

Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes DATE 2.27.2024

Opening: The Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm in Stow, Maine by Jim Wilfong.

Present

Selectmen: Jim Wilfong, Carl Lindblade, Ray Ryan

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

Road Agent: NA

Residents/Guests: Rob Flint, Budget Committee Chair

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved

Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved from 02-13-2024 with edits discussed. **Selectmen approve 3-0**

Treasures Report: (Nancy Boros)

Cash Balance \$ 305,801

Warrant 13 \$45,113.25 **Selectman approve 3-0**

Lawn signs purchase of 6 signs for \$84 to inform residents of town meeting – approved.

Suggest we have a policy for related parties (conflict of interest) and procurement policy (currently we default to the state policy).

Insurance policy renewal is due. C. Lindblade stated he and R. Ryan discussed. R. Ryan will address this. N.Boros forwarded the MMA grant application to C. Lindblade and R. Ryan to consider.

N.Boros is working on the audit and the annual book and preparing for the budget meeting on 2.28.2024.

Clerks Business: (Christine Carone)

The Saco Valley Fire Association sent a letter indicating that Barbour Rd is not accessible after address number 236 due to the quality of the road. C. Lindblade stated a copy of the letter should be sent to all residents on Barbour. The letter will also be posted on the website. The letter will also be given to anyone requesting a building permit on Barbour Rd.

Deputy Clerk: (Kathleen Panno)

K.Panno has purchased a used display cabinet for the outside of the town hall for a cost of \$25, a significant savings. She has also selected a drop box for outside the town hall. Selectboard approved 3-0.

Selectman's Reports:

Policy Contracts and Insurance (Ray Ryan)

R. Ryan has an appointment to have the building contents assessed by MMA. The insurance policy renewal is due. R. Ryan spoke with Fryeburg Rec about the sound proofing measures taken in the facility. He is pricing sound proofing material for the Town Hall.

Maintenance Report/Broadband/Foreclosures: (Carl Lindblade)

C. Lindblade is having a meeting with the attorney regarding foreclosures this week. This Thursday C. Lindblade and R Flint have a 1.5 hour meeting scheduled with the Broadband group.

Road Report: (Jim Wilfong)

Bridges – J.Wilfong distributed a contract bidding package from Calderwood Engineering for both bridges. Calderwood also provided specifications for the Ezra Heald Bridge. The Selectmen will consider offering contractors the ability to bid on both jobs, which may result in some cost savings.

R. Flint and J.Wilfong reviewed all the roads last week. About 23% of the ditching has been done, 22% of the roads have been rebuilt and 50% of the culverts have been replaced. They estimate that the remaining work that needs to be done will cost about \$4 million. The paving would be an additional \$2 million.

Saco Valley Fire Department has received a grant for fire hydrants. J.Wilfong and H. Drew discussed placing the hydrants on Deer Hill and Meadow Rd. SVFD will supply the pipe; J.Wilfong proposed that the Town pay for installing the pipe. An estimate of the cost would be between \$5 - \$7k. It will be added as a separate appropriation in the annual warrant. **Selectmen approved 3-0.**

J.Wilfong asked for approval to work with non-profits to seek a grant for the hydrants. **Selectmen approved 3-0.**

J.Wilfong and J. Siragusa are applying for a grant available to Oxford County, they will seek a partnership with the National Forest, the pulp mill in Rumford, and others to obtain this grant with the intention of using the funds for road projects.

J.Wilfong and N.Boros presented a bond amortization report indicating the debt service for a \$5 million or \$7 million and a detailed road budget for roadwork in spring 2024.

New Business: NA

Next meeting will be Tuesday 03/12/ 2024 at 6:00 pm. Adjourned 7:25 pm

Open Items

Policy Contracts and Insurance (Ray Ryan)

Volunteer Insurance for FY 2024

Snow Contract – bidding to occur around May 2024

Property Insurance – confirm with MMA building value is up to date, inform MMA of square footage – in progress

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 – tabled until spring 2024

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

Will monitor legal fees for Broadband project

Road Report: (Jim Wilfong)

Ezra Heald Bridge/Stone House Bridge – awaiting contract from Calderwood Engineering, it will be paid in installments.

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

J. Wilfong will contact F. Wilson to install a septic cover and to move some rocks to top the culvert. (delayed to spring)

Town Office

K.Panno to collect documentation that FOAA training has been completed

K Panno to order secure box and bulletin board

N.Boros to prep for fiscal audit, work on town report, budget reports

tally timesheets submitted by JW RR CL CC KP NB to determine how time is allocated to different areas and tasks