

**Town of Stratton  
Selectmen's Meeting  
November 13, 2023**

**Present:** Selectmen: Al Dupell, chair, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci and Boomer Walker; Steve Petrik and Michael Garber of SoVTA; Tim Jones of Green Mountain Power; Gary Montemagni and Nick Hanhan of Triple Tree Lodge and Kent Young, Clerk.

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

**Modifications:** No modifications made.

**Green Mountain Power:** Tim Jones of Green Mountain Power was present to continue discussion of installing new power lines from the Sun Bowl down to 354 Mountain Rd. underground. The Selectmen had made a site visit and the Road Foreman had visited a similar GMP job in Newfane. It appears that the equipment will be able to put the line into the ledge along Mountain Rd.. The existing box culvert locations will need to have overhead power and any work that compromises small culverts will require adequate repairs or replacements to be made by GMP under the Town's supervision. The Road Foreman believes that at least four culverts will need to be replaced. With snow expected in the coming weeks, GMP and the Selectmen agreed to wait until May of 2024 to perform the installation; therefore, Mr. Jones will return prior to that time with the necessary plans and paperwork. The board will likely give their approval for the project at that time. Following the discussion, Tim Jones left the meeting.

**Town Forest Snowmobile Trail and SoVTA trail work:** Gary Montemagni, Nick Hanhan of Triple Tree Lodge, and Steve Petrik and Mike Garber of SoVTA were present to discuss work on the Snowmobile Trail through the Town Forest. Mr. Montemagni intends to move in a small excavator to perform some of the trailwork. Steve Petrik pointed out some of the wet locations that Mr. Montemagni will need to be careful with to comply with State permitting. Also, the Town will have the State look at one culvert replacement to ensure it is replaced with an adequate culvert. The Clerk stated that Nature Conservancy, which was involved in transferring the Town Forest to the Town, is now aware of the current projects. This organization typically monitors such properties to ensure that all deed restrictions are followed. They currently have concerns about the trails being used for purposes other than foot trails. A representative of the Nature Conservancy would like to meet with the board to discuss this issue. The board agreed that the Town Attorney should be involved and asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting when both parties can attend. The Clerk agreed. Following the discussion, Mr. Montemagni, Mr. Hanhan, Mr. Petrik and Mr. Garber left the meeting.

**Road Crew Issues: Paving:** with exception of one small culvert crossing on Strat-Arl Rd., all the patch paving for the year has been completed. **Grout Pond Rd.:** The Selectmen agreed and the Chair signed an agreement for the reimbursement method and amount for the consultant regarding said project – Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. was hired at a cost of \$87,733.00, which is inclusive in the approved grant. **Culverts:** The Road Foreman stated that the State will look at culvert replacements on Mountain Rd., as well as the culvert at the top of Penny Ave., which are to be replaced in the near future. **Transfer Station:** Chris Liller recommended the board approve hiring Mark Ellison of Wardsboro as a temporary back up for the Transfer Station Attendant, as he is willing to fill in occasionally. He knows the routines of the job, as he recently retired from this same job in Wardsboro. Greg Marcucci so moved. Boomer Walker seconded – all concurred. Chris Liller will have him come into the office to complete the necessary paperwork for the Treasurer to process. Chris Liller said he will also ask DR Holton if he would be interested in filling in as the attendant, when needed, as he is already on the Town's payroll as a Town officer. The Board agreed. **Opening roads for Snowmobile usage:** After a discussion, the board agreed to table this discussion until further notice. **Sheriff's Patrol:** The Selectmen reviewed the rates for patrolling by the Sheriff's Office. The board is not interested in contracting at this time.

**VT Declaration of Inclusion** – The board reviewed a request to discuss adopting said declaration and agreed to meet with a representative on November 27.

**Budget Meeting:** The Board agreed to hold the annual budget meeting on December 11, 2023, as part of their regular meeting.

**Minutes:** Boomer Walker moved to approve the Selectmen's minutes of October 23 and October 26, 2023. Greg Marcucci seconded – all concurred.

**Adjourn:** Greg Marcucci moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

*David Kent Young*