

**TOWN OF STAMFORD  
SELECTBOARD MEETING  
May 6, 2021  
(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Carol A. Fachini, Daniel J. Potvin, Brandon Field and Michael G. Denault.  
Visitors: Karen Kuranda, Luke McKay, Ron Puchalski (All States Asphalt, Inc.), Pat Sullivan, and Susan Welsch.  
William Levine, Emergency Management Director.  
David R. Tatro, Road Commissioner.  
Lori Shepard, Selectboard Secretary.

Nancy Bushika called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m., opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, welcomed everyone, and read a statement with procedural rules for the meeting. The agenda was amended to add correspondence and an executive session for personnel reasons. There were no changes to the order.

**REORGANIZATION OF BOARD**

MOTION by Mike Denault to nominate Nancy Bushika as Selectboard Chair. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

MOTION by Nancy Bushika to nominate Mike Denault as Vice Chair. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

MOTION by Nancy Bushika to nominate Carol Fachini as Clerk. SECONDED by Brandon Field. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Bill Levine would like to utilize the Emergency Management Coordinator position and asked to do away with the Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator position.

MOTION by Carol Fachini to appoint each as designated below. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

Zoning Board of Adjustment: Peter Grudin, 3 year term

Zoning Board of Adjustment: David Saldo, 3 year term

Emergency Management Director: William H. Levine, 1 year term

Emergency Management Coordinator: Sheila Lawrence, 1 year term

Dog Officer: Luke McKay, 1 year term

Energy Coordinator: Jennifer Hughes, 1 year term

Septic Officer: Maura Hawkins, 1 year term

Planning Commission: Debra Burchard, 4 year term

Planning Commission: David Saldo, 4 year term

Planning Commission: John Dupras, 4 year term

Planning Commission (alternate): Annemarie Potvin, 1 year term

Conservation Commission: Martin Cristofolini, 4 year term

Road Commissioner: David R. Tatro, 1 year term

Tree Warden: Bruce Richardson, 1 year term

Bennington County Regional Commission representatives: Debra Burchard and Daniel J. Potvin, 1 year terms

Green Up Day Coordinator: Patricia Sullivan, 1 year term

Community Projects Committee: Helen Fields, 3 years

Community Projects Committee: Clay Zeller-Townson, 2 years remaining on a 3 year term

#### JUDICIAL BUREAU APPOINTMENTS

MOTION by Brandon Field to remove Christopher Warren and James Stimpson as Issuing Officials and Appearing Officials and add Brandon Field and Ryan Rush-Booth as Issuing and Appearing Officials. SECONDED by Mike Denault. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### DESIGNATION OF MEETING DATES

MOTION by Dan Potvin to meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 6:00 p.m. SECONDED by Mike Denault. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. Meeting dates are subject to review and may be changed.

#### DESIGNATION OF NEWSPAPER FOR PUBLICATIONS

MOTION by Mike Denault to designate The Berkshire Eagle as the newspaper for publications. SECONDED by Brandon Field. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### DESIGNATION OF SELECTBOARD MEMBER TO REVIEW WARRANTS

MOTION by Mike Denault to designate Nancy Bushika to review bills and have the authority to approve payments prior to Selectboard meetings. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### DESIGNATION OF HIGHWAY LIASON

MOTION by Mike Denault to appoint Dan Potvin as liaison to the highway department. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### DESIGNATION OF SHERIFF/STATE POLICE LIASON

MOTION by Dan Potvin to appoint Mike Denault as liaison to the sheriff's department/state police. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### GREEN UP DAY

Pat Sullivan announced that Green Up Day was very successful. 88 people attended and picked up a lot of trash, especially on Klondike Road. K's Creamery donated donuts and coupons for ice cream and Bailey's Bakery donated cookies.

#### MINUTES

MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the regular meeting minutes of April 15, 2021 as written. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

- WARRANT #15 \$ 7,908.06 payroll
- WARRANT #16 \$49,998.23 accounts payable
- WARRANT #17 \$ 5,622.58 payroll
- WARRANT #18 \$21,360.74 accounts payable

#### ROAD CONDITIONS

1. Ron Puchalski from All States Asphalt, Inc. provided a proposal for this summer's chip sealing project. Allstate is the only company that has placed a bid in the past couple years and Dave Tatro has a good working relationship with them. Dave Tatro asked that the contract be amended to add a one year warranty clause and that traffic control would be the responsibility of Allstate, which was agreeable. MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the proposal from Allstate Paving in the amount of \$224,282.00 with the addition of the traffic control and one year warranty clauses. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

2. Dave Tatro has signed the purchase and sale agreement to purchase the new Dodge 5500 and has the quote from HP Fairfield to install the plow, dump body and hydraulics assembly. MOTION by Mike Denault to authorize Nancy Bushika to sign for debt on behalf of the town. SECONDED by Dan Potvin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.  
The board signed the loan application and paperwork.
3. The board received a complaint from Laura Champagne requesting compensation for the corrosion of the paint on her vehicle due to the gravel the town is using. The board was unsure why she felt the town was responsible. Everyone living in the northeast dealing with winter salt will experience vehicle corrosion over time. Perhaps she could submit a claim through her car insurance.
4. Dave Tatro will put the Freightliner truck for sale on Craig's List. Brandon Field offered to advertise the truck on a free website he is familiar with.

#### RECYCLING

1. The transfer station has started its summer hours and is open every Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
2. Nancy attended the Alliance meeting. They approved the yearly contract to implement our SWIP program. They voted to create a permanent household hazardous waste facility in Bennington. They received a \$70,000.00 grant toward the total building cost of \$117,000.00. The Alliance match will be divided between the member towns by population over a two year period.
3. The state also requires that they have a place to accept asphalt shingles.

#### TOWN MEETING

Town meeting went well. The tent and sound system cost \$3,966.72 which was more than expected since extra weights were needed for the poles instead of drilling holes in the pavement. The CTLC grant will cover around \$1,100.00 and the school felt they could chip in about \$400.00. Mike Denault was frustrated since it is really a joint town and school meeting where both boards present their budgets and he feels the costs should be shared equally. There is no reimbursement for these costs at the state level but if enough towns have incurred these expenses, the election department said they would try to get some state funds.

#### MOWING BIDS

The site visit is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2021 and the bids will be due on May 20, 2021.

#### COMMUNITY PROJECTS COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

The guidelines were reviewed two years ago and the draft was submitted to the Community Projects Committee, but the Selectboard never approved them. It will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### EMEGENCY MANAGEMENT

1. Bill Levine hopes to get the Red Cross trailer out this spring to go through its contents.
2. The school kitchen generator was moved to the highway garage when the new generator was installed. The control panel is still in the kitchen. Bill Levine offered to pay for the wiring to move the control panel from the kitchen to the garage out of his emergency management budget.

#### 2020 GRAND LIST

The board signed the 2020 Grand List stating there were no suits pending.

#### QUITCLAIM DEEDS

The Selectboard signed the deeds completing the sales to Todd Gross and Alberto Borges of the Alpenwald lots.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The board acknowledged the copy of a letter received from Barbara Dolle concerning several preschool issues.

## OFFERS TO BUY TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY

1. MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the offer from William Fortini, Jr. to purchase Lot 279 for the sum of \$500.00. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.
2. MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the offer from Kari Fortini to purchase the Stamford portions of Lots 218 and 220 for the total sum of \$250.00. SECONDED by Brandon Field. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

## TOWN CLERK TRAINING

Lori Shepard and Theresa Denault attended a webinar on the latest legislative and election updates as well as the new state Grand List system. She thanked the board for its support of their continuing education.

## COMPLAINTS

Mike Denault has received complaints about a new lot owner on Andrea Drive. Alpenwald Village has also received complaints about violations of their restrictions.

## GRAND LIST VALUATIONS

Mike Denault asked if campers and motor homes are being assessed. Lisa Wright, the town assessor, will be contacted for a response.

## NEW BUSINESS

Dan Potvin said several people approached him after town meeting with concerns about the school. A committee was set up to research merging with Clarksburg and there was also talk at that time about investigating the pros and cons of becoming either a private or charter school, but no committee was ever formed. Dan Potvin wondered if there was interest in forming a committee to research private and charter schools. He has talked to charter school members and the costs go way down and the kids' grades go up. The topic will be placed on the agenda two meetings from now to see if any residents would like to form a committee.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by Nancy Bushika to find that premature public discussion of employee matters would place the town at a substantial disadvantage. SECONDED by Mike Denault. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. MOTION by Nancy Bushika to enter executive session to discuss employee matters pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3). SECONDED by Mike Denault. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The Selectboard entered executive session at 7:35 p.m. Lori Shepard was invited to participate. MOTION by Mike Denault to exit executive session. SECONDED by Nancy Bushika. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The board exited executive session at 8:58 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 8:00 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. Upcoming HHW Days are scheduled as follows: May 8, 2021 in Bennington and September 11, 2021 in Dorset and a smaller event on July 24, 2021 for Searsburg and Stamford which will be held at the AOT highway garage on Main Road in Heartwellville.
3. The transfer station has started its summer hours and is open every Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
4. 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.
5. Please visit the town's official website: [townofstamfordvermont.org](http://townofstamfordvermont.org) for town information and updates.