

TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECT BOARD MEETING
December 18, 2025
(UNAPPROVED)
6:00 p.m.

Present: Select Board: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Douglas Wright, Kurt Gamari and John Dunn.
Michael G. Denault was not present.

Visitors: William Levine and James Stimpson.
David R. Tatro, Road Commissioner.
Lori Shepard, Select Board Secretary.

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

HEARING OF VISITORS
None.

SELECT BOARD ORDERS
The Select Board reviewed and approved the following orders:
WARRANT #49 \$ 12,939.19 payroll
WARRANT #50 \$376,307.68 accounts payable

FINANCIALS
The board reviewed and approved financials for the months of September, October and November.

HIGHWAY UPDATE

1. Mike Brothers needed to weld the plow frame this week along with completing other repairs. The wood furnace at the highway garage is set up and working well. The propane heater still needs to be installed by H.A. George.
2. John Dunn asked about the winter sand and salt. Dave Tatro said he will be over budget due to the spring salt shortage, but he has a good supply.

RECYCLING
Casella is still bringing the wrong dumpster. They also did not pick up the compost at the school and Dave Tatro had to call them.

FUTURE BUDGET MEETINGS
The board will hold budget work sessions each Thursday in January and will schedule additional meetings if needed.

FEMA PAPERWORK
The treasurer received paperwork from FEMA to complete the final reimbursement request for the 2023 flood damages.

911 NUMBERING UPDATE
Nancy Bushika will contact Bob Briggs for an update.

TOWN SIGN

Jim Stimpson spoke to the contractor who plans to have the sign installed by Christmas.

VT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION

They requested an increased appropriation which will require a signed petition. Nancy Bushika asked Bill Levine where things stood. He will talk to the fire department about the petition.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Jim Stimpson stated that the Planning Commission was awarded a grant to update the town plan. An email should be coming for the Select Board to sign the grant contract.

SCHOOL LIGHTS

John Dunn noted that the flashing school speed signs are not working. He will speak to the school about it. The board also discussed speeding in town and various ways to reduce it.

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

Jim Stimpson informed the Select Board that the school playground failed an inspection that was conducted in 2024. He feels that children play on the equipment in the evenings and weekends so it is a town issue. Jim Stimpson has talked with the principal who was not aware of the report before now. He has contacted Representative Jonathan Cooper to see if there is funding available to help. The Select Board suggested he speak with the School Directors and also stated that the supervisory union has a buildings and grounds manager who should be involved in correcting the problem. The playground is inspected yearly and in 2023 it passed with no problems. Kurt Gamari questioned the inspection result since there has been no change in equipment from 2023 to 2024. He stated that there are many grant opportunities within the village district. Nancy Bushika asked Jim Stimpson to keep the board informed.

TENNIS COURT

Nancy Bushika asked Dave Tatro if he could work on cleaning up the former tennis court this summer.

NEW POSITIONS

The Ethics Liaison and DV Fiber representatives are rather new positions and the board discussed if they should receive the \$25.00 yearly stipend.

MOTION by Kurt Gamari to pay the two positions the \$25.00 yearly stipend. SECONDED by Doug Wright. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

TOWN REPORT DEDICATION

Jean Kurpiel discussed dedicating the town report with the Select Board. She will work with Kurt Gamari to put something together.

MOTION by Kurt Gamari to adjourn. SECONDED by Doug Wright. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting ended at 7: 00 p.m.

Kurt Gamari
Clerk

/las

REMINDERS

1. Townspeople should sign up with the state's free communications network, VT-Alert. You can sign up at vtalert.gov to receive notifications. You can choose how you would like to be alerted (phone call, text or email) and can choose what type of alerts you would like to receive, i.e. weather, road closures, public health, etc.
2. Anyone interested in serving as a lister should submit a letter of interest to the Select Board.
3. 911 House numbers must be affixed to your home or the entrance of your driveway to be compliant with state law.
4. The town office is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and on Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.; closed Mondays.

PETITIONS FOR WARRANT ARTICLES & ELECTED POSITIONS

The deadline for filing petitions with the town clerk for warrant articles to be included in the town meeting warning is Thursday, January 15, 2026. These petitions must be signed by 5% of the registered voters or at least 38 signatures. V.S.A. 17:2642(a)

The required signatures on a petition to run for an elected office are 1% of the registered voters or at least 8 signatures. The deadline for filing these petitions with the Town Clerk is Monday, January 26, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. Nominating papers and the Consent of Candidate form may be picked up at the Town Office. V.S.A. 17:2681(a) (b).

Elected positions to be filled this year are:

Town Moderator - 1 year term (*John Paul Potvin*)
School Moderator - 1 year term (*John Paul Potvin*)
Town Clerk - 3 year term (*Lori A. Shepard*)
Treasurer - 3 year term (*Lori A. Shepard*)
Selectboard member - 2 year term (*Douglas Wright*)
Selectboard member - 3 year term (*Kurt Gamari*)
School Director - 2 year term (*Beth Thomas*)
School Director - 3 year term (*Danielle Smith*)
Lister - 3 year term (*vacant*)
Lister - 1 year remaining on a 3 year term (*vacant*)
Collector of Delinquent Taxes - 1 year term (*Sally A. Bohl*)
Cemetery Commissioner - 3 year term (*Luke McKay*)
Library Trustee - 3 year term (*Cyndi Candiloro*)

Town meeting will be held on Monday, March 2, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. with the town portion first, followed by the school.

Voting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 from 10 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Stamford Community Room. Applications for addition to the checklist will be accepted at the town office up to and throughout election day.

Absentee ballots will be available until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 2, 2026. Please call the town office at 694-1361.

Anyone interested in serving as an appointed board member, please review the expiring appointed positions in the town report and contact a member of that board or the Select Board.