

Town of Stratton Selectmen's Meeting

May 22, 2023

Present: Selectmen: Al Dupell, chair, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci and Boomer Walker; and Kent Young – Clerk.

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

Modifications – No modifications were made.

Road Crew Issues: The Road Foreman relayed that the Town had been approved unexpectedly for the Paving Grant this year. He would like to use the grant funding for either extending the approved paving project on the Stratton Mountain Access Rd. southeasterly from the intersection with Shattarack Rd. to the intersection with Mountain Rd., approximately $\frac{7}{10}$ of a mile, or paving the Stratton-Arlington Rd. beginning where last year's paving project had ended (approx. at 497 Strat.-Arl. Rd.) northwesterly to the West Jamaica Rd. intersection. The latter project will require the replacement of about seven culverts and extensive grinding / milling of the extremely thick pavement that exists there, which will require additional funds from the Town to complete the work necessary. One other option is to put the grant toward the currently approved paving project and wait until next year to use existing paving funds. The Selectmen were concerned of the expected increase in paving costs next year and would prefer to do additional paving this year. They also thought that the preparational work on the Strat.-Arl. Rd. would take excessive time to complete, and so they decided that the Road Crew should instead work to complete culvert replacements throughout this summer if it can be patch-paved before winter, and then pave that section completely next summer. Greg Marcucci moved to go with the first option – to extend the project on the Stratton Mountain Access Rd., as proposed above. Boomer Walker seconded. All concurred. The Road Foreman then summarized the plans for Stratton Corp. to install sleeving, etc. for propane utilities across the road and to identify locations of existing lines so that paving can commence without delay or interruption in mid-June.

Grants-In-Aid: Al Dupell signed the Grants-In-Aid agreement paperwork to have the town work with the Windham Regional Commission in performing the pre-construction meeting and plan so that these expenses will be covered by the 2023 MRPG grant. **Grout Pond Rd. Improvements:** The Road Foreman informed the board that the grant /project is in place and scheduled for work to commence in 2026.

Town Office: Chris Liller brought up that the mini-split air-conditioning unit installed last year on the west wall requires a cover to protect it from the snow that slides off of the roof. Greg Marcucci said that the boiler vent, which is located within that same vicinity, should be covered as well. The Board agreed to have Paul Bernard install an adequate cover this summer if he agrees to do so.

Listers' Extension: The Board reviewed an approval letter from the VT Dept. of Taxes, Director of Property Valuation and Review, allowing for a 30-day extension of the Listers' submittal of the abstract as requested at their prior meeting.

Minutes: Chris Liller moved to approve the Selectmen's minutes of May 8, 2023. Boomer Walker seconded – all concurred.

Landscaping: The Board reviewed a request from Diane Schwippert to allow for reapproved payment by the Treasurer for her purchases of plants and accessories for town property landscaping. The Selectmen agreed, but will leave it to the discretion of the treasurer and also asked that an attempt be made to establish a charge account with the business(es) where she intends to make said purchases.

Adjourn: Greg Marcucci moved to adjourn at 7:55pm. Boomer Walker seconded and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

David Kent Young