

Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes DATE 10-08-2024

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, C. Lindblade

Town Clerk: Christine Carone **Deputy Clerk:** away **Treasurer:** Nancy Boros

Residents/Guests: Robert Flint, Budget Committee, Broadband Liaison
Bell Stafford, Road Task Force

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved

Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved from 09-24-2024 meeting **Approved 3-0**

Treasures Report:

Cash Balance \$176,101 before this warrant is paid

Warrant #67 \$137,153.44 Approved 3-0

All our FEMA projects for both storms have been submitted. Jim Wilfong and N. Boros had a site visit with the FEMA representative this morning. Our projects are in the review phase (there are several review processes) and we anticipate questions and further scrutiny, but things are moving along. One project, Stone House Rd, has been obligated. N.Boros would like to draw on the Tan note this week. The Town has a line of \$300k, we have drawn \$175k so far. N.Boros would like to draw \$125k. We have the Oxford County tax payment of \$69k due shortly and we will have other invoices due. **Select board approved Tan draw 3-0**

J. Wilfong and N.Boros will work on USFS grant progress reports as soon as we get the final invoice from Calderwood Engineering.

The Town now has an account with Hancock Lumber.

Clerks Business:

Additional poles are being set in town. C.Carone asked if the Spectrum poles will be taxed. CMP is taxed for the poles in town. The Select Board confirmed taxes will be collected on all poles. Select Board will determine which provider has been setting additional poles, Spectrum or Fidium. *Note – after the meeting this issue was investigated, and it was confirmed that no additional poles have been installed.*

Deputy Clerk's Business:

K Panno is in contact with a website designer, Gabrielle Chitty, who lives in town and is interested in updating the town's website. C. Lindblade felt that he is not qualified to answer the questionnaire sent by G. Chitty. C. Lindblade will invite G. Chitty to come to a board meeting and discuss the questionnaire and other details of the project. The Select Board's goal is to include this project in the 2025 budget.

Policy Contracts and Insurance (Ray Ryan)

Ray Ryan has received the signed snow contract from Troy Morse. The select board signed the three year contract tonight. It had been approved at a prior meeting.

N.Boros gave R.Ryan the Q3 payroll report which will be used to complete the Workers Compensation application for MMA.

R. Ryan asked J. Wilfong to talk to the Planning Board about looking into excavation activity on a property in town.

Maintenance and Broadband: (Carl Lindblade) –

C. Lindblade contacted the MMA regarding an abandoned property in town. C. Lindblade is asking for the Select Board to approve his work to investigate the property and determine if it should be condemned. C. Lindblade would like to send a letter to the owners. The town will be reimbursed for any expenses incurred during the recovery process. The Select Board may seek the advice of the health officer. **Select Board approved the investigation of the property and its condition, 3-0.**

C. Lindblade asked N.Boros to prepare a roll forward of the Broadband funds. The board will discuss adding an item to the 2025 warrant regarding the excess special revenue funds.

Road Report: (Jim Wilfong)

Bridges will be inspected on Thursday 10/10/2024. We are waiting for the final invoice from the engineers. J.Wilfong would like to start work on So. Chatham and Dresser Hill.

J.Wilfong is asking to approve galvanizing the guard rails at the Ezra Heald Bridge. He has a quote from C.Micklon for \$1,850. **Select board approve 3-0**

J. Wilfong has asked A. Eastman to fill the potholes. Bill Briggs has been grading the roads.

Open Issues:

New Business :

Belle Stafford - Road Task Force will start on the grant application. They are going to reach out to engineers to get an engineering report which is required for the project.

Public Comment:

Meeting adjourned 7:50 pm Next meeting will be Tuesday 10-22-2024 at 6:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Nancy Boros

Open Items

Policy Contracts and Insurance (Ray Ryan)

Security cameras for salt shed – in progress

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

Editing committee policy

Researching cost of shed at TH for 2025 budget

Researching upgrade of website for 2025 budget, contacting local web designer

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

Work with Planning Board to ascertain excavation activity at a property passed to JW

Town Office

N.Boros continue w FEMA

N.Boros to monitor bridge payments and bridge grant progress reports

C.Carone – sale of foreclosed properties – in progress

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.

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Officials from Town of Stow are pleased to announce that they have been awarded a Risk Reduction Grant from the Maine Municipal Association Property & Casualty Pool, totaling \$1,100.00.

The Risk Reduction Grant program is designed to assist members of the Property & Casualty Pool in mitigating hazards and supports the implementation of effective risk management strategies. The funding helps supplement local budgets to address hazardous conditions that could lead to potential property or liability losses.

Since its inception in 2021, the Maine Municipal Association has awarded over \$750,000 in Risk Reduction Grants to members of its Property & Casualty Pool. This program exemplifies the power of partnership, as we work together to prevent property and casualty-related losses and create safer communities.

For more information on the Maine Municipal Association's Risk Management Services, including grant eligibility and application details, visit www.memun.org and click on the Risk Management Services link, or call 1-800-590-5583.