

# Town of Stratton Selectmen's Meeting

July 27, 2020

**Present:** Selectmen: Al Dupell – Chair, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, and Greg Marcucci; residents – Lorraine Weeks-Newell and Candie Bernard; and Clerk – Kent Young.

Al Dupell called the meeting to order at 7:30pm at the Stratton Town Hall. Orders were reviewed and signed. The agenda was amended to add: 1) Town Hall / Meetinghouse Use 2) Internet Hotspot at the Town Hall 3) Retail signage request and 4) Fire Alarm fee collection.

**Retail Signage:** Lorraine Weeks-Newell requested permission to place a sign at the intersection of Mountain Rd. and West Jamaica Rd., advertising that her business, The Stratton Parsonage” is about two miles up the road. She presented a drawing of the proposed 2 ft. x 18” sign. Chris Liller said that it will need to be placed on a break-away sign post. The Selectmen agreed to allow it and approved the sign design and the placement. The Road Crew will provide guidance. Chris Liller so moved. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred.

**Road Crew Issues: Little Kidder Brook culvert replacement:** The culvert project is complete. Paving was finished at the end of last week. Fitzpatrick Excavating submitted an invoice for \$230,000.00. This was broken out into \$210,000.00 to complete the culvert project as per the contract, \$8,000.00 to stone-line the adjacent ditching, which falls under a different State Grant program, and an additional \$12,000.00 for gravel (\$20.00 / cubic yard) hauled in to replace material removed from the location that did not meet the Engineer's standards. Chris Liller moved to approve payment of said invoice. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred. The Clerk stated that the Treasurer will pay the bill and then draw up an order to be signed at the next meeting. Chris Liller said that he will get certification letters from ANR and the Engineer for the installation.

**Tax Rate:** The Treasurer submitted the calculated tax rates for this fiscal year: The Education Tax Rates: Homestead at \$1.6459 and Non-Homestead at \$1.6965 were provided by the State. The Municipal Rate was calculated at \$0.2002. This was higher than usual because Revenues may be down considerably, so the estimate for said revenues was set very low. These rates result in the following Total Tax Rates: **Homestead at \$1.8461** and **Non-Homestead at \$1.8967**. Greg Marcucci moved to approve and Chris Liller seconded – all the Selectmen present concurred and signed the Order to approve these rates.

**Town Hall / Meetinghouse Usage:** Connie Montemagni requested use of the Meetinghouse for the wedding of their daughter, Cassie, on Thursday October 1, 2020. They will have only close family attend. Additionally, Lori Lovering of Wardsboro asked permission to leave an RV unattended at the Town Hall parking lot over the weekend of August 14 through 16. The Board then discussed a request to allow VTEL to establish an internet hot-spot at the Town Hall – all were in agreement. In regard to these requests, Larry Bills moved to approve. Greg Marcucci seconded – all concurred.

**Fire Alarm fees:** The Selectmen discussed receipt of a phone call from Ms. Katz about her fees. Al Dupell said that he will have the Fire Chief discuss it with her before the Selectmen make a determination of how to proceed.

**Minutes:** Greg Marcucci moved to approve the Selectmen's Minutes of July 13, 2020. Larry Bills seconded. The minutes were approved.

**Adjourn:** Chris Liller motioned to adjourn at 8:00p.m.. Greg Marcucci seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by: *David Kent Young*