

**TOWN OF STAMFORD  
SELECTBOARD MEETING  
September 7, 2017  
(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Michael Denault, Daniel J. Potvin, David R. Tatro and Carol Fachini.

Visitors: Helen Fields and Bill Levine.  
Luke McKay, Dog Officer.  
Kurt Gamari, Health 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.

#### RECYCLING

Helen Fields offered to prepare and hand out flyers at the recycling center on Saturday if the Selectboard is ready to implement the food scrap collection mandated by the state and the single stream recycling. Dave Tatro will finalize the informational flyer with the town clerk for Helen Fields to hand out. The Selectboard thanked Helen Fields for her willingness to help.

#### COMMUNITY GARDEN

Helen Fields said the garden is fabulous. Next year they will need a water system.

#### DELINQUENT DOG OWNERS

Stephen Chipchase, Robert Mielenz and Shawn Senecal have not yet registered their dogs. Luke McKay provided a letter that he sent to Mr. Chipchase. Luke McKay spoke with Mr. Mielenz who is going to a rabies clinic this weekend and will come in next week to license his dog. Nancy Bushika contacted the Senecal household and was told Shawn Senecal has been working every weekend.

#### DOG BITE INCIDENT

The Selectboard received a report from a local veterinarian about a dog bitten and treated over the weekend. Luke McKay advised that two loose pit bull mix dogs ran out in the road and attacked another dog being walked on a lead. The two dogs are not licensed with the town and there is no information as to whether they have had their rabies shots. Both dog owners are related and the injured dog owner does not want to file a complaint. Kurt Gamari as Health Officer viewed the dog and said he has a nasty bite that required several stitches. He has been unable to reach the owner of the dogs that caused the incident. The Selectboard discussed scheduling a potentially vicious dog hearing. A letter will be sent requesting that the dogs be licensed with the town within one week, that the owners follow the town's dog ordinance, and the dogs be quarantined at home for ten days from the date of the attack.

#### MINUTES

MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the regular meeting minutes of August 17, 2017 as written. SECONDED by Nancy Bushika. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the regular meeting minutes of August 23, 2017 as written. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

WARRANT #35 \$ 5,696.69 payroll  
WARRANT #36 \$ 9,482.38 accounts payable

WARRANT #37 \$ 458.11 payroll  
WARRANT #38 \$18,130.11 accounts payable

## FINANCIALS

The Selectboard reviewed and confirmed financial statements for the month of August.

## ROAD CONDITIONS

1. Dave Tatro has received a response from the Tepeyac Hill landowners who are working with a contractor to repair their driveway.
2. The sickle bar mower will need over \$2,000 in repairs. Dave Tatro stated that it's not worth fixing.
3. The PTO in the rear transmission of the Zetor tractor is broken and parts have been ordered. The third laborer has not worked due to the poor weather and broken mowers. Dave Tatro would like to keep him on through the fall to finish mowing and blow leaves out of the ditches in the fall.
4. The Ford truck is back from Carbones. It is making a squealing noise which may be the belt tensioner. Dave Tatro will order parts to fix it in house.
5. Dave Tatro hopes to replace the Ford truck in 2018. He will provide the townspeople with two options: a Dodge 5500 with a 7 year life span or a 25,000 lb Freightliner which should last 10 years. He does not want another Ford after the frame problems we've had.
6. The 2006 Freightliner has an oil leak and may need to go to Patriot Freightliner for repair.
7. The road crew will do culvert work next week with a contractor.
8. Dave Tatro has requested winter salt prices.
9. It is time to request sand bids. Eilers Brothers has provided the winter sand for the past nine years. The Selectboard asked Dave Tatro to see if he will honor last year's price again this year.
10. The Selectboard reviewed the response from Carolyn Carlson, the state engineer, concerning the Klondike Road bridge project. She gave an overall review of costs but did not provide any itemization or supporting documentation. She said there shouldn't be many more big bills and the project is close to being finalized, but she did not provide anything definite. The Selectboard was not satisfied with her answers as to why the project is almost \$250,000 over budget. The Selectboard will continue not to pay any bills until they receive the itemization they are waiting for and the final bill.
11. Dave Tatro has not been able to reach The Lane bridge contractor. The project will probably begin in October. Dave Tatro will keep the board up to date.
12. Jim Henderson from the Bennington County Regional Commission asked why Stamford did not participate in the state's new program for municipal storm water projects called Grants In Aid. Dave Tatro said he did not have a highway project that fit the parameters of the grant. A response will be sent.

## RECYCLING

1. TAM has delivered their containers. Dave Tatro has contacted Republic Services several times for the removal of their containers. The bear-proof area is completed to house the food scraps.
2. A letter will be sent to Josh Kelly at the Agency of Natural Resources advising him that we are now in compliance with the law requiring us to accept food scraps.
3. The Selectboard discussed the recycling update informational sheet. They will review and discuss pricing at the next meeting.
4. Nancy Bushika advised that there is grant money available for signs if needed.
5. The Selectboard reviewed the Ordinance Regulating the Collection and Disposal of Solid Waste. It is not a state law that haulers must register with each town like we thought. Michael Batcher at the Bennington County Regional Commission said we should know who is coming into our town and wanted the registration. Michael Batcher said we should be requesting a copy of the pricing system of each hauler as well. The Alliance is considering changing the requirement that haulers file quarterly reports. Nancy Bushika will attend the next Alliance meeting and see what other towns are doing. The board will discuss revisions to the ordinance and to the town's SWIP plan at the next meeting.

6. Nancy Bushika advised that next year's Alliance budget will only increase \$8.00 for Stamford.
7. The Alliance hired the New England Recycling Center to come to Stamford Elementary School to train the children and staff on the new recycling system.
8. Dave Tatro advised that the plastics compactor is no longer needed at the recycling center. It is not very sellable in its deteriorated state. Dave Tatro will see if TAM will take it.

#### TOWN PLAN

Deferred until next meeting.

#### BUDGET SHEETS

Nancy Bushika reviewed the budget and expense sheets for January through June 2017. She did not see any problems. The lister's education budget is overspent due to hiring the Pownal lister during grievance time but it was agreed at the time she was hired to reimburse the lister account \$1,000.00 from their reserved funds.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Selectboard would like to have a Finance Committee for the upcoming budget season. Anyone wishing to serve on the Finance Committee should contact a Selectboard member. The committee members from last year will be contacted to see if they would like to serve again.

#### GENERATOR PROJECT

1. The generator has been installed and was fueled today. The contractor has scheduled a load test on September 20, 2017 at which time the generator will be connected to the building. The generator is self-starting and includes a transfer switch for automatic transfer of power.
2. The town will be selling the old generator which has been moved up to the garage for \$1,500.00 or best offer, cash and carry. It only has approx. 500 hours on it and has three phase/single phase capability.

#### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1. Bill Levine discovered that the state did not have our recent Local Emergency Operations Plan on file. He made a call to Allison Langsdale from Vermont Emergency Management who stated they were behind in paperwork and made sure our plan was entered in their system.
2. The Selectboard reviewed the draft Emergency Management Ordinance. Bill Levine suggested we print several of the forms out in the event we are unable to access the forms on the internet during an emergency. Dan Potvin asked questions on how the plan would work and various scenarios were discussed. The ordinance will be reviewed again at the next meeting.

#### 2017 TAXES

1. The Selectboard signed the warrant authorizing the treasurer to collect taxes.
2. The Selectboard reviewed the tax bill insert and made changes to the recycling information section.

#### DINNER TO HONOR STAMFORD WAR VETERANS

Dan Potvin would like to organize a potluck dinner to honor the town's veterans. The Selectboard supported the idea and thought this Veterans Day would be a good time. Nancy Bushika suggested the Historical Society could bring out some of their civil war memorabilia for viewing that night.

#### SIGN

Dan Potvin suggested the town purchase a signboard for town announcements and community information. The telephone box signboard is utilized by the school and has become a PTG fundraiser. Bill Levine felt the town should be able to share the current signboard with the school. The matter will be discussed with the school principal and perhaps the PTG.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Daniel J. Potvin  
Clerk

DJP/las

#### REMINDERS

1. The next free Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Dorset School, 130 School Drive, Dorset, Vermont.
2. Summer recycling hours will end on the last Wednesday in October.
3. Anyone interested in filling the vacant Administrative Officer position should submit a cover letter, resume and references to Sheila Lawrence, Chair of the Planning Commission, Town Office, 986 Main Road, Stamford, VT 05352. All applications are due by September 25, 2017.
4. The town office has new hours: Monday: closed, Tuesday: 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.; Wednesday: 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.; Thursday: 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.; and Friday 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.