

# Town of Stratton Selectmen's Meeting

August 28, 2017

**Present:** Selectmen: Chair - Al Dupell, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, and Kevin Robinson; Sheriff Keith Clark; Rob Wadsworth and Chris Mann of Vermont Barns; property owners - Paul and Judith Sargent; and Clerk – Kent Young.

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

**Modifications:** Internet Service and Sheriff's Patrol discussions were added to the agenda.

**Internet Service:** Paul and Judith Sargent requested the Selectmen to pursue a request to the new management of Fairpoint Communications, which was bought out by Consolidated Communications, for the installation of fiber optics into the Town – from the service point currently located at the Snow Mountain Farms entrance in Wardsboro to the service panel located at the Town Hall. The intent is to provide better, faster and additional internet service to the Town, since currently the system is at maximum capacity and at a low quality, since some customers are supplied by copper lines, up to about five miles away. Residents beyond that get no service at all. The Selectmen are aware of the problem. The Clerk agreed to write a letter to the new management for the Selectmen, requesting said improvements and he will try to get the Town's Representative and the Governor to address this issue as well. At this time, Paul and Judith Sargent left the meeting.

**Sheriff's Patrols:** Sheriff Keith Clark attended the meeting to discuss the Sheriff's report issue noted at the last meeting. He explained that there had been some departmental discrepancies in managing the reporting process of patrols. He felt that the Sheriff's department had not provided Stratton with what was contracted; therefore, he refunded the Town for last month's charge of \$2916.66. He said he would cancel the bill for August and he would not bill for September, thereby providing three months of service at no charge. Sheriff Clark stated that he will continue to evaluate the situation and if he feels that the department cannot continue to provide Stratton with the services promised, he will notify the Selectmen of his intent to terminate the contract. He also stressed that if the Selectmen do not think the Sheriff's Dept. is providing the services they contracted for, they can do the same. Al Dupell added that the Town had requested varied patrols to include evening and night patrols. Sheriff Clark agreed and said it is his intention to meet his commitments. He wants the Town to be satisfied with the Sheriff's Dept.'s services. The Selectmen thanked him and at this time, Sheriff Clark left the meeting.

**Rec. Area Pavilion:** Rob Wadsworth and Chris Mann were present to discuss the design of the structure. Rob Wadsworth presented a design based on information the Selectmen had already provided. He estimated that the post and beam structure on a 40' x 60' slab could be constructed for about \$200,000.00. The Selectmen said that currently the Town has set aside about \$70,000.00 and that additional funding would have to be budgeted for and discussed at the next Town Meeting – this may be something we will need to postpone by two years in order to appropriate the needed funds. The discussion continued with suggestions to offer options of a smaller structure – it was recommended to reduce it to 32' x 50', or to design a structure that can be built in stages, as well as different types of structures. The Selectmen also wanted to include a barbeque pit as part of the structure. It was noted that a restroom should be included there as part of the project, since the existing restroom is far up the hill from this site. The Clerk stated that this is an Act 250 project, and therefore, all parts of the project should be applied for together under the same Act 250 amendment. **Power:** The installation of power lines into the ball field area remains on hold – the Clerk said that he will complete the paperwork for the Act 250 permit for the installation. Following the discussion, Rob Wadsworth and Chris Mann left the meeting.

**Road Crew Issues: Culverts:** The Road Crew continues to replace culverts on Stratton-Arlington Rd. **Sweeper:** Chris Liller said he had a buyer for the sweeper. The Selectmen agreed to sell it, if it could not be modified for use by the Road Crew. **Security Systems:** Chris Liller stated that George Wilson had

begun work on converting the security system at the garage. Mr. Wilson had also relayed that some of the existing cameras there might be able to be used at the Town Hall.

**Subdivision Regulations Revision:** The Clerk stated that he had warned the public hearing for September 11, 2017.

**Internal Control Checklist:** Larry Bills moved to authorize Chairman, Al Dupell to sign the Internal Control Checklist, parts 1 & 2. Chris Liller seconded. All concurred and Al Dupell sign said documents.

**Minutes:** Larry Bills moved to approve the Selectmen's Minutes of August 14, 2017. Chris Liller seconded the motion. All concurred and the minutes were approved.

**Adjourn:** Larry Bills motioned to adjourn at 8:45p.m.. Chris Liller seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

*David Kent Young*