

Stafford Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

Members participating: Toni Pippy, Mary Linehan, Pat Kelly, Rett Emerson

Others participating: Lisa Bragg, John Freitag, Jon McKinnon, Jennifer Brown, Susan Tiholiz, Alex Buskey, Hilary Linehan

Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm

1. Public Concerns – none
2. Emergency Management COVID 19 – Governor Scott lifts masks for vaccinated individuals and accelerates the Vermont Forward Plan. All details are at www.vermont.gov/vermont-forward.
3. Town Highways and Equipment Update. Foreman reported that the firetruck has been converted for spreading chloride. Truck will also still be useable for fires if needed. Foreman reported on signage— one crosswalk has been obtained but there is a backlog on signs. Ditching has been delayed by supply shortages, and the work is on track. Tyson bridge will be open in August, due to four-week period for concrete to cure and installation of guardrails. Mine Road will be closed intermittently for up through July due to work on the 1918 adit. Noted that construction on 132 likely to create increased use of Mine Road.
 - a. Highway Correspondence:
 - Chris Bump, FY22 Class 2 Roadway Grant. Confirmation that the approved grant amount is \$175,000 for paving.
 - Holly Hayden, VT-Local Roads, RE: Vermont Agency of Transportation Invites Municipalities to Participate in Road Grants Program, letter of intent due 6/25/21. Need to submit letter of intent by June 25. Town Clerk noted that we also expect to get a structural grant (bridges) for \$175,000.
 - Janet Cavanaugh RE: roadside chervil, Foreman responded.
 - Foreman will meet with Rec Board re: preparation for the skateboard park in park and ride.
4. General Correspondence.
 - Email updates from the State Emergency Operations Center Situation Reports, re: **COVID 19**, Vermont Department of Health, The Office of the Governor, TRORC and VLTC
 - Geoff Martin, IRC, TRORC, RE: Progress Report, May 2021
 - Josh Kahan, RE: I am going to resign as Emergency Management Director. Job description and opening will be posted, applicants should send an expression of interest to the selectboard. The selectboard thanks Josh for his great support to the Emergency Management Center, especially during the past year.
 - Judy Bruneau, Grant Administrator, RE: FY2022 Building Communities Grants Fund
 - Alex Buskey, RE: The Ranger Bike Event (see item 6)
 - Kelly Hull, RE: Town of Stafford, town house mowing.
 - Governor Phil Scott Announces Economic Recovery Bridge Program, Application Portal to Open June 7.
5. Motion passed to approve the minutes from the May 26th regular meeting.
6. Ranger Bike Event, Sunday, June 13, 2021 route. Alex Buskey requested approval to route the Ranger bike event down Ames Road and Carpenter Hill turning right on Justin Morrill Highway, and back up to

Brook Road. Bikers are anticipated to come through Strafford between 10:00 am and 12:00 pm. Hilary Linehan and two other people will be posted at the intersection of Carpenter Hill Rd and Justin Morrill Highway to halt cyclists and signal when safe to proceed. Ed Eastman be alerted to the plan; Road Foreman offered additional safety cones for use. Selectboard approved the proposed plan.

7. Guidelines – fund raising for town projects. Clarifies process to be used by committees and boards when raising funds for approved town activities, events, or other initiatives. Motion approved to adopt the fundraising guidelines. Town Clerk will share the guidelines with Energy and Climate Commission, Rec Board, Pocket Park, Conservation Commission.
8. Tax Sale Henry M and Evelyn Stanley property, Selectboard resolution authorizing its agent to make the purchase. Motion passed to authorize our agent to purchase the property for \$22,305.10. The sale will take place on July 7 and is open to the public.
9. Ashley Forest updates. No updates. Liaison will share current documents with the Selectboard for review and comment.
10. Town office facility repairs. Jeff Solsaa not present. Item tabled.
11. Junk Yard Update. Updated spreadsheet provided to the selectboard on progress to date.
12. Liaison updates
 - Paul Kifner requested use of the common for music performances. Board sees no problem with the request and encourages town events.
 - Creative Pre-school requested for access to Murray Field for pre-school graduation. Permission granted.
 - Rec Board is concerned that their reserve funds are only for use on the tennis courts. Town Clerk will provide Rec Board liaison with a statement of available funds for use by the Rec Board, to clarify the reserve amount and any restrictions on how the funds can be used.
 - Dog officer is resigning due to move out of Strafford. Need to post for a new dog officer. Kennel also needs to be brought to Town Garage.
 - Internet hub placement options were provided to ECFiber.
 - AARP funds—Strafford is estimated to received \$55,799 for each of the two years 2021 & 2022; there is further discussion about whether towns will get access to county funds. How funds can be used is quite restricted; towns are encouraged to think about how best to use the funds to leverage other grants or expand economic opportunities.
 - Hilary Linehan proposed a guideline for summer camps. Camps will be responsible for providing insurance, collecting payment and managing payments. Selectboard is in favor of the proposed process, which will be further refined. Discussion regarding whether fees should be charged for events that charge fees, since it is anticipated that there will be increased demand for access to public facilities. One Planet camp has requested that mowing not take place between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm during the camp.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Linehan
Recording Clerk