

Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes June 26, 2024

Opening: The Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in Stow, Maine by Jim Wilfong.

Present

Selectmen: Ray Ryan, Jim Wilfong, Carl Lindblade

Town Clerk: Christine Carone **Treasurer:** absent **Deputy Clerk:** Kathleen Panno

Road Agent: NA

Residents/Guests: Rob Flint, Planning Board member and Broadband Liaison

Road Task Force members: Steve Dupuis, Michael Tamaska, Michael Cocci, Isabelle Stafford

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved (**Selectman 3-0**)

Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved from June 11, 2024, meeting (**Selectman 3-0**)

Treasures Report:

Cash Balance \$139,144 on June 14, 2024

Warrant # 41 \$31,618.89 **Selectman 3-0**

Please discuss when the MSAD 72 final payment should be made. I suggest we wait until I make a Tan draw.

When I return, I would like to make a \$100k draw on our TAN note.

I have posted the Road Task Force meeting dates and recent minutes.

We had two Fema meetings on the 18th and 21st. On the 18th we uploaded all required documents, the FEMA rep will be in touch if more information is needed. We had site visit to the Center Chatham Rd. J. Wilfong and N.Boros were present at the meetings.

We received the new MSAD 72 contract beginning July 1, 2024, each monthly payment will be \$45,129.07. This is an increase of 6% from PY.

Clerks Business: Nothing to report

Deputy Clerk: K.Panno needs assistance installing road signs and a display case on the front of the building. Mike Cocci has purchased and installed the missing sign for Kimball Road.

K. Panno requested permission to prepare a request presentation and approval of the Food Sovereignty Act. Approval was granted.

Selectman's Reports:

Policy Contracts and Insurance (Ray Ryan) - Ray Ryan has removed old batteries from the emergency lights and will install new ones. All other upgrades have been completed.

Maintenance Report: (Carl Lindblade) C. Lindblade stated the Franchise agreement has been signed.

Road Report: (Jim Wilfong) – We are waiting for news regarding a million dollar grant. The Northern Border Grant funding consists of \$20 million. There is an MDOT funded culvert grant possibly available. Jim Siragusa has been working pro bono on this. If approved, the money will start becoming available in August.

Mike Cocci asked what our goal is to obtain road financing. Is the town looking for grants, a loan, or funding from the National Forest. There was a suggestion of imposing higher fees on the National Forest.

The Road Task Force was encouraged to layout a specific plan. Belle Stafford requested a list of possible contacts to create a list of possible funding sources.

Road counters were requested to determine the volume of traffic.

Open Issues: None

New Business None

Adjourned 7:30 pm. Next meeting will be Tuesday July 9, 2024

Open Items

Cemetery Commission – Steve Dupuis stated the cemetery needs attention regarding mowing and trimming. We need to determine our responsibility for Emerson Cemetery. Carl Lindblade will contact Howard Allen regarding the mowing.

Policy Contracts and Insurance (Ray Ryan)

Volunteer Insurance for FY 2024 – resolved, no action

Snow Contract – bidding – announced June 2024, deadline August 1, 2024

Obtaining cost to soundproof the town hall – in progress

MMA grants –will be reviewed in January to determine if the town can apply for any funding – (C. Lindblade and R. Ryan)

Maintenance and Broadband: (Carl Lindblade)

Sealcoating of parking lot – in progress

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 and K.Panno)

Will monitor legal fees for Broadband project

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