

**Town of Stratton
Selectmen's Meeting
July 28, 2014**

Members present: Selectmen –Larry Bills, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci and Kevin Robinson (Al Dupell arrived at 7:35pm); Road Foreman – Ralph Staib; Assistant Treasurer – Candie Bernard; Clerk - Kent Young; Brian Knowles of Jancewicz & Son; Officer Tyler Cooke of the Windham County Sheriff's Dept..

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

Meetinghouse Repairs: Brian Knowles of Jancewicz & Son presented their proposal for repairs to the Stratton Meetinghouse Belfry and roof replacement. Mr. Knowles gave a detailed presentation of the condition of the belfry and roof and their recommendations for correcting these issues. He recommended replacing the belfry roof with copper, which will last for a very long time. He presented a proposal for replacement of the main roof at \$18,997.00 and another for the belfry repair and roof replacement at \$16,772.00. This project had been bid out last year with no interested contractor replying. This year, Brattleboro Roofing responded to another request, but only bid on the roof replacement. With this situation under consideration, the Selectmen agreed to accept the Jancewicz & Son's all-inclusive proposal. Chris Liller so moved. Greg Marcucci seconded. All concurred. The Selectmen were presented with a selection of *Certainteed Hatteras* shingles for the main roof and chose "Windswept Gray." The Selectmen also agreed to issue payment of one-third of the bid (\$11,923.00) immediately, to secure the contract, so that materials can be ordered. Kevin Robinson so moved. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred. Mr. Knowles gave a project timeline as October. Following this decision, Brian Knowles left the meeting.

Financial Issues: Online Banking: Candie Bernard was present to request guidance on two issues. First, she explained the upcoming new online banking security requirement being initiated by our Bank, Chittenden Bank, for two people to create and release wire transfers, such as Direct Deposits, or for the acceptance of automatic tax payments. She explained that in the past it only required one authorized person to perform these tasks. The bank had relayed that they will allow small towns to have a single person perform both parts of these two-step tasks, but they will be required to log in twice using different passwords and two different security tokens. Candie Bernard stated that she is willing to do it that way, and the Selectmen agreed. **2013 Audit:** Candie Bernard informed the Selectmen that the Audit is still ongoing and that the Town continues to provide the Auditors with requested information. In regard to the discrepancies between NEMRC accounting and the Town's bank statements, Lori Boyd of NEMRC had reviewed back to 2010 and found several mistakes which, combined, nearly equate to the discrepancies the Auditors need to account for, before finalizing their Audit. The bookkeeper, Terri Garland, had suggested that she and Candie Bernard could go back several years to document the discrepancies; however, her time is limited and it is important to resolve these issues so that the Audit can be completed soon. Candie Bernard recommended that the Town again hire Lori Boyd of NEMRC to continue research and complete a report on this matter, acceptable for the Auditors to finish their audit. The Selectmen agreed. Following the discussion, Candie Bernard left the meeting.

Police Coverage: Officer Tyler Cooke attended and made a monthly report to the Selectmen, after which Officer Cooke left the meeting.

Road Crew Issues: Kidder Brook Culvert replacement: Weaver Const. intends to start the project and close the road on August 1. The Clerk noted that the signs at either end of Mountain Rd. which state when the closure will occur, are too small and therefore hard to read. The Selectmen said they want to have signage in place on Rte. 100 and Rte. 30 and other connecting roads which will adequately inform the public of the closure. Ralph Staib will contact Weaver Const. about this discrepancy. The Selectmen asked the Clerk to contact Bill Nupp of Stratton Corp. to see if it is possible for homeowners on the north side of the road closure to use the resort's dumpsters for trash disposal while the road is closed. The

Clerk agreed. **Ongoing Road Work: Paving:** Fuller Sand and Gravel paved the eastern end of Stratton-Arlington Rd. and will return this week to finish the accesses onto the new pavement. They did not give a schedule for their return to do the Stratton Mountain Access Rd.. **Garage Security System:** Ralph Staib said that Countryside Lock and Alarm will be working on the security system upgrade on Tuesday, July 29. **Garage Roof:** Chris Liller relayed that VMS (formerly Quinn Co.) intends to repair the garage roof in approximately two weeks.

Town Office Copiers: The Clerk stated that the leases on the Town copiers are expiring very soon. Ricoh is offering a lease of two new machines, similar to the present machines for approximately \$100.00 less per month than the current lease. He would like the Selectmen to approve this new lease. Larry Bills so moved. Greg Marcucci seconded – all concurred.

Meeting Minutes: Greg Marcucci moved to approve the minutes of July 14 and July 22, 2014. Larry Bills seconded. All concurred.

Adjourn: Kevin Robinson motioned to adjourn at 9:05p.m.. Chris Liller seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

David Kent Young

Town Clerk