

Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes DATE 08-27-2024

Opening: The Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm in Stow, Maine by Jim Wilfong.

Present

Selectmen: Ray Ryan, Jim Wilfong, Carl Lindblade

Town Clerk: Christine Carone **Deputy Clerk:** Kathleen Panno **Treasurer:** Nancy Boros

Residents/Guests: Rob Flint, Broadband Liaison, Budget Committee

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved

Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved from 08/13/2024 meeting **Approved 3-0**

Treasures Report:

Cash Balance \$168,962

Warrant #56 \$1,747.54

C. Lindblade and I had a meeting with FEMA, we will have another one on Wednesday 8/28/24. All paperwork for the Dec 18th storm has been filed and the project is under review. Note there are several layers of review to be completed before the funds are committed by FEMA. After FEMA commits them, they are further reviewed at the state level. Per our conversation we can anticipate receiving the funds in Q2 2025 (estimate only.) Our Fema rep will work on the May 1st storm data next. I spent several hours yesterday responding to questions from Fema.

Christmas tree lights - Selectboard approves cost of putting up lights sometime in the fall. It will be recorded under the Conservation budget; Selectmen will reach out to Conservation Committee to discuss. **(Selectmen approve 3-0)**

Fernald Hills – The HOA dues for the property that will be foreclosed on were due 6.30.2024. Selectboard approves payment and it has been added to today's warrant. C. Carone will add this cost to the fees to be collected at foreclosure sale. **(Selectmen approve 3-0)**

We have received our homestead funds from the State - \$18,853.

Clerks Business:

C. Carone has not been able to speak with T.Albert of Computer Port if he would be willing to have a service contract with us. The town needs assistance with a bar code reader. Rob Flint will look at the scanner as well.

Michelle Luongo will consider being on the Greater Lovell Land Trust. The Select board will speak with her about being the town of Stow's representative on the board.

Spectrum called and asked if they could store their cable on our salt shed property. The Select board will provide Spectrum with a code for the locked gate. J. Wilfong will speak with them regarding the details.

Deputy Clerk's Business:

K Panno will reach out regarding hanging tree lights and other work at the town hall – road signs, horse crossing sign and the bulletin board for the building.

K. Panno has gotten a quote from Field Electric for adding a light at the emergency exit door. The quote was much higher than expected, she will discuss with vendor before submitting for a grant for this project.

K. Panno contacted a local resident who may be interested in updating the town's website. N. Boros has found three other web developers used by local municipalities. C. Lindblade has an appointment with a national vendor on September 3rd and does not intend to reach out to other vendors until ADA requirements are clarified at the September 3 meeting. K. Panno and C. Lindblade will find the vendor to update the website to make it ADA compliant.

Policy Contracts and Insurance (Ray Ryan)

Board votes to approve Snow Contract, after R. Ryan's discussion with Troy Morse. **(Selectmen approve 3-0)** R. Ryan will inform Troy Morse.

Maintenance and Broadband: (Carl Lindblade) See discussion regarding website.

C. Lindblade attended a General Assistance meeting and is working on completing the required training to maintain the town's compliance.

Road Report: (Jim Wilfong)

Bridge work will start in about 3 weeks. The contractor will give the town 2 weeks' notice before the bridgework starts. J. Siragusa spoke with the state regarding reapplying for the border grant. F. Wilson will give an estimate for work on S. Chatham Rd and Union Hill Rd. J Wilfong is getting more sand screened and the Board is open to selling sand to Lovell. Lovell has requested to buy 2100 yards of sand from town. The board needs to determine the cost of screening the sand and determine a price.

Open Issues: Rob Flint reported that Spectrum is working on Broadband and may be able to connect some residents by November. Spectrum is not seeking funding for the Stow project. No resident is required to connect. Residents have the option to sign up for phone, internet, cable, and cell phone. There is a state subsidy for lower tiered services.

New Business :

Public Comment:

Meeting adjourned 7:35 pm Next meeting will be Tuesday 09-10-2024 at 6:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Nancy Boros

Open Items

Policy Contracts and Insurance (Ray Ryan)

Snow Contract – follow-up discussion w T.Morse

Obtaining cost to soundproof the town hall – in progress

Maintenance and Broadband: (Carl Lindblade)

Ordinance regarding lots with trailers on them and no septic system – planning board is overseeing this

Sale of foreclosed properties – in progress

Broadband project – in progress

MMA grants applications– (C. Lindblade passed this to K.Panno)

Researching cost of shed at TH for 2025 budget

Researching upgrade of website for 2025 budget

Road Report: (Jim Wilfong)

Ezra Heald Bridge/Stone House Bridge – in progress

J. Wilfong to set up meeting with Select board, CEO and Planning Board regarding road and building issues

J. Wilfong will contact P. Coughlin re traffic counters

J. Wilfong will contact Union Hill resident regarding culvert replacement

J Wilfong to contact LA Drew, Burke and Colman for road estimates and provide letter to Task Force to present to vendors for roadwork discussion

Town Office

K Panno to submit MMA grant

N.Boros continue w FEMA

Tally timesheets submitted by JW RR CL CC KP NB to determine how time is allocated to different areas and tasks
– no timesheets submitted; project dropped.