

**TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECTBOARD MEETING
May 3, 2018
(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Christopher Warren, Michael Denault and Carol Fachini.

Daniel J. Potvin was not present.

Visitors: Debbie Darling, Donna Engel, John Engel, Bill Levine and Pat Sullivan.

David R. Tatro, Road Commissioner.

Sally Bohl, Delinquent Tax Collector.

Luke McKay, Dog Officer

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. The agenda was reviewed and no changes were made.

GREEN UP DAY

Pat Sullivan stated that Green Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in front of the school. She hopes to surpass last year's turnout of about 50 people.

COMMUNITY BUILDING GROUP

Pat Sullivan said their next meeting is Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 6 p.m. at the school. The group is doing their best to communicate information and wants everyone to feel welcome to come, participate, and express their concerns and ideas. Victoria Jefferies has been working hard on the building design options and will have posters available during Green Up Day for people to see.

DOG/KENNEL

1. Luke McKay picked up a stray dog last Friday. The dog was covered with candle wax. He has reported the abuse but doesn't think anything will be done. He has an idea who the pet owner is but cannot locate them. LauraLee Smith has expressed an interest in taking the dog but the town has a ten day waiting period before rehoming an abandoned dog.

MOTION by Carol Fachini to allow LauraLee Smith to care for the dog for the remaining three days of the ten day waiting period. Mrs. Smith will become the permanent owner if the dog is not claimed at the end of the three days. Luke McKay will receive \$3.00/day impound fee for the seven days he cared for the dog and LauraLee Smith will receive \$3.00/day for the three days she cares for the dog. SECONDED by Chris Warren. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

2. Luke McKay asked about the status of the kennel. \$2,500.00 was budgeted for 2018. The Selectboard will bid out the job to build a dog kennel. Luke McKay will provide the specifications required by the state.

MINUTES

MOTION by Carol Fachini to accept the regular meeting minutes of April 19, 2018 as written. SECONDED by Chris Warren. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

WARRANT #18 \$5,677.28 payroll

WARRANT #19 \$7,617.29 accounts payable

ROAD CONDITIONS

1. The highway crew has been grading the gravel roads.
2. Dave Tatro has found a great used excavator for \$55,000.00 He put a \$3,000.00 deposit on the machine. It is a 2011 with only 900 hours. It is the perfect size and Dave Tatro feels he can do probably 90% of the work he needs to do in house instead of hiring a contractor.

MOTION by Mike Denault to purchase the excavator. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

3. Dave Tatro provided the Selectboard with a proposed bid invitation for the school parking lot. It will be sent to four companies.

MOTION to accept the bid invitation as written. SECONDED by Mike Denault. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

4. Nancy Bushika attended the mowing bid site visit today at 5 p.m. Daniel Denault of Yardwork by Dan and Stanley Lawrence, Jr. of Lawrence Mowing were both there. Nancy Bushika walked the perimeter with them and reviewed the specifications. They will provide a price for 18 mowings per year. It was noted that it will be hard to mow along the north fence, but it should be fine once Dave Tatro is able to clean up the ditch area.
5. Mike Denault stated there is a tree down on the power line on County Road. Dave Tatro will take a look and report it to Green Mountain Power if needed.

RECYCLING

1. TAM picked up the two school dumpsters today. Rich Cristofolini has started bringing the school trash and recycling to the transfer station. His pay will be pro-rated since he is starting mid week.
2. Dave Tatro will contact McLain Electric for the work needed at the transfer station.
3. Michael Batchter from the Bennington County Regional Commission has scheduled the satellite free home hazardous waste day in Stamford on Saturday, July 28, 2018 from 9 am to 11 a.m. He will contact Dave Tatro to coordinate the set up.

FINANCIALS/BUDGET REPORTS

1. Nancy Bushika reviewed the amount budgeted for the sheriff's services and there was enough budgeted without having to reduce patrol hours.
2. Nancy Bushika noted that the state is over budget \$3 million on their winter sand and salt. Dave Tatro stated we are not over budget on our sand and salt at this point.

WEBSITE

Chris Warren provided a written draft of what to expect when creating a new website. The Selectboard will look it over for discussion at the next meeting. There will be a yearly website fee of approximately \$50.00 and the initial set up will take about 6-12 hours. Chris Warren volunteered his time and expertise. The board will consider what information they would like to see on the website. Nancy Bushika asked the town clerk to see if and what other towns have for website policies.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

A draft of the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) was given to the board for review. It will be discussed at the next meeting.

DOGS

1. The secretary had a note from last year to follow up with the Selectboard in May 2018 concerning the Jensen dog fence. Nancy Bushika believes the matter has been resolved and will review the file.
2. The town clerk has licensed many dogs this week.

OFFER TO PURCHASE TOWN OWNED PROPERTY

Rev. Robert and Sarah Bellofatto, Jr. received the Selectboard's letter declining their offer to purchase the .5 acre Haynes lot on Main Road near Clough Road. They are still interested and are willing to offer more if the

board felt their offer was too low. Nancy Bushika feels the parcel has been for sale for a couple years now and if any of the abutting neighbors were interested, they've had plenty of time to make an offer. The Selectboard will wait until the next meeting for Dan Potvin's report after walking the land.

LISTER CLERK POSITION

The position has been advertised on the Vermont League of Cities & Towns' website which is a free service. The Berkshire Eagle and Bennington Banner each charge \$499.82 to run a small ad for 5 days or \$375.65 for a weekend ad. Berkshirejobs.com charges \$199.00 per month to run an ad. Indeed.com was also pricy. The Selectboard will hold off and see if the position can be filled by word of mouth.

CREDIT CARD COMPANY ISSUE

The town is able to accept credit card payments with no problem now. The company is still working out the credits but they are staying on top of it.

TAX SALE

MOTION by Chris Warren to enter executive session to discuss the upcoming delinquent tax sale. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The board entered executive session at 7:00 p.m. and invited Sally Bohl, the Delinquent Tax Collector, to participate.

MOTION by Chris Warren to exit executive session. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The board exited executive session at 7:28 p.m. No action was taken.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Nancy Bushika. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Christopher Warren
Clerk

CW/las

REMINDERS

1. All dogs must be licensed with the town by April 1, 2018.
2. Anyone interested in applying for the lister clerk position should review the help wanted ad and apply at the town office.
3. The free Home Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be held at the Bennington Transfer Station on May 12, 2018 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
4. Green Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2018 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Participants will meet in front of the school.
5. The tax sale is scheduled for May 9, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. at the town office.
6. The Town Clerk's office hours are: Monday: closed; Tuesday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Wednesday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Thursday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.; and Friday: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.