

**Town of Stratton**  
**Selectmen's Meeting**  
**March 12, 2012**

**Members present:** Selectmen – Al Dupell, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci, Kevin Robinson; Road Foreman – Ralph Staib; and Clerk – Kent Young.

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

**Penny Ave. Bridge Replacement:** Ralph Staib said that the bids for replacement of the Penny Ave. Bridge have been put on hold, because the Structures division of VTrans needed to provide additional information concerning the bidding specifications. He is in contact with Dan Landry from that department, who will help with continuing the process. It was noted that the Town should also hire a Bridge Inspector, independent from the Engineering Co. that designed it. Additionally, clarifications must be made for a completion date as well as the structure itself. Previous to the last meeting, a contractor had asked about a change. Ralph Staib asked what deviation from the plans will be allowed and the Selectmen concurred to follow the plans as designed. The Selectmen reviewed a consulting contract submitted by the Engineering Co. that designed the bridge – McFarland Johnson. The Selectmen agreed to await further information from VTrans before approving any contract. Once better specifications have been included in the bid, the process will continue. The Clerk stated that about 15 companies are interested in bidding the project.

**Town Garage:** Quinn Co. has reworked the vapor barrier to comply with the specifications – some insulation was checked and the highest support beam was also sprayed with foam insulation to ensure the seal. They will continue to check it to ensure that it stays dry. The Selectmen continue to be dissatisfied with the heating system. The current resolution of moving in cold air to lower the humidity seems to defeat the efforts put into insulating the building. Energy bills seem to be excessive. Greg Marcucci again stressed that the heating system does not seem to operate correctly. The radiant in the floor remains cool, while heat apparently is being provided by the flow through the modines, which is too low for the blowers to kick on during a routine winter day. When temperature is low enough in the building to activate the blowers, they blow cool air because the system temperature is set low. They are not “quick recovery” heaters as was the Town’s intention for having them installed. The Selectmen concurred to have a meeting with all parties involved – the Architect, Quinn Co., the Mechanical Engineer, and High Tech, to discuss a resolution to close out the project. Chris Liller and the Clerk will contact the Architect. Chris Liller stated that Countryside Lock and Alarm has installed all cameras. There was a question about zoning the building and using only heat detectors – the Selectmen agreed to have only one zone and keep only the heat detectors, since smoke detectors can cause problems in a garage. This system should be fully operational soon.

**FEMA Compensation update:** The Clerk stated that he, the Road Foreman and FEMA continue to submit packages for compensation. The Town has received some funds, approx. \$30,000.00 for what has been submitted to date.

**FLEET Permits:** The Selectmen reviewed and approved excess weight permits for Lawrence White Const. and David Chavez Excavating. Greg Marcucci so moved. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred. The Chairman signed the permits.

**Minutes:** Greg Marcucci moved to approve the minutes of February 27, 2012 and the Organizational Meeting of March 6, 2012. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred.

**Road Crew issues:** The Selectmen asked the Road Foreman to raise the directional sign at the end of Mountain Rd., so that it is out of reach of potential vandals. Chris Liller moved to allow the Road Foreman to post roads as necessary. Kevin Robinson seconded – all concurred. Ralph Staib said that

he was applying for grants for culverts and for paving Strat-Arl Rd. from Joe Jelly Hill to Grout Pond Rd. intersection. He is also prioritizing structures that need to be replaced as requested by VTrans.

**Delinquent Tax Complaint:** The Selectmen reviewed a letter from Jan Chizinski complaining about the delinquent fee. The Chairman commented that this was an issue between the Delinquent Tax Collector and the Taxpayer and not a Select Board issue. General consensus was that anyone per the Statute – even Select Board members – would be obliged to pay this delinquency penalty had they been late with their taxes. The Clerk also noted that the Town is subject to an 8% penalty for the 12+ million we send to the State, if we are a day late in making that payment.

**Reapportionment:** The Clerk said that he had submitted the petition for reconsideration of the Town's assignment to the Bennington 3 District to Town Attorney, Robert Fisher, who will draw up the appropriate paperwork and forward the petition to the State for consideration by the Supreme Court.

**Town Service Officer:** Larry Bills moved to reappoint Helen Fuller Eddy as Town Service Officer. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred and signed the paperwork.

**Town Hall use:** The Selectmen reviewed a request from Candie Bernard to reserve the Town Hall for May 2 thru 6, 2012. The Clerk said that Connie Montemagni no longer needed it on May 5. Greg Marcucci so moved. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred.

**Adjourn:** Chris Liller motioned to adjourn at 9:10p.m.. Kevin Robinson seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

*David Kent Young*