

**Town of Stratton
Selectmen's Meeting
January 23, 2023**

Present: Selectmen: Al Dupell, chair, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci and Boomer Walker; Alyson Peterson – Treasurer, Realtor, Ginnie Read and Kent Young – Clerk.

7:40pm: Al Dupell called the meeting to order. Orders were reviewed and signed.

Modifications – The Board agreed to add the following items to the agenda: Consideration of 1) acquiring a land parcel for a potential gravel pit 2) FLEET permits.

Jamaica Gravel Pit: Ginnie Read was present to propose that Stratton consider the purchase of a large parcel of land within the Town of Jamaica near the Stratton Town line off of Forrester Rd. which potentially could be used as a gravel pit – a source for materials needed by the town for road maintenance, etc... The current owners have many of the necessary requirements in place for the Act 250 permit that would be required for said property to be used as a pit. She said that it may be within the Town's interest to purchase said lot independently or with other Towns such as Dover, VT. Ms. Read presented various facts about the property after which she left the meeting. Following a brief discussion, the Selectmen decided that it is not within the interests of Stratton to purchase and operate such a business. The board concluded that it would be better operated privately; however, the Town certainly would be interested in purchasing materials from the pit in the event that it obtains the proper permitting and becomes operational.

2023 Annual Meeting preparations: The Treasurer was present to answer any questions regarding the finalized budget amounts included within the Town Meeting Warning for March 7, 2023. With no questions, the Selectmen considered approval of the Warning and each member signed to approve it. The Clerk will post the approved Warning in accordance with the statues and include it within the Town Report.

Personnel Policy: The Treasurer was present to participate in a continued discussion from the previous meeting, regarding changes to the personnel policy regarding pay. Clarifications are needed to resolve questions raised by the Outside Auditors. As previously requested, the Road Foreman had sought out policies of other Towns and recommended clarification on the call-in policy. Office staff had also made suggestions regarding pay that affects elected officials / office and part-time staff. The following recommendation was made as an amendment to Stratton's Personnel Policy: Call-ins for Road Crew Personnel – if a member of the Road Crew is called in outside of regular hours, they shall be compensated for a minimum of three hours at an overtime rate (1.5 times their hourly rate). If said call-in occurs on a holiday, the pay rate shall be double their hourly rate. In regard to the calculation of Personal Time for office staff/ elected officials and other part-time positions: 1) Personal Time shall be prorated for an average 32-hour work week, unless the average hours worked per week calculated from the previous year is less than 32 hours, in which case that value shall be used to calculate Personal Time. 2) Personal Time cannot be used to bring the hours worked during any given work week above 32 hours (employees can work in excess of 32 hours in a work week, but Personal Time shall not be used in those instances unless specifically authorized by the Selectmen.) This policy change is effective immediately. If for the year ending June 30, 2023, employees cannot use all of their acquired Personal Time, they may negotiate with the Selectmen for compensation. Boomer Walker so moved. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred.

Road Crew Issues: Chris Liller reported that the correct coupling for the loader has been installed. Salt continues to be ordered and delivered as necessary. **Transfer Station:** The Foreman stated the attendant is out again this week. Al Dupell agreed to cover the position during his absence. **FLEET Permits:** The Board agreed to approve permits for: 1) Frost Wells and Pumps and 2) Newport Sand and Gravel, Inc./ Carroll Concrete Co., Inc. Al Dupell signed the permits. **Snowmobile usage of Town Roads:** Boomer Walker moved to rescind the decision to allow said usage on any Town road for the remainder of this winter. Chris Liller seconded – all concurred.

Town Hall: The Selectmen considered requests from Tim Bills for February 4 and the Pathfinders Snowmobile Club for February 11. Boomer Walker moved to approve said requests. Greg Marcucci seconded – all concurred.

Minutes: Greg Marcucci moved to approve the Selectmen’s minutes of January 9, 2023. Boomer Walker seconded – all concurred.

Adjourn: Greg Marcucci moved to adjourn at 8:45pm. Boomer Walker seconded – all concurred and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

David Kent Young