

Town of Stratton Selectman's Meeting

June 24, 2024

Present: Selectman: Chair – Al Dupell, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci, and Boomer Walker; Kent Young – Clerk; Robert Fisher, Town Attorney; Carson Thurber and Maria Stuber of Stratton Mountain School; and Steve Petrik of Southern Vermont Trail Assoc. (SVTA).

7:30 pm: Al Dupell called the meeting to order, orders were reviewed and signed - no agenda modifications made.

Stratton Mountain School: Carson Thurber, headmaster, and Maria Stuber, trainer, were in attendance as requested by the Selectmen to discuss the safety of students who train on roller skis along Town roads. The Board expressed their concern that trainees grouped in long rows, which make it dangerous for cars to pass on the narrow winding roads in Town – especially Mountain Rd. and West Jamaica Rd. Additional, the discussion included the consideration of better signage – perhaps solar-powered signs that can be enabled from a phone app by coaches – so to warn drivers of training in progress. The school and Road Foreman will look into this option. At a future meeting, Mr. Thurber agreed to provide updated guidelines for road use by said trainees. Following the discussion, Carson Turber and Maria Stuber left the meeting.

Town Forest: Attorney Robert Fisher was present to discuss the concerns the Nature Conservancy (NC) has about last year's construction of the SoVTA trail network in the Town Forest. Following a discussion, the Selectmen agreed to have the Attorney invite NC personnel to attend a future Selectmen's meeting. A full board will next likely be present at the August 26 meeting. The Attorney agreed. The Board also agreed that the sign, as specified in the deed, be installed at the entrance to the Town Forest. Steve Petrick agreed to have said sign installed. At this time, Steve Petrik left the meeting.

Open Meeting Law: Robert Fisher provided the board with instructions regarding new requirements for open meetings, which go into effect on July 1, 2024. Following the briefing, Robert Fisher left the meeting.

Road Crew Issues: Propane: the board signed contracts / agreements for each of the three buildings for which Nido will provide propane and maintenance. The board will allow the Treasurer to calculate the gallonage required for each building based, on the previous year's usage + 20%, for the pre-buy agreements. Boomer Walker so moved. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred and the Chair signed the agreements. **Culvert / Paving:** The Foreman stated that the culvert work on Strat.-Arl. Rd. is complete and the paving project will soon be finished once the last section of the top layer is applied. **Transfer Station:** Scott Marquis notified the Road Foreman that he will be able to return to his duties next week. Chris Liller stated that he has acquired the necessary packaging for fluorescent bulbs and batteries for their disposal. Randy Dapron has agreed to attend the July 8 meeting. **Grading:** The Grader currently is being repaired. Once it is ready, grading will commence on various roads in need of it. **Rec. Area:** Greg Marcucci stated that Grayson Peterson is willing to perform some work on the ballfield. He can attend the next meeting. In discussion, the board agreed that this field should be set up for soft ball / little league. Greg Marcucci said he also had asked Devon Marcucci to contact local parents for ideas regarding improvements to the playground. The Road Crew recently removed some of the playground equipment there that was in disrepair or damaged and unsafe.

Outside Audit: The board reviewed and approved the Audit Engagement letter authorizing Sullivan, Powers and Co. to perform the annual audit. Boomer Walker so moved. Larry Bills seconded - All members signed said letters.

Salary Review and Personal Time Review: The Selectmen agreed to raise all salaries for Town employees by approx.. 3%, which equates to \$1.60 per hour – this amount applied across the board. The Board also reviewed the Personal Time calculations for employees, as presented by the Treasurer. Boomer Walker moved to approve both these items. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred and signed the Personal Time calculation document.

Minutes: Boomer Walker moved to approve the Selectman's minutes of June 10, 2024. Larry Bills seconded. All concurred.

Adjourn: Boomer Walker moved to adjourned at 9:45pm. Greg Marcucci seconded – all concurred.

Minutes by: *David Kent Young*