

UNIFORM MUNICIPAL EXCESS WEIGHT PERMIT

MOTION by Chris Warren to approve the Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit application from United Natural Foods, Inc. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The appropriate fee and insurance information was received from the applicant.

GRAND LIST

1. The state is allowing towns to extend the filing deadline of their grand list due to the impacts of COVID-19. Lisa Wright, the Assessor, suggested that the Selectboard request an extension of the deadline in case it is needed. The state normally sets the school tax rate on July 1st, but this year will not set the rate until August 1st. This may delay when tax bills are mailed out. The treasurer usually mails out the bills when the funds gets low.

MOTION by Chris Warren to request an extension of the grand list filing deadline and sign the request form. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

2. Nancy Bushika said the state is giving towns leeway with their tax due dates. Unfortunately, the state is not waiving the date that the town must pay the education money to the state.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

There are a few building permit applications that are waiting for the Administrative Officer's review. The building season is finally upon us. Chris Warren contacted Jim Stimpson by telephone during the meeting and he agreed to come in on Monday to take care of the permits.

SEED SAVERS GROUP

1. Bill Levine stated that Helen Fields and Stephen Greene delivered seven raised beds last Saturday; one went all the way to Dalton, MA. There are more scheduled for another delivery.
2. The Seed Savers will have a table with plants for sale during Green Up Day.
3. The Seed Savers are giving away compost at the transfer station for donations.

HIGH SPEED INTERNET

Laura Champagne stated that she would like to be part of the high speed internet research committee. Chris Warren added her name to the list of committee members.

MOTION by Chris Warren to adjourn. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Carol A. Fachini
Clerk

CAF/las

REMINDERS

1. Anyone interested in serving on a high speed internet research committee should contact the town office or Chris Warren directly.
2. Anyone interested in serving on the Compost Committee should contact the town office or Helen Fields directly.
3. Anyone interested in serving on the Fire Department roster committee should contact the town office, a Selectboard member or Paul Dupuis.
4. Anyone interested in serving on the Conservation Commission, please contact a Selectboard member or the town clerk.
5. Please visit the town's new official website: townofstamfordvermont.org.