

TOWN OF STAMFORD
SELECT BOARD MEETING
April 2, 2026
(UNAPPROVED)

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Chair, Michael G. Denault, Kurt Gamari, John Dunn, and Jedidiah Gramlin.

Visitors: Lisa Gramlin, William Levine, Debra Righi, and James Righi.
David R. Tatro, Road Commissioner.
Lori Shepard, Select Board Secretary.

Nancy Bushika opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, welcomed everyone, and read a statement with procedural rules for the meeting. Additional correspondence was added to the agenda. Jed Gramlin recorded the meeting for his YouTube video.

HEARING OF VISITORS

Charlie Jewett introduced himself and said he was running for state assembly. Several in attendance signed his nomination papers in support.

MINUTES

MOTION by Mike Denault to accept the regular meeting minutes of March 19, 2026 as written. SECONDED by John Dunn. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

SELECTBOARD ORDERS

The Selectboard reviewed and approved the following orders:

- WARRANT #13 \$11,803.56 payroll
- WARRANT #14 \$28,177.90 accounts payable

HIGHWAY UPDATE

1. Dave Tatro said he has contacted the street sweeper for the yearly spring sweeping. The highway crew has been getting the grader and excavator ready for summer use.
2. Dave Tatro has been working with the state to determine an alternate project for the East Road culvert replacement grant that will cost less money for the town and still satisfy the state.
3. In preparation for the summer paving projects, Dave Tatro will be grading and checking ditches.
4. Mike Denault said the town will have to address Klondike Road. The Clarksburg side is getting really bad.

RECYCLING

Dave Tatro has been getting prices from other haulers in the area since dealing with Casella has become difficult. The board discussed buying a used roll off and hauling the trash and recycling ourselves now that there is a third highway laborer.

MOWING BIDS

The board discussed sending out bids. Last year they sent out bid letters to several contractors and only received two responses. Nancy Bushika would like to add spring cleanup along the north fence line and ditch area. They discussed having the highway department do the spring cleanup and repair the ruts from plowing. The board was pleased with last year's mowing contractor and will request a quote for mowing and spring cleanup from him for this year's work instead of going out to bid at this time.

UNIFORM MUNICIPAL EXCESS WEIGHT PERMIT

MOTION by John Dunn to approve and sign the Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit applications from Consolidated Communication, Camp Precast Concrete Products, Inc., Barrett Trucking, and QXO Inc.

SECONDED by Kurt Gamari. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The appropriate fees and insurance information were received from the applicants.

911 NUMBERING UPDATE

Bob Briggs submitted a list of all structures that either do not have a 911 number, or has a number that's not visible from the road. There are 83 buildings. Nancy Bushika will add names to list and the Select Board will work on the list. They discussed the best way to bring people into compliance.

SCHOOL PARKING LOT

Kurt Gamari spoke with the Supervisory Union Buildings Manager about the well. He pressure-tested the well and found no leaks. He feels the puddle at the school entrance is from melting snow and the water runoff from the roof. Dave Tatro feels the frost heave has gone down which is allowing the puddle to drain better. He feels correcting the drainage would require a ditch all the way to the river. The Buildings Manager is willing to meet with the board. Kurt Gamari will set something up.

SNOW MAINTENANCE

Dave Tatro took over the shoveling in front of the school when the last janitor left as a temporary solution until the school was able to hire another custodian. Mike Denault agreed that it is a job that should be discussed with the School Directors. There is tension between the Superintendent and the library. Kurt Gamari and Mike Denault agreed it is a push for control by the Supervisory Union. John Dunn suggested looking for another building in town to move the town office and library. Mike Denault said the school library couldn't exist on its own without the town library and its budget. Lisa Gramlin who is working with the Bennington County Regional Commission on a town survey offered to include questions about this matter in the survey. The Select Board will request a meeting with the School Directors and Library Trustees.

LOCAL OPTION TAX

Kurt Gamari is looking for other ways to bring revenue into the town besides property taxes. He advised that the laws have changed and Vermont towns can vote to institute a 1% local option tax. The 1% would be added to all purchases as an additional sales tax and meals and rooms tax in Stamford and the town would get 3/4 of the 1% back.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Kurt Gamari. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting ended at 7:21 p.m.

Kurt Gamari
Clerk

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REMINDERS

1. Townspeople should sign up with the state's free communications network, VT-Alert. You can sign up at 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 Lister, Energy Coordinator, Tree Warden, BCRC Representative to the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee, or Green Up Day Coordinator, should contact a Select Board 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.