

TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECT BOARD MEETING
July 2, 2026
(UNAPPROVED)

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Kurt Gamari, Jedidiah Gramlin, and Michael G. Denault.

John Dunn was not present.

Visitors: William Levine, Debra Righi, James Righi and Pamela Tworig.
Lori Shepard, Select Board Secretary.

Nancy Bushika opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, welcomed everyone, and read a statement with procedural rules. Additional correspondence was added to the agenda. Jed Gramlin recorded the meeting for his YouTube video.

HEARING OF VISITORS

None.

MINUTES

MOTION by Kurt Gamari to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 18, 2026 as written.

SECONDED by Jed Gramlin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

WARRANT #25 \$ 12,366.85 payroll

WARRANT #26 \$139,227.90 accounts payable

HIGHWAY UPDATE

Nancy Bushika reported: the highway crew is continuing to mow, the paving is finished and Dave Tatro will work on the shoulders next week, the town did not have any washouts with the recent storm, and two contractors showed up at the East Road culvert project site visit.

RECYCLING

No discussion.

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE/PAVING LOAN

The treasurer needed money to pay the school its final balance by June 30, 2026 and finalized the tax anticipation note with Adams Community Bank for 4.25%. She continues to work on the \$469,000.00 paving loan. MountainOne Bank is interested in providing a quote but wants the town's general fund in house. Pam Tworig suggested contacting the Bank of Bennington.

FIRE WARDEN POSITIONS

The Select Board received a letter from the state saying the Select Board does not need to recommend a Fire Warden. The state has changed the process and has appointed the Fire Chief, Paul Ethier, as the Fire Warden. He has appointed Harry Klein and Mitch Meranti to serve the town as Deputy Fire Wardens.

LEO ETHIER MEMORIAL GARDEN

The garden is located on the right, front side of the school. Nancy Bushika explained that it was started by the School Board in 2006-2007. Money was raised at town meeting and the School Board had volunteers to maintain it going forward. There are weeds growing through the mulch and it is in rough shape. The Ethier family has taken care of it the past few years and came to the town for help. Pam Tworig felt if the garden was reduced in size it could be edged out, weeded and pruned. She feels the intent of the garden, a quiet place to sit and reflect, is lost as it has become part of a playground with the slide right there. She feels the slide, which is outside the school fence, needs to be moved. The Select Board discussed removing the slide if it is no longer used, or moving it inside the playground fence. The chips will need to be removed and the area will need to be loamed and seeded. The board has previously discussed the overgrown hedges on the right front side of the building with the School Directors. The board discussed hiring a tree company to cut the hedges and perhaps the overgrown bushes outside of the town office. Kurt Gamari will talk to the School Directors about the slide and Leo Ethier Garden.

MUNICIPAL IMPACT QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire needs to be completed as part of an Act 250 permit by Joseph Lora III to reopen his gravel pit on Main Road. The Select Board provided answers to the questions which will be entered online.

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDS)

The town purchased two defibrillators a few years ago and took a course to learn to use them. Mike Denault noticed that his card expired in 2005. He asked if the Fire Department would be interested in doing a refresher course. Bill Levine will talk to Paul Ethier.

DELINQUENT DOG LIST

Dog owners continue to come in to license their dogs.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Jed Gramlin has reached out to the MOOver bus and Green Mountain Express but hasn't heard back yet. He will continue to work on it.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Kurt Gamari. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting ended at 6:35 p.m.

Kurt Gamari
Clerk

/las

REMINDERS

1. The state primary election will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2026 in the Stamford Community Room from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

2. Applications to register to vote will be accepted during regular town office hours and throughout election day. Forms can be obtained at the town office or you can register to vote through Vermont's online voter registration system at <https://olvr.vermont.gov/>.
3. Absentee ballots will be available until 12:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7, 2026. Please call the town office at 802-694-1361.
4. Statement of Nomination papers and the Consent of Candidate forms to run for Justice of the Peace are available at the Town Office and are due back by Monday, July 20, 2026 by 5:00 p.m. V.S.A. 17:2681(a) (b).
5. 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 and what type of alerts you would like to receive, i.e. weather, road closures, public health, etc.
6. Anyone interested in serving as Lister, Energy Coordinator, Tree Warden, or BCRC Representative to the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee, should submit a letter of interest to the Select Board.
7. The transfer station will be closed on Saturday, July 4, 2026 in observance of Independence Day. Please plan accordingly.
8. 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.