

# Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes 02-08-2022

**Opening:** The Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm in Stow, Maine by Jim Wilfong.

## Present

**Selectmen:** Ray Ryan, Jim Wilfong

**Town Clerk:** Christine Carone      **Treasurer:** Diana Davis      **Secretary:**

**Road Agent:**

**Residents/Guests:** Robert Flint of the Eastern Slope Regional Broadband initiative

**Approval of Agenda:** Agenda approved

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes Approved from 01/25/2022 meeting **Vote Approved 2-0.**

**Clerks Business:** There is a discussion regarding a property that lies on the ME/NH border. The house was built directly on the border. MSAD 72 is asking about the school reimbursement. By law, residence in this determined by where the bedrooms are located. The new residents will elect to live in ME or NH. Previously a non-resident owned the property and residence was not an issue for the school district. C.Carone will inform MSAD 72 that the owners will decide their residency.

**Treasures Report: Warrants #5 for \$1,983.00 and # 6 for \$18,316.69** were approved. **Vote Approved 2-0.**

## Open Issues:

Tom Albert will begin upgrading computers and software around March 10. C. Carone will deliver the CPU to him on a Thursday, he will migrate the data and upgrade software and return with it on a Monday. Trio will be backed up separately. This avoids disrupting the office. Tom recommended we backup our data onto an external hard drive as well as using a cloud based software. He recommended Carbonite software.

He successfully backed up the data, and had a long discussion regarding backups, passwords, best practices, networking etc.

Estimate of expenditures for backup and QuickBooks:

- i. Carbonite Software – estimate \$285
- ii. Additional two external hard drive – estimate \$100
- iii. QuickBooks will need to updated annually – estimate \$250-\$350

We do not have a fund balance (e.g. retained earnings) at FYE 2021 from the auditors at this date. A short report will be completed by 2/10, according to RH Smith (auditor). Cash balance is sufficient at this time. Notice of PY TANS payoff was received.

**New Business:** Budget meeting will be on Tuesday Feb 15<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. A notice in the CDS will be published. R Ryan will deliver a draft of the budget to Budget Committee by 2/11/2022.

**Old Business:**

Town meeting has been set for April 16 at the Fryeburg Fairgrounds.

**Public Comment:** Robert Flint came to update the board on the Broadband initiative. The next step is to hire an expert to provide details regarding the town's options for progressing on. The town manager of Denmark is leading this project. The Broadband group is creating a website, sending out a mailer and will attempt to talk to residents at the transfer station. Stow received \$4,000 that can be used toward promoting this. They discussed using Minuteman Press to process the mailing. J.Wilfong will bring the mailing to Minuteman once the text for the mailer is agreed upon. The name of the group will be Eastern Slope Regional Broadband. J. Wilfong requested a copy of the press release, link to the website and a link to the broadband speed test. Signs have been made and Stow will purchase about 15 of them and post them. Selectman agreed that the Broadband website will be posted on the Stow website.

Next meeting will be Tuesday February 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Nancy Boros