

## **Town of Stratton Selectman's Meeting**

July 22, 2024

**Present:** Selectman: Chair – Al Dupell, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci, and Boomer Walker; Kent Young – Clerk; Robert Fisher – Town Attorney; Otto Tarbell – property owner; Lynn MacNamara and Attorney, David Mears representing the Nature Conservancy; and Tom Oakley and Steve Petrik of the Vermont Trails Assoc..

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

**Modifications:** No modifications were made.

**Tarbell Property:** Otto Tarbell was present to ask for a letter from the Selectmen stating that the Town's Tax Map shows that he is being taxed for the acreage and location of his property as shown thereon. He is currently in a dispute with the National Forest regarding his boundary line. Attorney Robert Fisher addressed the issue. He agreed to create a document for the Selectmen regarding this issue if the Selectmen request him to do so. Chris Liller so moved. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred. Following this discussion, Mr. Tarbell left the meeting.

**Town Forest:** Lynn MacNamara and Attorney David Mears were present to discuss a dispute between the Town and the Nature Conservancy regarding usage of the Town Forest. Town Attorney, Robert Fisher recommended entering Executive Session to discuss this matter. Al Dupell asked for such a motion. Greg Marcucci so moved. Chris Liller seconded. All concurred. The Chair invited Lynn MacNamara, David Mears, Steve Petrik, Tom Oakley and Clerk, Kent Young to join said session. The session commenced at 7:35pm. At 8:10pm, Lynn MacNamara and David Mears left the session. At 8:42pm, Al Dupell asked for a motion to exit Executive Session. Greg Marcucci so moved. Boomer Walker seconded – all concurred. Executive Session ended – no decisions were made. At this time, Tom Oakley and Steve Petrik left the meeting.

**Road Crew Issues: SMS Signage:** Chris Liller asked for the Town Attorney's opinion regarding the signage discussion held at the June 24 Select Meeting, as he was unable to find regulations regarding signage for roller skiers, etc. He was concerned that signage may increase the Town's liability, should an incident occur. The Attorney stated that in most instances the town has immunity and that any signage will likely help. Various recommendations were discussed and the board agreed that larger caution signs should be set out by the coaches whenever training is in progress. Additionally, the attorney stated that this is an example of why VLCT PACIF is preferred over private insurance, as having private insurance could potentially void the immunity. Following this discussion, Attorney Fisher left the meeting. **Hydro-seeder:** The Foreman stated that the Town has an option to purchase the hydro-seeder recently rented. He thought this was a good idea as it is being offered to the Town for \$5000.00 by Mike Urquehart. Boomer Walker moved to approve the purchase. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred. **Guardrails:** Installation / repair will occur on July 23. **Paving:** The Road Foreman stated that the Ski Village entrance will be finished off this week and a small separate job, that he believes is necessary, will be made on the Access Rd., for an additional cost. Boomer Walker so moved. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred. **Transfer Station:** Scott Marquis has not yet returned, but should be able to resume his duties on July 28.

**Rec. Area:** Chris Liller will ask Steve Fletcher to attend the next meeting to discuss the Town Party at the Rec. Area scheduled for September 7. The Board also agreed to hold a site visit at the Rec. Area to consider changes to the layout and to discuss the pavilion project on August 26 at 6:30pm. All agreed. The board asked that Rob Wadsworth be invited to this meeting as well.

**Lister's Error and Omissions:** The Selectmen reviewed an Error and Omissions Stipulation regarding an assessment of Comcast equipment in Town from \$1,029,100.00 to \$1,245,800.00 as determined by PVR. Boomer moved to approve said change. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred and all signed said Stipulation.

**Town Hall Requests:** The Board considered the following requests: 1) Betsy Wadsworth for August 10 2) Bethany Chase for additional Line Dancing classes on Thursdays, August 8, 15, 22 and 29. And 3) The Wardsboro School Club for Bingo on October 5. The Selectmen concurred.

**Minutes:** Boomer Walker moved to approve the Selectman's minutes of July 8, 2024. Greg Marcucci seconded. All concurred.

**Adjourn:** Greg Marcucci moved to adjourn at 9:15pm. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred.

Minutes by:

*David Kent Young*