Town of Stratford
Board of Selectboard Meeting
Fuller Town Hall @ 3:30 PM
November 2, 2026

Call to Order: 3:30PM by Harry R. Juergens with the Pledge of Allegiance

Selectmen present: Harry R. Juergens, Ron Scott, Jr, Charlie Goulet
Others present: Suzanne Goulet, Vanessa Toner, Wade McKearney, Chuck Stinson

Wade: Reported repeated conflicts with out-of-town ATV riders near Bog Road and Percy Road during hunting season. He said riders were speeding, making excessive noise, and harassing him while he was legally hunting or returning to his truck with a firearm. The resident is concerned that an encounter could escalate into conflicting accusations and potentially threaten his ability to possess firearms. He also said the ATV traffic disrupts hunting on his property and has forced him to hunt elsewhere. The board discussed closing applicable town roads and ATV access during the same period as neighboring communities, generally after Columbus Day through the end of hunting season. Exceptions could be considered for organized, supervised events or eligible hunters with Fish and Game permits. The board agreed that the ATV club, campground representatives, and other relevant parties should be included before any decision is made. The board will also clarify which portions of Bog Road and Percy Road are legally open and whether speeding or unauthorized riding is occurring.

Suzanne: The town is facing a short-term cash-flow problem because the property revaluation and tax-rate process will not be completed in time to issue tax bills before the county payment is due. Approximately $546,000 is owed to the county for property taxes. Officials are considering whether to delay certain payments or obtain a tax anticipation loan, which could cost approximately $6,000 in interest and fees. The board and the administration do not want to put this burden on the tax payers at all. A temporary spending freeze was announced. Payroll and essential obligations will continue, but departments were asked to avoid nonessential spending until revenue is received. Bills may be paid later than the usual 30-day period, with possible year-end accounting adjustments. The board received confirmation from the Department of Revenue Administration that there were no identified issues preventing the town from moving forward with a new assessing company. The next selectboard meeting will be cancelled as the town administrator will be on vacation and there is nothing currently on the agenda that is pressing except for the upcoming property evaluations and the 2027 budget. This will be addressed again on the November 30th Selectboard meeting. In December we will begin preparing for the annual budget.

Chuck: Mr. Stinson informed the Board that the Fire Department needs a new computer due to multiple issues with the department's current computer, which is outdated. The Board agreed to the purchase of a new computer. Mr. Stinson will work with the Administration Office to obtain a replacement system. The Board was also advised that the AEDs currently located at the Town Hall need to be relocated to the Library and Transfer Station. These placements are expected to be completed by the end of December. The Fire Department also requires insurance documentation. The Administration Office will complete the necessary paperwork and forward it to the appropriate parties.

Select Board:

Harry R. Juergens: The board continued discussing a proposed salt shed, currently estimated at approximately 48–50 by 75 feet internally or externally, depending on the measurement used. Members differed on whether the structure should store only salt or also accommodate sand, equipment, and possible future needs. Solar-panel access, truck maneuvering, drainage, and long-term durability were also discussed. A board member will visit Jefferson's salt shed and obtain preliminary construction pricing so the board can settle on a practical size and design.

Charles V. Goulet: Nothing at this time.

Ron A. Scott, Jr: Nothing at this time.

Manifest: C. Goulet / R. Scott, Jr. approved 3/0 to sign for 10/19/2026, 10/26/2026.

Signed Between Meetings: Warrant for Elections in November; Water/Sewer Warrant, Reservation for the town hall in January 2027 and Rollin Baldwin Request (3) for Funds.
Old Business: N/A
New Business: Signed Documents: Minutes, SM 10/19
Reminders: N/A
Non- Public: Letter received in town office
Meeting Adjourned: 6:00 PM
Minutes prepared by: V. Toner