

**TOWN OF STAMFORD  
SELECTBOARD MEETING  
February 15, 2024  
(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Michael G. Denault, Pamela Tworig, Kurt Gamari, and Marie Kelly-Whitney.

Visitors: Sally Bohl, John Dunn, Tammy Elias, Jedidiah Gramlin, Lisa Gramlin, Marta Miller, Sheila Pecor, Debra Righi, and James Righi.  
David R. Tatro, Road Commissioner.  
William Levine, Emergency Management Director.  
Lori Shepard, Selectboard Secretary.

Nancy Bushika opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, welcomed everyone, and read a statement with procedural rules for the meeting. There were no additions to the agenda or changes to its order.

#### MINUTES

1. MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the regular meeting minutes of February 1, 2024 as written. SECONDED by Pam Tworig. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.
2. Pam Tworig stated that she attended the work session by phone and should not be listed as absent. MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the work session minutes of February 1, 2024 as amended. SECONDED by Kurt Gamari. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

- WARRANT #5 \$ 9,330.60 payroll
- WARRANT #6 \$26,140.10 accounts payable

#### FINANCIALS

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

#### ROAD CONDITIONS

1. The highway crew has been dealing with snow and mud.
2. Dave Tatro met with the state to order a hydraulic study for a culvert on East Road. He hopes to apply for a grant to replace the culvert.
3. The annual meeting with AOT was held to review the highway budget. The state issued the first two payments of 2024 last year to help towns through the flooding damages and they are not sure how we should report the payments on the financial form.
4. Dave Tatro is finding it difficult to manage the storms because this year it seems like the snow received does not match the amount predicted and the temperatures that are predicted are off.

#### RECYCLING

Nancy Bushika noted that there are two full boxes of batteries that need to be mailed out.

#### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1. Bill Levine reported that Dara Zink from the Bennington County Regional Commission is working to reassemble the Emergency Planning Committee for Bennington County and would like to see

Selectboard involvement.

2. Bill Levine attended the recent Local Emergency Management Committee meeting in North Adams.
3. Pam Tworig reminded Bill Levine to watch for a siren for the firehouse on the surplus site.

#### TOWN MEETING PREPARATION

The Selectboard discussed various topics who would address them.

#### STAMFORD SIGN

Nancy Bushika started the appeal process through the State Environmental Court and found it overwhelming. The certified mail notice to all interested parties would be expensive. The Selectboard will not pursue the appeal. Pam Tworig immediately reached out to Janet Hurley from the Bennington County Regional Commission for advice. Janet Hurley suggested the Selectboard request that the Zoning Administrator ask the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a waiver of the sign's dimensional standards. Kurt Gamari questioned whether the town met the criteria for a waiver. Mike Denault does not want to spend any town money.

MOTION by Nancy Bushika to ask Deb Burchard, the Zoning Administrator, to refer the application to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for two waivers, one for the distance from the road and one for the dimensions of the sign. SECONDED by Marie Kelly-Whitney. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

#### UNIFORM MUNICIPAL EXCESS WEIGHT PERMITS

MOTION by Mike Denault to approve the Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit applications from Newport Sand & Gravel Co., Inc., / Carroll Concrete Co., Inc., VELCO, Barrett Trucking Co., Inc., Renaud Bros. Inc., and Valley Crane Services, Inc. SECONDED by Pam Tworig. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The appropriate fees and insurance information were received from each applicant.

#### HAULER REGISTRATION RENEWALS

The town has not received any renewals yet.

#### DOG UPDATE

Another dog owner has licensed their dog and there is only one delinquent dog owner from 2023. Tickets were issued in the Judicial Bureau but the town clerk was not sure where things stand.

#### DIGITAL RADAR SPEED SIGNS

Marie Kelly-Whitney has researched various signs and reviewed the information with the board.

#### BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY TRAINING

Nancy Bushika will schedule a training session through the Vermont League of Cities & Towns for the Board of Civil Authority in case there is a large number of grievance appeals due to the reappraisal.

#### MUNICIPAL ENERGY RESILIENCE PROGRAM

The papers have been sent in for the energy assessment of the town garage.

#### TOWN WEBSITE

Marie Kelly-Whitney offered to continue to take care of the town website after her Selectboard term ends. Nancy Bushika thanked her and the board will take it under consideration.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Pam Tworig. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.  
The meeting ended at 7:05 p.m.

Marie Kelly-Whitney  
Clerk

/las

#### REMINDERS

1. Townspeople should sign up with the state's free communications network, VT-Alert. You can sign up at [vtalert.gov](http://vtalert.gov) to receive notifications. You can choose how you would like to be alerted (phone call, text or email) and can choose what type of alerts you would like to receive, i.e. weather, road closures, public health, etc.
2. Anyone interested in serving as Green Up Day Coordinator should contact a Selectboard member or the town office.
3. The town office is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and on Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Closed Mondays.
4. Town meeting will be held on Monday, March 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. The school will hold an informational meeting following the town meeting.
5. The school will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.
6. Voting will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Town of Stamford Community Room. Applications for addition to the checklist will be accepted at the town office up to and throughout election day.
7. Absentee ballots will be available until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 4, 2024. Please call the town office at 802-694-1361.
8. 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.