

**TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECTBOARD MEETING
October 16, 2020
(UNAPPROVED)**

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

Visitors: William Levine, Emergency Management Director.
Lori Shepard, Selectboard Secretary.

Nancy Bushika called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone. She read a statement with procedural rules for the meeting. There was some discussion and correspondence added to the agenda. The order was modified to begin with discussion under New Business.

SELECTBOARD MEETING DATES

Mike Denault would like the board to consider moving their meeting night to Tuesday evening. He is finding it difficult to make Friday nights, Lori Shepard has had difficulty, and Dave Tatro has not attended since the meeting night changed to Friday. Rich Cristofolini said it would be much easier for him if Selectboard meetings were held on Tuesdays because he already cleans on Wednesdays since there are no children. The topic will be placed on the next meeting's agenda for further discussion. Arrangements have been made to access the gym if needed.

MINUTES

MOTION by Carol Fachini to accept the regular meeting minutes of October 2, 2020 as written.
SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

- WARRANT #41 \$ 7,347.11 payroll
- WARRANT #42 \$18,016.29 accounts payable

ROAD CONDITIONS

Lori Shepard presented the Invitation to Participate in the Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Program from the Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) on behalf of the state. A BCRC member will work with Dave Tatro to determine a project and the town will receive up to \$6,300.00 in grant funds with a 20% town match.

MOTION by Mike Denault to sign the Letter of Intent to Participate in the Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid Program. SECONDED by Chris Warren. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

RECYCLING

1. The state said the town's application to recertify the transfer station was in order and should be approved soon. The state provided the forms necessary to notify the abutters and they have been sent out.
2. The town has found a company in Wilmington that will pick up appliances with coolant for a cost of \$10.00 per appliance. This will solve our disposal problem. They also accept microwaves. The Recycling Update form will need to be revised to charge \$10.00 for microwaves instead of \$5.00 so the town can at least break even.

MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the final revision of the Recycling Update Form. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Zacharias Clay has volunteered to serve on the Finance Committee. The Selectboard will try Heather Tietgens and Tyna Senecal again to see if they will serve for another year.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The generator worked well when the power went out last week.

RESIGNATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the resignation of James Stimpson as Administrative Officer and send a letter of appreciation. SECONDED by Chris Warren. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The Planning Commission will advertise and review candidates and make a recommendation to the Selectboard for appointment. Mike Denault asked if Jim Stimpson ever got involved in Emergency Management. Bill Levine responded no, at this point he has no Assistant or Coordinator.

CORRESPONDENCE

The legislature has passed a law temporarily suspending the need to have a town vote to change town meeting night to an Australian Ballot vote. The board discussed the pros and cons with Bill Levine. In-person town meetings are still acceptable, they are just giving the option to allow all warrant articles to be voted by Australian Ballot. There is still plenty of time before any decision needs to be made.

BALLOT DROP BOX

The ballot drop box/mail slot has been installed in the town office and has already been used by many voters. It provides a safe way to return your ballot at any time, day or night.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Carol A. Fachini
Clerk

CAF/las

REMINDERS

1. The town office continues to be closed in accordance with the Governor's Stay Home – Stay Safe Order to slow the spread of COVID-19, but we are open by appointment and are willing to assist our residents by email, regular mail, or telephone.
2. Anyone interested in serving on the Finance Committee should contact a member of the Selectboard.
3. Tax bills have been issued and are due in hand by 8 p.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2020. By town vote, postmarks will not be accepted. Any unpaid tax will be subject to a one-time 8% penalty and 1%

interest per month for the first 3 months and 1.5% interest per month thereafter until paid.

4. The general election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at the Stamford Elementary School from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

5. Applications for addition to the checklist will be accepted through Election Day. Application forms can be requested by calling the town office at 802-694-1361 or you can register to vote online through Vermont's My Voter Page at <https://www.mvp.sec.state.vt.us/>.

6. Absentee ballots will be available until 12:00 p.m. on Friday, October 30, 2020. Please call the town office at 802-694-1361.

7. A ballot drop off slot has been installed in the rear of the town clerk's office to provide a safe and secure way to drop off your completed ballot at any time, day or night.

8. Please visit the town's official website: townofstamfordvermont.org.