

**Town of Stratford**  
**Board of Selectboard Meeting**  
**Fuller Town Hall @ 3:30 PM**  
**March 23, 2026**

Call to Order: 3:30PM by Harry Juergens

Selectmen present: Harry Juergens and Ron Scott, Jr, Charlie Goulet

Others present: Suzanne Goulet, Vanessa Toner

**Suzanne:** Potato Hill Road (Class VI): Residents expressed concerns regarding the condition of the bridge. As the road is Class VI, 2<sup>nd</sup> bridge water is coming from 2 locations. The Board will conduct a site visit, contact the ATV club regarding possible assistance, research grant opportunities, and clarify ownership and responsibility. No motion made. Town Woodlot: The Board discussed the potential sale of the town woodlot as raised at Town Meeting. It was noted that the Conservation Commission manages the property and may oppose the sale. The Board will meet with the Commission to gather input before proceeding. Elderly Exemption Review: A resident requested reconsideration of the elderly property tax exemption. The Board noted that exemption amounts and income/asset limits were updated three years ago. No changes are planned at this time; the Board will continue to monitor. Transfer Station Phone System: The Board discussed installing a phone system at the transfer station, contingent on internet availability. If not feasible, staff will continue using cell phones. Action: Explore options for phone/internet service. Cyclical Revaluation / DRA: The revaluation has been submitted to the Department of Revenue Administration. The Board is awaiting feedback and will determine if any recommended changes are necessary. Statewide Education Tax Abatement Request: The Board reviewed a request challenging the constitutionality of the statewide education property tax. Based on guidance, the Town does not have authority to rule on constitutionality. Action: Deny the request in writing in accordance with NHMA guidance and notify the Town Attorney in the event of further legal action.

**Select Board:**

**Juergens:** Discussed options for the construction of a new salt shed. A comparison was made between the Town of Jefferson's 50' x 100' structure and a proposed 50' x 50' facility for Stratford. Key considerations included building size, height requirements for salt delivery trucks and equipment, interior layout, and storage capacity. The Board discussed whether sand should be stored in the structure or remain outside. Additional discussion focused on construction materials, including the use of concrete block, and identifying materials that would best withstand salt corrosion. The need for a concrete floor was also considered. The Board reviewed potential project costs and discussed possible funding sources, including USDA grant opportunities. The Board agreed that a 50' x 50' structure is an appropriate starting point; however, additional technical input is needed before finalizing design specifications. Motion put forth by HJ and unanimous vote 3-0 to move forward. Will Meet with Road Agent to discuss requirements. Reviewed draft parking layouts, discussed drainage issues, retaining wall options, and use of existing town property for parking. Consult Mike and Steve LaFrance for input on layout, drainage, and material needs.

**Scott:** Fire/Burn Issue – Former Phillips Property: The Board discussed an incident involving the illegal burning of a barn without a permit. The fire was unattended and continued smoldering, raising concerns regarding safety and compliance. There was confusion regarding property ownership and responsibility, as well as uncertainty about whether the Fire Chief or Fire Warden should have been con-

tacted first. The Board agreed to seek clarification on proper protocol from the State Fire Marshal and to contact the property owner regarding compliance.

**Goulet:** Nothing at this time.

**Manifest:** C. Goulet / R. Scott, Jr. approved 2/0 to sign for 03/09/2026 and 03/16/2026.

Signed Documents: Motion to approve: Minutes, SM 03/9. Abatement/Cave, Reservation/NCATV, Building/Verizon, RTK policy update, Junkyard license/Stone; MS 232/signed, PCI Inspection Report, Contract's; Maidstone & Brunswick Fire/ Color Works Flooring, Intent to cut/Excavate; (2) Wheelock & Tilton

**Old Business:** N/A

**New Business:** Application to permit work on Town road, Northumberland abutters notice from PB.

**Reminders:** Park Ceremony 5/16 11AM-2PM

**Public Input:** N/A

**Non- Public:** Rollin Baldwin (4)

Meeting Adjourned: 5:30PM

Minutes prepared by: V. Toner