TOWN OF STAMFORD SELECTBOARD MEETING January 12, 2022

(UNAPPROVED)

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Carol A. Fachini, and Brandon Field.

Daniel J. Potvin and Michael G. Denault were not present.

Visitors: Beth Phelps.

Heather Tietgens, Tyna Senecal, and Pamela Tworig, Finance Committee.

David R. Tatro, Road Commissioner.

William Levine, Emergency Management Director.

Lori Shepard, Selectboard Secretary.

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 were no changes to the agenda or its order.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Selectboard reviewed the town and highway revenue and expense sheets. They discussed the town's match for the Lincoln Road culvert. The town consulted with the Bennington County Regional Commission to learn that it can use ARPA funds to reduce its match. The board also considered adding to the highway equipment fund. Bill Levine advised that the Fire Department would like to reserve \$50,000.00 toward the purchase of a new fire truck. The Selectboard discussed the legislative decision to allow towns to vote by Australian ballot or delay town meeting until spring. The Selectboard will keep town meeting as usual on Monday, February 28, 2022 in person in the gym and will speak to the School Directors as well. The next budget work session will be first on the agenda at their next meeting on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The tentatively scheduled Board of Abatement meeting was moved from January 20, 2022 to February 3, 2022.

RECYCLING

The Selectboard thanked Mike Lavariere and Buzz Wheeler for volunteering to change their work date from Saturday to Sunday morning to accommodate residents during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

NEW TOWN WEBSITE

Nancy Bushika and Brandon Field looked at the newly-designed website and said it was very nice. They will discuss the website at the next meeting.

MOTION by Brandon Field to adjourn. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Carol A. Fachini Clerk

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REMINDERS

1. Anyone interested in helping Bill Levine review the contents of the Red Cross trailer or interested in forming a Citizen Response Group should contact Bill Levine directly or the town office.

2. Please visit the town's official website: townofstamfordvermont.org for town information and updates.

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 13, 2022. These petitions must be signed by 5% of the registered voters or at least 36 signatures. V.S.A. 17:2642(a)

The requirement to submit Nominating Petitions to run for an elected office is waived along with the requirement to obtain signatures of 1% of the registered voters. A Consent of Candidate form will be required to run for an elected office and the deadline to file the Consent is Monday, January 24, 2022 by 5:00 p.m. A 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 (William Levine)

School Moderator - 1 year term (William Levine)

Selectboard member - 2 year term (Daniel Potvin)

Selectboard member - 3 year term (Michael Denault)

School Director - 2 year term (Barbara Malinowski)

School Director - 3 year term (Gary Bellows)

Auditor - 1 year term (vacancy)

Auditor - 2 year term (vacancy)

Auditor - 3 year term (vacancy)

Collector of Delinquent Taxes - 1 year term (Sally Bohl)

Cemetery Commissioner - 3 year term (Janice Farinon)

Library Trustee - 5 year term (Tyna Senecal)

Town meeting will be held on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. with the town portion first, followed by the school.

Voting will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 7 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, February 28, 2022. 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 Selectboard.