

**Town of Stratton
Selectmen's Meeting
November 9, 2020**

Present: Selectmen: Al Dupell – Chair, Chris Liller, Greg Marcucci and Kevin Robinson; and Clerk – Kent Young.

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

Modifications to the Agenda: The Selectmen agreed to add: 1) Consideration to appeal Small Claims Court decision regarding the homestead tax refund to a property owner. 2) Appropriation Requests.

Road Crew Issues: Wheeled Excavator: The machine has been returned to Northland Equipment. Chris Liller stated that said company will determine a sale price for the Town to consider. His opinion of this equipment was favorable. **Truck:** Chris Liller stated that his Western Star is in Westminster for repairs. **Rec. Area:** Cameras have been installed and are operational. The Ball Field has received an application of lime and the fire pit at the skating rink is being rebuilt. **Transfer Station:** Gerry Cloutier, the assistant attendant, requested to be allowed to collect returnable cans for support of the Wardsboro Library. He also asked that a clothing bin be kept in the recycle shed to collect used clothing for One World Clothing, a charitable organization. The Selectmen agreed to both of these requests.

Town Plan 2020: The Clerk stated that the Planning Commission completed their required Public Hearing on October 28, 2020 with no public comments. The next part of the process is to hold the required Selectmen's Public Hearing. He would like to warn it for December 14, 2020 at 7:30pm. The Selectmen agreed and the Clerk agreed to do the appropriate postings.

Town Hall usage: The Selectmen considered two requests for use of said building: 1) Betty Parsons would like to use it on Nov 12 and 13 to prepare meals for a Senior's Lunch and 2) Southern Vermont Therapeutic Riding Center would like to use it for heating and packaging to-go meals to be delivered to their volunteers. In both instances, no more than 3 – 5 people will be present in the building. The Selectmen agreed to both requests, providing the COVID 19 protocol is adhered to.

Personnel Policy: The Clerk stated that he has made no progress with the revision in recent weeks due to the election, but he will try to dedicate time to it before the next meeting.

Fire Alarm fees: The Town Attorney was contacted by TPW, the company responsible for Ms. Katz's fire alarm system. They had called to say they would pay the \$600.00 fee for Ms. Katz. The Attorney, however, relayed to them that the additional attorney costs almost double the amount now owed. The Clerk has not received any additional information from the attorney regarding this matter.

Minutes: Greg Marcucci moved to approve the Selectmen's Minutes of October 26, 2020. Kevin Robinson seconded. The minutes were approved.

Homestead Tax Dispute: The Selectmen reviewed the finding of the Small Claims Court that the Town is obliged to pay the Homestead Tax refund to the person who bought a delinquent property at tax sale, although the Town had already reimbursed that amount to the person, whom had lost the property at tax sale. This initial payment was made upon recommendation of the Outside Auditors and the Town Attorney, following their interpretation of the applicable Statutes. The Selectmen agreed that it was not in the Town's interest to appeal the case further.

Appropriations: Wardsboro Fire Dept.: Betty Parsons requested that the Town pay the postage expense for the recent round of the Wardsboro Fire Dept.'s fund raising mailing, since they are not having the Hunters' Supper this year. The Selectmen asked that she provide a specific dollar amount for consideration, which can be considered at the next meeting. **Big Heavy World** submitted an

appropriations request for \$250.00 to support the volunteer statewide music office. The Selectmen agreed to add this request to the Appropriations Article for the 2021 Town Meeting.

Other Business: The Selectmen reviewed a letter from Stratton Mountain School (SMS) regarding a signage request for signs to “Share the Roads,” in regard to the use of roads by the school for cross country ski training. The Selectmen have issues with the usage scenario presented by SMS and asked that the Clerk request the Headmaster and Coach to attend an upcoming meeting. The Clerk agreed.

Adjourn: Greg Marcucci motioned to adjourn at 8:05p.m.. Kevin Robinson seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

Minutes by:

David Kent Young