

# Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes DATE 12-13-2022

**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 **Deputy Clerk:** Kathleen Panno **Treasurer:** Nancy Boros

**Road Agent:** Jim Wilfong

**Residents/Guests:** Rob Flint, Broadband Liaison, Candice McElroy, Health Liaison

**Approval of Agenda:** Agenda approved

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes Approved from 11/22/2022 meeting Approved 3-0

**Deputy Clerk:** K. Panno gave Carl Lindblade details for ordering the carpeting tiles, not broadloom. We have a \$6,000 deposit with the vendor.

K. Panno made a file for the equipment manuals in the building (boiler, generator).

## Clerks Business:

**Code Enforcement Officer:** The town needs a CEO backup for when our current CEO, Ron McAllister, is not available. Alan Broyer, CEO of Lovell, will be contacted by Jim Wilfong and asked if he will be the backup for Ron McAllister. If Alan agrees to act as backup CEO, the town will include him on the payroll.

C.Carone suggests that the Planning Board require residents to complete their plumbing or building projects within a fixed period of time, or require them to reapply for a new permit. The town currently has several open permits that are many years old and the plumbing projects have not been started or completed, it is likely some will not be completed at all. The current system of payment requires that the work be completed before the CEO receives any payment. This results in the CEO having performed some work and not receiving compensation at times for over 24 months, if at all for his site visit. R.Ryan suggested the town pay the CEO in two parts, one at the first inspection and the balance at the completion of the project. This would be more equitable for the CEO, who would not be required to wait an extended period of time for payment.

**Filing:** Selectman approve paying C.Carone, N. Boros and K. Panno to organize the files on additional days at \$25 per hour. **(Selectman approved 3-0)**

**Winter Maintenance:** Selectman will look for someone to shovel the front of the entrance and path to the propane tank and generator, taking trash to the dump. J.Wilfong will address this.

**Tax Commitment (supplemental):** C. Carone submitted a supplemental commitment for land taken out of tree growth for the selectman to sign. **(Selectman approved 3-0)**

## Treasures Report:

Cash on hand is \$447,666.

We have paid off the \$250,000 Tax Anticipation Note, interest expense was \$2,225.26.

We have paid all expenses that were approved at the April Town Meeting.

The road budget has a net of \$12,457 remaining.

The following warrants are submitted for approval: **(approved 3-0)**

Warrant 57	\$ 6,348.61
Warrant 58	70.00
Warrant 59	252,689.26 (includes TAN Note payoff)
Warrant 60	42,196.39
Warrant 61	23,425.72
Warrant 62	2,284.08

N. Boros requested approval to add Kathleen Panno as a signer on the bank accounts so that she could sign checks in the absence of CC and NB. NB to work on this in January 2023.

**(Selectman approved 3-0)**

## Open Items:

Nancy and Christine continue to work on registering the SAM number.

Carl Lindblade can now submit for reimbursement of State grant for generator

Ray Ryan will apply for volunteer insurance, Jan 1, 2023

Ray Ryan will work on charity requests for FYE 2023

N Boros to focus on YE audit and YE reports

Budget for FYE 2023 will start late Jan or Feb 2023

ARPA reporting – C. Carone and J.Wilfong had started the process. The selectman will determine at a later date which one will complete the APRA reports

Richard Moore and Cindy Eaton – have not completed I9 or W9, J.Wilfong will reach out to them.

**Road Report** – The town paid \$15,000 to screen sand. This will be used for the town roads. The resulting gravel will be used for road construction. The sand stockpile is expected to last 2 years. In the spring J. Wilfong intends to spend \$50k and crush 5 years' worth of gravel using Rolfe (of Bridgton). This would allow the town to avoid hauling gravel during road projects which can be costly. Next year's focus will be on culverts and ditching.

**Open Issues:** J.Wilfong had Field Electric provide an estimate for lighting improvement. The total cost will be \$1,952.20. ARPA funding will be used. **(Selectman approved 3-0)**

J.Wilfong also got a quote from Field Electric for heat pumps. The total cost for the entire building is \$22,581.52. However the large conference room would cost about \$7,000. This would allow the town to have a cooling center. Selectman approved a heat pump for the conference room. ARPA funding will be used. **(Selectman approved 3-0)**

**Appeals Board** C. Lindblade confirmed that the town only needs 3 members on the appeals board. Currently the board consists of William Bain, Paul Lusky, Sam Nesbitt, and Jeff Blake  
C:\Users\npb20\Town of Stow\Minutes\12.13.2022 Selectmen Minutes.docx

(alternate). C. Lindblade suggested we ask the board members to appoint a chairman. The appeals board members are appointed. Jim Wilfong will talk to William Bain about considering being the chairman

**New Business – Broadband** – ESRB is seeking proposals for the design and implementation of the hardware and electronics necessary to provide a robust and reliable broadband solution for the region as well as the ongoing management and maintenance of the entire network. Rob Flint stated the Request for Proposals will be submitted in early winter 2023, they will be scored by the Eastern Slope Region Broadband Coalition and then presented to the residents in all 7 towns. The goal of the project is to enable access to Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) services for every household in the region.

The target date to apply for grant funding is spring 2023. The Coalition will choose the proposal then the towns will vote on the suggested plan and related funding request. The metric for how the costs are shared has not been determined some of the metrics proposed are road mileage, valuation, population, etc. Availability of broadband will be for all residents, however residents will not be required to connect with the service.

Carl Lindblade suggested we hold a town meeting to discuss the broadband proposals. The Selectman tentatively propose a late February town meeting to present the findings to the residents.

**Health Officer** Candice McElroy, MD and Alison Carbone, RN have agreed to be the health officers. The Selectman discussed keeping the residents informed of things such as having a heating and cooling center during heatwaves. C. Carone and J. Wilfong will determine how to inform the state that Stow has newly appointed health officers. J. Wilfong will find the law.

Meeting adjourned 7:25 pm

Next meeting will be Tuesday 12/27/2022 at 6:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Nancy Boros