

Town of Stratton Selectmen's Meeting

August 11, 2014

Members present: Selectmen – Al Dupell, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci and Kevin Robinson; Road Foreman – Ralph Staib; Assistant Treasurer – Candie Bernard; Bookkeeper – Terri Garland; and Clerk - Kent Young.

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

Agenda Modification: Kent Young recommended that a discussion concerning a VLCT-PACIF insurance inspection at the Recreation Area be discussed. Chris Liller so moved. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred.

Recreation Area: The Clerk stated that he attended a walkthrough of the area with Wade Masur of VLCT. Discrepancies that need attention include installation of appropriate handrails on the stairs to the playground and on the stairs to the ball field. The ball field steps need to be refilled with gravel. The warming hut GFI outlet trip test did not work properly and may be incorrectly wired. The GFI outlet beside the restroom did not function properly when trip tested. The fire extinguisher in the maintenance building had not been inspected in many years and needs to be moved to a more accessible location. The teeter totter on the playground had heaved, exposing concrete – it needs to be reset and the pea stone on the playground needs to be replenished in spots to the acceptable depth. The Road Crew agreed to work on those projects. The Selectmen also decided that the dugouts at the ball field do not need to be insured for replacement.

Kidder Brook culvert replacement: The road crew reported that the road has been closed and work is in progress. The crane is scheduled to arrive on Wednesday. Hopefully the rain scheduled for midweek will not hinder the job. Ralph Staib reported that several small culverts on Mountain Rd. are being replaced while the road is closed. The Selectmen reviewed a list of complaints about the project made by John Nault. The project, however, seems to be progressing according to schedule.

Town Garage Roof Repair: Chris Liller reported that the repairs have not yet started, but that VMS Const. should be coming to do the job very soon.

Garage Security System: Ralph Staib reported that Countryside Lock and Alarm had come to spec the lighting and camera. There is still deviation between the placement which the board had discussed with the owner, Mike Blais, and the recommendations from the technician who came to spec the lighting. Al Dupell said that the light needs to be on the gate. Chris Liller reported that he had modified the security system cabinet, but that he still needs to add a HEPA filter to it to comply with the technician's specifications.

Stratton Mountain Access Rd. Culvert Replacements: Kent Young said that Stratton Corp. requested that they be notified of future intentions of culvert work on the Access Rd., as they would like to work with the town since these culverts may affect Styles Brook water quality. The Selectmen agreed to inform Stratton Corp. of any future replacement plans prior to replacement.

Financial Issues: 2013 Single Audit: Candie Bernard and Terri Garland were present to discuss the 2013 Single Audit and the \$200,000.00 difference between the NEMRC generated general ledger for the General Fund and the actual bank account statements. Terri Garland stated that in her opinion, as well as in Lori Boyd's opinion (she works for NEMRC), the \$200,000.00 difference was caused by uncorrected errors which drop out of the NEMRC program if not corrected in a timely manner and, therefore, cannot be fixed. They both believe that the difference was not a result of fraudulent activity. Terri Garland and Lori Boyd had gone back through to 2009 and found errors that added up to over \$200,000.00. Ms. Garland asked if the Selectmen want her and Candie Bernard to continue searching prior years for more

mistakes. The Selectmen agreed that they were satisfied with this explanation and, unless unforeseen circumstances dictate, there is currently no need to pursue this issue further. Kent Young went over a draft auditors' report for the 2013 Single Audit, submitted by auditors, Pace & Hawley, and addressed some of the actions required by the Selectmen to finalize the report. Al Dupell reviewed and signed the Management Representation letter for the audit and the Selectmen reviewed and concurred with statements of management response / corrective action plans for two issues highlighted by the auditor requiring action – namely the discrepancy in the reconciliation as discussed above, and the failure of the town to submit the audit by the required deadline to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. The Clerk will forward these documents to Pace & Hawley. **2013/4 closeout:** Terri Garland asked for direction concerning various line-items. The Selectmen directed her to allow the Town Hall maintenance surplus to roll into the General Fund, and to ensure expenses for work on Penny Ave. during winter and spring were taken from the Penny Ave. savings. Kent Young added that the School Board has a bill they would like paid out of last year if possible, which they will consider at their meeting of August 19.

Meeting Minutes: Greg Marcucci moved to approve the minutes of July 28 with a correction to “Financial Issues: Online Banking:” by replacing “Chittenden Bank” with Citizens Bank.” Chris Liller seconded – all concurred.

Adjourn: Kevin Robinson motioned to adjourn at 8:40p.m.. Chris Liller seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

David Kent Young

Town Clerk