Town of Stratton Selectmen's Meeting November 14, 2022

Present: Selectmen: Al Dupell, chair, Larry Bills, Chris Liller, and Greg Marcucci; Steve Petrik of SoVTA and Kent Young – Clerk.

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

Modifications – No modifications were made.

Southern Vermont Trail System: Steve Petrik was present to present a map of the proposed trail for the Recreation Area and to discuss continuing steps to open trails in the Town Forest. **Rec. Area**: Mr. Petrik stated that he is applying for a \$15,000.00 grant for this trail within the next week. He presented the map to display the trail through the Rec. Area, a loop within the woods beginning at the existing trail called Hescock Loop North, paralleling Old Town Rd. and returning on the opposite side down to Hescock Loop South. Building the trail will disturb approx. 1.2 acres. He said a Historical Study may need to be completed before the trail can be cut. He also said that the organization will replace the existing trail signage, as well as install new signage. The Selectmen concurred with the project. **Town Forest**: Mr. Petrik continued that the road into the parking lot has been cut and work started on the lot itself. He passed around signage that will be placed along the trail and asked if the Selectmen concurred. At this time, Mr. Petrik left the meeting.

Road Crew Issues: General Items: Chris Liller reported that the Road Crew is prepared for winter operations. Chris Liller said that the rear door of the salt/sand shed needs work. The automatic opener will be replaced with a manual opener, as the electronics of the existing system are excessively corroded. The Sand is at capacity. More will be available during a winter-window for delivery if needed. Bills Excavating will be able to provide trucking if needed. **Transfer Station**: The Attendant has returned from sick leave. The Board discussed options, in the event that he becomes unavailable for extended periods in the future and they discussed possibly changing the days of operation to better suit potential employees. No changes are to be made at this time. **Underground Storage Tank**: The Forman reported that it has been tested and is within compliance of State Regulations. **Hunter Excavating Pit**: Said Company failed to obtain a permit renewal from the State. They are in the process of renewing said permit and had asked if the Selectmen are willing to send a letter of support for the renewal. The Selectmen agreed. The Clerk and Road Foreman said that he would like to apply for a grant to replace the drop inlets along said road. The Board concurred.

2023/4 Budget: The Treasurer had relayed that she would like to commence the budget meeting at the December 12, 2022 Selectmen's Meeting. The Selectmen agreed.

COVID Sick Pay: The Selectmen considered modifications to the current policy and agreed to limit Town coverage to two weeks provided that a positive COVID test confirms it as the cause of absence. This limitation is effective immediately, but it will not apply retroactively. Greg Marcucci so moved. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred.

Minutes: Greg Marcucci moved to approve the Selectmen's minutes of October 24, 2022. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred.

Adjourn: Chris Liller moved to adjourn at 8:25pm. Greg Marcucci seconded – all concurred and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

David Kent Young