

**TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECTBOARD MEETING
October 5, 2017
(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Michael Denault, David R. Tatro and Carol Fachini.
Daniel J. Potvin was not present.

Visitors: Micah Hayre, Debra Johnson, Scott Lamore and Bill Levine.
Luke McKay, Dog Officer
Lori Shepard, Selectboard Secretary.

Nancy Bushika called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., welcomed everyone and read a statement with procedural rules for the meeting.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

DOG AND CHICKEN COMPLAINT

Debra Johnson received the Selectboard's letter. She feels the allegations are not true. Her dog is not registered with the town because it is her daughter's dog that she watches. The dog is registered in Williamstown. Deb Johnson has a fenced in porch and states that her dog does not get out, and if he does get out, she doesn't let him run freely, she goes out after him. She has seven chickens that free range and go in the neighbor's yard because the neighbor feeds bread to the birds. Several other allegations were made that are outside of the town's jurisdiction. The Selectboard noted that the town does not have an ordinance concerning chickens, but recommended that the chickens be kept on their own property out of consideration to neighbors and safety from predators. Luke McKay, the Dog Officer, acknowledged the dog enclosure is in good order. Bill Levine wanted it on record that there is a state law against moving property line markers.

STAMFORD SCHOOL

1. The school principal Micah Hayre wants to paint parking spot lines in the parking lot. Dave Tatro marked the previous handicapped lines, but would be more comfortable hiring a professional to do the parking lot. Micah Hayre's main priority is the safety of the children and adding structure to the bus and parent pickup would be a benefit. He doesn't think it would be very expensive and agreed to work with Dave Tatro to obtain prices and information.
2. Nancy Bushika asked for the status of the isolated school option. Micah Hayre said the state has issued its definition and he believes the school board will be discussing it at their next meeting and applying for the isolated school status.
3. The Selectboard will be discussing the terms of the mowing contract for next year. Dave Tatro invited the principal to put his concerns and suggestions for the mowing work in writing for their consideration.

DELINQUENT DOGS

Stephen Chipchase has not licensed his dogs. A letter was sent requesting immediate compliance. If the dogs are not licensed by the next meeting, the board may order the Dog Officer to take the dogs and impound them until the dogs are licensed. Luke McKay has a kennel at his house.

MINUTES

MOTION by Carol Fachini to accept the regular meeting minutes of September 21, 2017 as written.
SECONDED by Dave Tatro. 3 in favor. Mike Denault abstained since he was not in attendance.
Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

WARRANT #41 \$ 5,629.01 payroll

WARRANT #42 \$26,733.25 accounts payable

THE LANE BRIDGE

Work began today and the bridge is closed. Paul Ethier, the Fire Chief, has alerted neighboring fire and ambulance services of the road detour. Bill Levine wanted it noted that the Fire Chief requested the dry hydrant near the bridge remain useable. Dave Tatro has spoken with the contractor who couldn't guarantee the dry hydrant would be accessible throughout the duration of the project. It is necessary to have this bridge work done. Dave Tatro asked how the fire department obtained water before the dry hydrants were installed.

ROAD CONDITIONS

1. Dave Tatro attended classes concerning Act 64, the Clean Water Act. The class described how the town will have to comply with the Road and Bridge Standards, which we usually do anyways, but now we will have to prioritize projects and report to the state.
2. The third laborer is still working a couple days per week.
3. Dave Tatro spoke with a Fairfield representative to request prices.
4. The mower parts have not come in yet.

RECYCLING

1. Dave Tatro will obtain a quote to install electricity for a single stream recycling compactor.
2. Separating the paper and cardboard will not save the town money since we will only receive the going market price and will have to pay a dumpster rental fee and a hauling charge. It is easier to include the paper and cardboard with the single stream recycling.
3. Nancy Bushika was pleased with the steps built at the recycling center. They look nice and make the area safer.
4. The bills for the composting area enclosure will be sent to Michael Batchner at the Bennington County Regional Commission for reimbursement once they are received.
5. Helen Fields has requested the town purchase 30-45 kitchen counter compost buckets. The Selectboard declined to purchase the buckets at this time. They are not very expensive.
6. Scott Smith Trucking has not registered as a hauler with the town. The town has no definitive way of enforcing this state law.
7. TAM does not handle all of our recycling, and can only report what they pick up. Therefore, the town will continue to file its own quarterly recycling reports.
8. Republic has not picked up their paper dumpster yet. Dave Tatro continues to call them.

ORDINANCE REGULATING THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE AND VARIABLE RATE PRICING AND HAULER REGISTRATION AND REPORTING

The Selectboard made two minor changes to the ordinance.

MOTION by Carol Fachini to adopt the ordinance as revised. SECONDED by Dave Tatro. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

DOG COMPLAINT

A letter will be sent to Amanda Kurpiel requesting that her dog be licensed with the town.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The Planning Commission met on September 25, 2017. Although one resume was submitted, they did not make a recommendation for an appointment and extended the application deadline to October 16, 2017. The town has received two building applications which need attention.

MOTION by Mike Denault to appoint David Bugbee Interim Administrative Officer until the recommendation from the Planning Commission can be considered and a permanent appointment can be made. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

GOVERNOR'S VISIT

Nancy Bushika attended the ceremony. There were a lot of people and it was very nice. The emphasis was on providing telecommunications to all areas of Vermont.

DINNER TO HONOR STAMFORD WAR VETERANS

Deferred until next meeting.

TOWN PLAN

The public hearing was scheduled for Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1. Carol Fachini asked for the manual for the old generator purchased by her husband.
2. The Selectboard reviewed the Emergency Management Ordinance. The Vermont League of Cities & Towns recommended that the ordinance should be classified as civil, not criminal. To avoid the civil designation and penalty section, the Selectboard will change the document to a policy instead of an ordinance. The policy will be an addendum to the town's Local Emergency Operations Plan.
3. Bill Levine continues to work on the Continuity of Operations Plan.
4. Bill Levine provided File of Life refrigerator magnets to the Selectboard members. He hopes to obtain several more to be sent home with the school children and handed out at town meeting.
5. Bill Levine continues to work with Al McLain for the manual for the new generator and another set of keys.

RECLAMATION ORDER

The Selectboard received notice from the state that the Reclamation Order placed on property at 4957 Main Road has been completed.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Nancy Bushika noted that the town attorney suggested that the Selectboard adopt a policy. Dave Tatro stated that adopting a Conflict of Interest Policy was discussed in length at the classes he attended. The first draft will be reviewed at the next meeting.

TAX APPEAL

The Selectboard reviewed an email received on October 5, 2017 from the town attorney concerning the pending tax appeal. The attorney has requested that Dan Potvin recuse himself since he is related to the appellant. The attorney has requested that the Selectboard appoint a liaison whom she can speak with directly regarding this matter. The Selectboard will give Dan Potvin a copy of the attorney's email.

MOTION by Mike Denault to appoint Nancy Bushika and Carol Fachini to speak and correspond with the attorney on this tax appeal matter. SECONDED by Dave Tatro. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

MOWING

Nancy Bushika spoke with the mowing contractor who will mow the school yard next week.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.
The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Nancy L. Bushika
Clerk pro tem

NLB/las

REMINDERS

1. Summer recycling hours will end on the last Wednesday in October.
2. Real estate tax bills are due November 16, 2017.
3. New recycling punch cards for use beginning November 1, 2017 are available at the Town Office.