

**Town of Stratton
Selectmen's Meeting
July 13, 2015**

Present: Selectmen: Al Dupell, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci and Kevin Robinson; Clerk – Kent Young; Windham County Sheriff, Keith Clark and Deputy Noah Rheume.

Al Dupell called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Orders were reviewed and signed.

Modifications to the Agenda: Add 1) Discussion of a Tax Sale request from the Delinquent Tax Collector and 2) Consider approval of the Fire Warden appointments. Greg Marcucci so moved. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred.

Sheriff's Contract: Sheriff Clark was present to discuss the renewal of the contract for this year. He explained some problems he has had with keeping officers and that Stratton's assigned officer recently resign with little notice. He has assigned a new officer, Noah Rheume, whom is present. Sheriff Clark introduced him to the Selectmen. The Selectmen had a question about previous monthly bills with low patrol hours logged in for Stratton. Sheriff Clark said the Selectmen could send those to him for a review and, if warranted, he will reimburse the Town. Additionally, he reviewed various clauses in the contract and explained their reasoning / meaning. Following the discussion, Sheriff Clark and Officer Rheume left the meeting. Greg Marcucci moved to renew the contract for 2015/16, Chris Liller seconded. All concurred and the Sheriff's contract was renewed.

Road Crew Issues: Town Garage Roof: The Selectmen reviewed a letter from the Town Attorney which laid out the Town's options in pursuing legal action to get the roof repaired correctly. The Town did not have a contract with ABC Building Co., which is responsible for the design; therefore, legal action would have to be taken against either the construction contractor or the architect. The Selectmen deliberated on their course of action and how it would affect a resolution to the problem before the coming winter. Chris Liller moved to discontinue pursuit of any legal action and move forward with repairs to the Town Garage Roof. Greg Marcucci seconded – all concurred. Chris Liller and Kent Young will contact VMS (previously Quin Co.) and request that they expedite installation of the membrane on the Town Garage roof (as previously discussed), which should mitigate the problem. The Clerk will contact the Town Attorney to inform him of their decision. **Access Permit:** The Selectmen reviewed a Temporary Access Permit Application from Jock Harvey for logging on the Tietjen Property on West Jamaica Rd.. The Road Foreman viewed the site and had given his approval and verbal permission had been obtained from three Selectmen prior to this meeting. The permit approval was confirmed and signed.

Fire Warden Positions: The Selectmen reviewed and approved the appointment of Kevin Robinson as Town Forest Fire Warden and Chris Liller as Deputy Forest Fire Warden – all signed the appointment paperwork. The Clerk will forward said paperwork to the Agency of Natural Resources for their finalization.

Tax Sale: The Delinquent Tax Collector requested permission to proceed with a tax sale of property owned by E&T Properties, who have been delinquent for two years. Chris Liller moved to proceed with the tax sale. Larry Bills seconded. All concurred.

Transfer Station: The Pay-As-You-Throw program went into effect on July 1, 2015. Al Dupell asked if the Selectmen were ready to hire Jason Dupell for the Transfer Station Attendant position permanently, as he has worked out his issues with Mt. Snow and can work both jobs. Greg Marcucci moved to hire Jason Dupell as the Transfer Station Attendant, a part-time position of approx. 24 hours / week. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred. The Selectmen then discussed reconfiguring the Transfer Station Office to be more convenient for the change in operations there. Al Dupell recommended adding an exterior door to the office. Kent Young recommended adding a booth, which can be heated and perhaps moveable. The Selectmen decided to hold the next meeting (July 27, 2015) at the Town Garage, so they can evaluate the site. The Clerk agreed to post a notice for the change to the meeting.

2014 Grand List: The Selectmen reviewed the closeout of the 2014 Grand List as no suits are pending. Larry Bills so moved. Chris Liller seconded. All signed the closeout.

Town Hall improvements: The Selectmen reviewed various designs submitted by Wood Signs of Dorset, for a sign to be placed at the Town Hall corner. The Selectmen would like for Mr. Farley of Wood Signs, to come to a meeting to review the site with them. The Clerk will contact Wood Signs to arrange a meeting. The Selectmen also agreed to have the Road Crew plant a new small tree (approx. 8 ft tall) suitable for decorating for the holidays, beside the Town Hall.

Meetinghouse Improvements: Ron Chiodi has nearly completed painting the meetinghouse. Chris Liller ordered two new custom-made doors – similar to the old doors, as one of the old doors has rotted out and must be replaced. He expects the doors to arrive in August, at which time Ron Chiodi will return to finish the job and paint the Schoolhouse. The Clerk relayed that he also asked Mr. Chiodi to give an estimate for painting the interior of the meetinghouse.

Tax Rate: The Selectmen reviewed the Treasurer's calculation for the 2015 / 16 tax rate. The total Tax Rate for homesteads is \$1.6983 (School Rate of 1.5578 + Municipal Rate of \$0.1405) and the total Tax Rate for non-residents is \$1.6970 (School Rate of 1.5565 + Municipal Rate of \$0.1405). Larry Bills so moved. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred and signed the new Tax Rates.

Homestead Late Filer Penalty: Larry Bills moved to set the Homestead late filing penalty at 8% for the current year. Greg Marcucci seconded – all concurred.

Minutes: Greg Marcucci moved to approve the Selectmen's minutes of June 22, 2015. Kevin Robinson seconded the motion – all concurred and the minutes were approved.

Adjourn: Larry Bills motioned to adjourn at 9:20p.m.. Greg Marcucci seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

David Kent Young