

**TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECTBOARD MEETING
March 18, 2021
(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Carol A. Fachini, Daniel J. Potvin and Michael G. Denault.
Visitors: Carolyn Brooks, Pat Sullivan, Susan Welsch, and Ruth West.
William Levine, Emergency Management Director.
David R. Tatro, Road Commissioner.
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. Additional correspondence was added. There was no change to the order of the agenda.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

BALLOTS

Pat Sullivan asked when ballots would be available. Ballots must be made available by March 31, 2021 but the town clerk expects to have them available before that date.

SCHOOL/TOWN BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Pat Sullivan asked about the status of the school/town building and grounds. Several meetings were held last year but they were postponed until the coronavirus pandemic was over. Mike Denault and Nancy Bushika would like to see the discussions begin again soon.

GREEN UP DAY

Pat Sullivan announced that Green Up Day is scheduled for May 1, 2021.

LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR

Ruth West stated that she was submitting a letter to the Governor asking him to visit our town and reconsider his Emergency Order as it is nearly impossible for an isolated border town such as Stamford to comply. Mike Denault as a private citizen supported her decision to send the letter and would support anyone wanting to exercise their civil rights. But as a board, they have to be very careful about supporting or giving it Selectboard approval.

MINUTES

MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the regular meeting minutes of March 4, 2021 as written.
SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:
WARRANT #9 \$ 8,864.21 payroll
WARRANT #10 \$26,029.34 accounts payable

ROAD CONDITIONS

1. Spring is upon us and the muddy road conditions are worse than they have been in several years. Sumner Road, Sportsmen Road and several other areas required stone to keep the roads passable. Dave Tatro has spent \$11,000 in material in the past week which is more than half of his \$20,000 summer

maintenance budget. Nancy Bushika supported him and agreed that the roads need to be maintained. Dave Tatro asked people to be patient and realize that he cannot always fix an area the same day. He needs to wait until the road freezes so the heavy dump truck doesn't ruin the rest of the road. Bill Levine noted that the areas that were fixed on Boulger Road and Jepson Road held up well.

2. Nancy Bushika advised Dave Tatro of their decision to accept the revised Road Maintenance Agreement with Mr. Wolters and the decision to record the agreement in the Land Records. The board agreed to waive the recording fee for Mr. Wolters since it was not part of the negotiations but will add a clause to future agreements indicating that the recording fee will be collected from the landowner.

RECYCLING

Everything is running smoothly.

RABIES CLINIC

The Rabies Clinic has been re-scheduled to Saturday, March 27, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Stamford highway garage. The Community Projects Committee will help spread the word.

EMEGENCY MANAGEMENT

There was nothing to report.

OFFER TO PURCHASE TOWN OWNED ROPERTY

1. The town received an offer from John Flynn to purchase Lots 321 and 322 in Alpenwald for the sum of \$400.00.

MOTION BY Mike Denault to accept the offer to purchase Lots 321 and 322 for the sum of \$400.00. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

2. The town received two offers to purchase the 1.5 acre parcel located on Main Road formerly owned by Desilets. Daniel Rainey offered \$600.00 and Joseph Berard offered \$500.00. The board debated on choosing the first offer or the highest offer received. They decided not to accept either offer and let each bidder know about the other offer and ask whether that is their final offer or if they would like to reconsider and submit a new offer. A decision will be made at the next meeting on April 1, 2021.

UNIFORM MUNICIPAL EXCESS WEIGHT PERMITS

MOTION by Mike Denault to sign the permit applications from Amerigas/Synergy and Riggs Distler. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The proper fees and insurance information were received from each applicant.

LIBRARY RECOMMENDATION

The Selectboard received a letter from Caroline Burch, on behalf of the Library Board of Trustees asking that the Selectboard approve the appointment of Rebecca Gamari to fill the vacancy left by Barbara Goldstein. Rebecca Gamari has submitted nomination papers to run for this position in next month's election.

MOTION by Dan Potvin to appoint Rebecca Gamari as Library trustee for the remainder of Barbara Goldstein's five-year term. SECONDED by Mike Denault. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT

Roger Bouchard has expressed an interest in being part of the Deerfield Valley Fiber Communication Union District. The Selectboard has no authority to appointment anyone to a CUD committee, but Bill Levine saw no reason why he couldn't be appointed as a town representative. The Selectboard

appointed Bill Levine and Bob Briggs as town representatives. Chris Warren was also appointed as a second alternate.

MOTION by Dan Potvin to appoint Roger Bouchard as a town representative second alternate to the Deerfield Valley Fiber Communication Union District. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD WARRANT

When Nancy Bushika attended the recent Finance Committee meeting, they noted that the term to borrow money was explained in Article 6 but left out of Article 5. The board agreed that the term of the paving loan should be stated the same way in both articles.

MOTION to revise the warrant to include the term of the loan in Article 5. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Nancy Bushika will revise the Selectboard Report with the term of the paving loan so that it is the same as the warrant and will reference the same \$230,000.00 loan amount as in the article.

SEED SAVERS REQUEST

The Seed Savers would like permission to hold a covid-safe seed swap in front of the school/town building on Saturday April 17, 2021. They indicated in their request that masks and safe distancing will be required. Mike Denault disagreed with their mask requirement since the Governor's order provides allowances for people who are physically or mentally unable to wear a mask. Bill Levine disagreed with Mike Denault's position. Mike Denault feels they should recommend, or even strongly recommend the use of masks but it is discriminatory to mandate mask use. Nancy Bushika feels the Seed Savers should approach the school and fill out a request form since no decision has been made about the ownership and control of the school/town building and grounds.

MOTION by Mike Denault to approve their request to hold a seed swap on April 17, 2021 and request that they strongly recommend the use of masks and that the Seed Savers Group also contact the School Directors for approval. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

VACCINE INFORMATION

Dan Potvin wanted to get information about the vaccine out to the townspeople. He suggested people consider signing the Great Barrington Declaration which has over 50,000 signatures from scientists, doctors and medical personnel. He said Dr. Geert Vanden Bossch, a leading scientist in vaccines and immunology, gave an interview on Highwire. Dan Potvin mentioned Dr. Sherri Tenpenny, and Dr. Vernon Coleman from England. These doctors can be found on brighton.com. He said our natural immune system has K cells which naturally fight infection. Since the virus has a 99.91% survival rate, it shows that your natural immune system works well. These scientists are coming forward with information indicating that the coronavirus vaccines will suppress our natural immune system which is currently non-specific and created to fight an innumerable amount of viruses, and will make it specific, to fight only the specific coronavirus strain that came out last March. The vaccine antibodies will become dominant and will block our own antibody cells. As the virus mutates and creates new strains, the vaccine antibodies will not fight against other strains. We will lose our innate immune system. This vaccine is long lived and once you take it, you can't get it out of your body. Dr. Bossch and Dr. Tenpenny's fear is what's called a "Gain of Function" which is something bioweapon labs study when making a biological weapon. Not only will the vaccine hinder your natural immune system in its effectiveness to fight other viruses, including other coronavirus strains, but each vaccinated person will give the virus a Gain of Function which will make the coronavirus stronger, more deadly, and spread

more rapidly. In the US we are up to 2 million vaccinations per day and are pushing for 3 million per day. Israel has already vaccinated 5 million out of a total population of 9 million. Dr. Bossch and Dr. Tenpenny say this vaccine is an extinction-level science that has been unleashed. They have not done animal studies because they have been working on mRNA vaccines since 2004 and every time the vaccinated animal is later exposed to a new strain of the virus, it dies. India has already banned all coronavirus vaccines. Dr. Tenpenny said this vaccine could slowly attack up to 28 organs in your body over a 3 to 18 month period and by the time you come down with some sort of liver dysfunction, they won't connect it to the vaccine. Dan Potvin wants all people to have access to this information. He hopes people will choose not to take the vaccine. Dan Potvin said the best thing you can do is to beef up your immune system, take Vitamin D, and eat healthy. A strong, healthy immune system is the best way to fight the virus.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 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. The town clerk is scheduling appointments and is willing to assist residents by email, regular mail, telephone or fax.
2. Town Meeting will be held outside on Monday, April 19, 2021 and the election of officers will be held on Tuesday April 20, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. by Australian ballot in the community room. Applications for addition to the checklist will be accepted at the town office and throughout election day. Absentee ballots may be requested until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 19, 2021. Please call the town office at 694-1361.
3. 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.
4. Green Up Day is scheduled for May 1, 2021.
5. Please visit the town's official website: townofstamfordvermont.org for town information and updates.