

Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes DATE 07-22-2025

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

Present

Selectmen: Steve Dupuis, Sarah Shute, Rob Flint (Absent)

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

Residents/Guests: N/A

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved 2-0

Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved from 07-08-2025

Minutes of 07/08/2025 meeting were approved 2-0

Treasurer's Report-Cash balance \$275,792

Warrant 42 \$53,608.22 -

Approval of Warrant 2-0

The budget committee met on 7.16. They asked about the status of research into billing RE taxes twice yearly rather than once.

I have attached letters to be sent to Fema listing the 5 projects the SB has elected to forfeit. Please review and sign. (Selectboard approved 2-0)

We've had significant trouble transferring the new website to our platform. Gabby and I corresponded with the vendor almost daily to resolve this. As of today, it seems to be resolved and Gabby is in the process of making the site live.

We have received \$8,250 for Homestead Exemptions; this is consistent with PY. I expect another payment of about \$18 k in August.

We expect to receive \$18,348 in LRAP funding from the state. Last year we received \$11,372, a 60% increase. The application should be available in August, I expect we will receive the funds in late fall. There have been changes in the requirements for this funding. Towns no longer need to use the monies for a road capital improvement. I have sent an email to DOT asking for clarification on whether this policy change effects FY 2025 or 2026

Clerk Business- George Andrews contacted the town about personally buying crushed stone to fill potholes on the logging road. Steve Dupuis will contact him to discuss this.

Our continual internet issues are requiring an immediate change from DSL service to fiber optics. A speed test conducted by Fidium confirmed that our DSL system is not keeping up

with the amount of programs being used in the office. The selectboard agreed to reach out to Fidium immediately to change from Consolidated Communications to Fidium ASAP. Rob Flint will be asked oversee this.

We are also in need of an IT person and S. Dupuis will speak to Rob about any possible contacts to replace our former tech support for the town.

Liens are going being sent out next week.

Deputy Clerk- None

Maintenance- Hayden Charles has not been contacted yet about the mowing, but S. Dupuis will make another attempt to reach him.

The snowblower was serviced and taken to the town shed for storage.

A test repair was made on a damaged headstone by S. Dupuis. It was successful, others stones will be repaired as time allows.

Downed trees on Wiley Road have been cleaned up.

Open Issues: The flagpole will be picked up next week by S. Dupuis.

Lake Region will be here on the 29th to look at the furnace, and S. Dupuis will check on the warrantee.

New Business Sarah Shute attended the budget meeting. Another discussion ensued about the idea of a split bill each year. S. Dupuis will contact O'Donnell's in hopes they can provide numbers earlier as an alternative to idea of biannual tax bills.

S. Shute attended the planning board meeting. One item discussed was the possibility of having a "Welcome to Stow" sign erected at or near the town line. Jim Luongo has offered to both install and maintain the sign by his property.

There was discussion regarding a possible ordinance to control trash/ material accumulation etc. on town properties. Who would enforce?

Road Report- A drive around was conducted on Sunday to examine the most problematic spots. Trouble spots were sprayed with orange paint. Shimming areas were marked out as well. There is an area on Union Hill where water never drains. The solution will be to frack a portion of the road and then build up that section.

A repair section was also examined on S. Chatham road to address the most pressing issue.

The goal is to complete two repair projects before the summer's end.

Public Comment: None

Next meeting will be held 8-12-2025

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm

Minutes submitted by Kathleen Panno, Deputy Clerk