

Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes DATE 01.10.2023

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: NA

Residents/Guests: Rob Flint, **Broadband Liaison**

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved

Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved from 12/27/2022 meeting. Approved 3-0

Clerks Business: Na

Treasures Report:

Warrant # 1 \$ 12,975.66 Approved: Selectman 3-0

Cash balance is \$422,971. The auditor is scheduled to some the week of January 23rd. I have uploaded most of the documents they requested. I will submit the signature cards to TD on Friday to K. Panno as a signer. I have included PY's Budget to Actual, and details for the Road Expenses and Snow Expense accounts. My next project will be to create reports for the 2023 budget meeting.

Open Issues:

Selectman meeting January 16th at 9:30 to discuss nonprofit requests for 2023

Selectman meeting regarding January 30th , 9:30 to create pro forma budget

Selectman meeting February 15th at 6 pm Budget Committee meeting –C. Lindblade will send a 'save the date' email to the Budget Committee this week. Reports will be sent after the January 30th meeting.

K. Panno is monitoring the generator. It has turned off a few times. She is in contact with the vendor.

New Business NA

Public Comment: Broadband- A Selectman from each town is asked to come to the next meeting on January 11, 2022. R.Flint will send the RFP (request for proposal) and invite to the zoom meeting to C.Lindblade. All RFP's have been submitted to the group. There have been 6 responses. If a new entrant to the market is selected, every pole must be inspected by that party. There are approximately 20 poles per mile. The Maine Connectivity Authority is looking at certain cost tiers for funding. Therefore there is incentive to select a contract that is not priced over the MCA guidelines. In the fall the MCA received 90 million in proposals. ESRB will be

applying in the spring proposal submission for a block grant. The initial grant out of the COVID relief package allows for a lot of discretion regarding granting those funds by the MCA. Another block of money, coming from the recent infrastructure bill will be coming. However, this funding has more constraints and maybe more difficult for ESRB to qualify for.

R.Flint reminded everyone to complete the 'Connect the Dots' link on ESRB's website or Stow's website to document what kind of connectivity each residence has. This is important to document for the town and state, as it will drive the funding. It could be as high as \$4,000 per residence.

Next meeting will be Tuesday January 24, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Nancy Boros