

**TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECTBOARD MEETING
July 2, 2020
(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Christopher Warren, Carol A. Fachini, Daniel J. Potvin, and Michael G. Denault.
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. There were no changes to the agenda or its order.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Jen Ryan asked for permission to create an outdoor story walk around the playground. It will be for one or two weeks and kids can read a page of the story at each station. The board thought it was fine. Chris Warren suggested that she also talk to the School Directors.

MINUTES

1. MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the regular meeting minutes of June 18, 2020 as written. SECONDED by Nancy Bushika. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.
2. MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the special meeting minutes of June 24, 2020 as written. SECONDED by Nancy Bushika. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

- WARRANT #27 \$ 8,770.85 payroll
- WARRANT #28 \$310,132.53 accounts payable

ROAD CONDITIONS

1. The highway crew has been ditching and grading.
2. Jim Henderson from the Bennington County Regional Commission inspected the Clean Water Act Grant culvert project on Mill Road. The paperwork has been submitted to request payment of the grant funds.
3. Davey Tree Service has been trimming the power lines and Dave Tatro has received several complaints from residents. They blocked the road and told motorists that the road was closed which they do not have authority to do. They put rocks in the ditches to get through them and left the rocks behind. Dave Tatro had pictures available for the board's review. Dave Tatro will talk to the power company.

RECYCLING

1. The board discussed trash haulers that pick up in Vermont.
2. The Agency of Natural Resources conducted an inspection of the transfer station. Overall the site looked good but the inspector found a few items that need to be addressed. The facility permit expires on September 30, 2020 and the renewal application needs to be filed. They require e-waste to be stored and labeled better and they want more items listed on our ReTRAC reporting.
3. The free Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is scheduled for Saturday, August 8, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mt. Anthony Union Middle School in Bennington, VT. The second free HHW Day will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Dorset School in Dorset, VT.

MEETING WITH SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Nancy Bushika felt the meeting went well. Mike Denault agreed that it was a good first step forward.

DOG CLINIC

There was fair attendance at the Dog Clinic. Some dog owners went to the firehouse and missed the clinic. There are about 130 dogs licensed out of about 280 dogs.

DOG LICENSING DEADLINE OF JULY 1, 2020

The Selectboard originally waived late fees through June 1st and then extended the waiver to July 1st due to the coronavirus. The board felt another extension would make the Selectboard's and Dog Officer's job more difficult in bringing unlicensed dogs into compliance. If there is a dog bite incident, it could be a problem if the town cannot show that the dog has its rabies vaccination. The board decided to begin charging late fees and send out late notices and a letter to encourage dog owners to license their dogs with the town.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

There was a power outage on Tuesday from a tree branch falling on the powerlines.

ZONING BYLAWS

Dan Potvin asked that the proposed changes to the Zoning Bylaws be highlighted so everyone can see them easily. The draft with the changes will be added to the town website.

BENNINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

1. Lieutenant Lloyd Dean has been in contact with Mike Denault. Mike Denault said he understands their idea of community policing better, that a positive presence can be just as important as patrolling. The board agreed that they would like to know if the sheriff intends to spend more than two hours at a specific event.
2. A theft occurred at Bilmonts Store recently. The North Adams Police caught the burglars within a few hours. The Bennington Sheriff is waiting for them to turn themselves in.
3. Mike Denault stated that the Sheriff's Department has some internal issues but felt confident that the service the town receives will not be affected.
4. The board discussed putting the sheriff's patrol reports on the town website so the townspeople can see what they are paying for. Mike Denault will talk to Lt. Dean first.

AUGUST STATE ELECTION

The primary election will take place on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Anyone at risk is encouraged to vote by absentee ballot. Requesting an individual ballot by mail is completely safe and is a good way to make your vote count by voting from home prior to the election without any health risk. The state is sending postcards to all registered voters to promote voting by mail instead of in person on election day. There will be changes in how the election is run to accommodate the ACCD coronavirus safety guidelines such as a separate entrance and exit and six-foot distancing. Voting booths will need to be disinfected in between each voter. More information will be available as the election draws nearer.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Carol A. Fachini
Clerk

CAF/las

REMINDERS

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