

Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes DATE 03-28-2023

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

Present

Selectmen: Ray Ryan, Carl Lindblade

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

Road Agent: NA

Residents/Guests: Rob Flint, Broadband Liaison

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved

Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved from 03/21/2023 meeting Approved 2-0

Treasures Report:

Warrant # 16 for \$7,414.18

Warrant # 17 for \$2,536.84

Approved 2-0

Cash balance is \$307,071

Ray Ryan will write the Selectman letter, Carl Lindblade will assist. Once the letter is finalized, N Boros will submit the annual report for printing. As soon as we receive it from the printers, it will be posted on the website and hard copies will be available at the office, our goal is to have the book available by April 7th.

Clerk and Deputy Clerk business:

K. Panno continues to work on the painting. She is looking into creating a logo for the podium in the town hall. She continues to work on the room to be ready for the town meeting. She is attending an MMA class on vital statistics today.

Open Issues:

A letter to the Forest Service regarding use of the bridge at Shell Pond Road was composed by Ray Ryan and signed by Carl Lindblade and R. Ryan.

Ray Ryan will call Alan Eastman regarding roadwork.

New Business

Penny Parmenter is forming an auxiliary group for the Fryeburg Rescue. She would like to come to the annual meeting. Carl Lindblade will follow up.

Carl Lindblade will reach out to get some web maintenance assistance from a consultant.

Public Comment: Broadband

The Coalition put out an RFP for contracts. The state has stated that there is funding only for unserved towns. (Stow, Stoneham, Sweden and Brownfield). The next grant awards will be given in August. The current challenge is to find contractors that can work within the confines of this underserved requirement. Consolidated will provide fiber service to Chatham, NH. They are one of several vendors the coalition is looking into, including Spectrum a broadband utility district, and several other options. All towns would have to consent to the formation of a utility district. If a utility district wanted to expand their service, a bond would be most likely need to be issued. It is possible that multiple providers would offer services through the utility district. There is an ESRB meeting this week. Rob Flint will keep the board appraised.

Next Selectmen meeting will be Tuesday April 11 2023 at 6:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Nancy Boros