

**TOWN OF STAMFORD  
SELECTBOARD MEETING  
November 17, 2022  
(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Carol A. Fachini, Michael G. Denault, Daniel J. Potvin, and Pamela Tworig.

Visitors: Carolyn Brooks, Laura Champagne, Theresa Denault, Eleanor Derby-Kilfoyle, Victoria Jefferies, Maura Hawkins, Marta Miller, Thomas Nazzewski, Deborah Righi, James Righi, and Natalie Yorke.

Luke McKay, Dog Officer.

William Levine, Emergency Management Director.

Lori Shepard, Selectboard Secretary was absent.

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 was no additional correspondence added to the agenda. There were no changes to its order.

#### HEARING OF VISITORS

No hearing of visitors. Jonathan Cooper, Bennington County Regional Commission, Southern Vermont Economic Zone is scheduled for the next board meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### MINUTES

MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the regular meeting minutes of November 3, 2022 as written.

SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

WARRANT #45 \$ 6,632.15 payroll

WARRANT #46 \$429,364.38 accounts payable

#### ROAD CONDITIONS

Dave Tatro was unable to attend but left a message that plowing began today. Winter equipment is all set to go.

The board received information from Jonathan Croft, Mapping Chief at the Vermont Agency of Transportation. He clarified that if the Selectboard changes the classification of the .3 mile section of County Road from a Class 4 to a legal trail, it does not change the abutters' (National Forest's) interest in the road. The town would still maintain its full rights over the legal trail but would not have the liability/maintenance requirements. National Forest would not have any more claim, right or authority than what they have right now. Laura Champagne said she was informed by a real estate attorney who said National Forest does have rights over a trail. She will send us the statement for the board's review.

The board will proceed with reclassification of the .3 of a mile of County Road with whatever timeline will work for viewing the section of road and public meetings, most likely in the late spring of 2023.

#### RECYCLING

The board thanked Pam and Mike for building and installing the new bulletin board at the recycling center.

The battery collection box is still not available at the recycling center. Small household batteries should be recycled and not put in the demo bin. Residents are encourage to contact the state program, "Call2Recycle" that provides collection boxes for home use and when filled can be mailed back, postage free, to the program.

#### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Nothing for emergency management. However, Bill Levine requested an executive session for the end of the meeting regarding personnel.

#### BUDGET MEETINGS

The board scheduled a budget meeting for December 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m. They will begin with employee reviews in an executive session. Following the review, the regular selectboard meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. As of yet, no one has volunteered for the finance committee.

#### DELINQUENT DOG UPDATE

Luke McKay, Dog Officer, said there are still two unregistered dogs. One owner has paid his first court ticket but failed to register his dog with the town and the other owner has not paid his court ticket or registered his dog. Both will be sent a ticket for a second violation.

#### THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REVIEW

Lori will give us the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter reports at the next meeting.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Nancy Bushika to find that premature public discussion of employee matters would place the town at a substantial disadvantage. SECONDED by Michael Denault. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

MOTION by Nancy Bushika enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3). SECONDED by Michael Denault. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The Selectboard entered executive session at 6:30 p.m. Bill Levine was invited to participate.

MOTION by Michael Denault to exit executive session. SECONDED by Pam Tworig. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The board exited executive session at 6:50 p.m. Bill Levine will speak to Chief Ethier regarding a training session for the use of the radiation monitor set. Dan Potvin offered to help.

#### TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Theresa Denault gave an update. About a dozen families have taken plastic tree ornaments to decorate. The families can place these ornaments on the tree at the lighting ceremony on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

MOTION by Pam Tworig to adjourn. SECONDED by Nancy Bushika. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Carol A. Fachini, Clerk

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#### REMINDERS

1. Anyone interested in serving on the Finance Committee this year should contact a Selectboard member or the town office.
2. The fifth annual tree lighting will be held in front of the school on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Caroling, refreshments and a visit from Santa are planned.