

## TOWN OF STAMFORD

### SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY APPROPRIATION POLICY

**PURPOSE:** Under Vermont law, a town may appropriate such sums of money as it deems necessary for the support of social service programs and agencies that provide services to town residents. 24 V.S.A. § 2691. The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for managing social service agency appropriations that will be voted upon at the Town of Stamford's annual meeting.

**APPLICABILITY:** This policy applies to appropriation requests from social services agencies and programs subject to the provisions of Chapter 73, Title 24 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated. Such programs include but are not limited to transportation, nutrition, medical, day care, and other rehabilitative services, persons with low incomes, senior citizens, children, disabled persons, drug and alcohol abusers, and persons requiring employment to eliminate their need for public assistance.

This policy does not apply to municipal membership organizations such as the Vermont League of Cities and Towns or the Bennington County Regional Planning Commission.

**PROCEDURE:** All social service agencies wishing to request the same appropriation from the town as approved at the most recent annual town meeting, should forward a written letter of request to the Selectboard no later than 60 days before the date of the town meeting. Upon receipt of such a letter, the appropriation request will be placed on the warrant for town vote. The letter should identify the name of the agency, the amount requested for appropriation, and a person to contact for more information.

Anyone submitting a new request or change in appropriation amount from the most recent annual town meeting will be required to submit a petition requesting the appropriation in accordance with 17 V.S.A. § 2642(a).


Agencies that do not meet the 60-day deadline must submit a petition for an article requesting the appropriation in accordance with 17 V.S.A. § 2642(a). No proposed article may contain any opinion or comment. The Selectboard reserves the right to reject, amend, or edit any written request or petitioned article that does not meet the requirements of 17 V.S.A. § 2642(a) and 24 V.S.A. § 2691. Petitions submitted after the deadline will not be honored.

Social service agencies requesting appropriations under this policy are required to submit a description of the agency's programs. Agency representatives are encouraged to attend the annual town meeting to explain the appropriation request to the voters and answer their questions.

Approved social service appropriations will be paid by the town on or after the third Thursday in November.

Payment is subject to the availability of funds.

The foregoing policy is hereby adopted by the Selectboard of the Town of Stamford, Vermont this 7th day of April, 2016, and is effective as of this date until amended or repealed.

  
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Christopher Dargie, Chair

  
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Nancy L. Bushika

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Daniel J. Potvin

  
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Sheila G. Lawrence

  
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Michael Denault