

Town of Stow

Selectmen Meeting Minutes 5-14-2019

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

Present

Selectmen: Margaret Robbins, Ray Ryan, Jim Wilfong

Town Clerk: Carrie Garland (deputy clerk) **Treasurer:** Diana Davis **Secretary:** Carrie Garland

Residents/Guests: Paul Buckley, Bob Andrews, Mr. & Mrs. Wurm, Stacey Edwards

Steve Dupuis- Planning Board & Cemetery Committee

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes unanimously approved from previous meeting.

Clerks Business: None.

Treasures Report: Vote to accept TAN note approved (attached). Warrant #12 approved for \$52,309.57.

Public Comment: Paul Buckley, Bob Andrews and Mr. & Mrs. Wurm want to express their concerns and frustrations with the conditions of Kezar Lake Road. They would like the road to be assessed and repaired by a professional road construction company. The band aide approach is no longer acceptable. The road is reducing property values and the people on Kezar Lake Road account for a large sum of the taxes paid to this town, and they don't use the school system. They are not against paying taxes for education but would like the road fixed.

Ray Ryan commented that the selectmen need to look at the town as a whole and can not focus on just one road. All the roads in town are in dire need of some sort of maintenance.

Jim Wilfong commented that all the roads need to be redone and agree that the roads need to be done correctly. All the culverts in town need replacing. The cuts from the state and the increased prices in construction are putting a huge strain on small towns, Stow being no exception.

Paul Buckley, Bob Andrews and Mr. & Mrs. Wurm expressed their interest in helping the board come up with ideas on how to raise monies for road repair. The board is willing to listen to all suggestions and appreciates the help from the residents, as this is a "whole town problem."

Paul Buckley, Bob Andrews and Mr. & Mrs. Wurm thanked the board for listening and appreciated the opportunity to work with them in solving this issue.

Paul Buckley asked for permission from the selectmen to again plant the community gardens. Selectmen agreed this was generous gift from the Buckley's and look forward to again this year.

Steve Dupuis, Chairman of the Planning Board, discussed the adoption of the state standard building code. The town adopting a building code is necessary for safety. While on the subject of safety, Steve Dupuis addressed the board on the Neddenriep property. Blowing metal is a concern from the remnants of the fire, and this site needs to be cleaned up. Peg Robbins stated she would look into who to contact regarding the Neddenriep property.

Steve Dupuis spoke about commercial water extraction and the need for an ordinance addressing the issue. Jim Wilfong will get Steve the verbiage needed for the ordinance.

Steve Dupuis updated the selectmen on the shore land zoning difficulties he was having. Steve worked with the EPA in the accepted language of the zoning and has received a letter from the forestry department stating the language was not correct. Steve explained the differences from being designated a 1, 2 or 3 town, and suggested at this point to become a designated 1 town. This will leave all timber harvesting in shoreland zoning up to the state's forestry department for approval. Selectmen agreed this was the best option for the town.

Steve Dupuis brought to the attention of the Selectmen of a possible problem on Union Hill. A lot that persons want to build on has not yet received any permits. Ron McAllister is aware of the situation and is trying to contact them. The planning board and selectmen will keep in touch Mr. McAllister and each other regarding updates. With this issue arising, and others that are sure to follow, it is suggested that consequences be added to the town's ordinances. All agree.

The selectmen agreed that these were all viable issues that need to be addressed and want to meet with the planning board. Jim Wilfong, Peg Robbins and Ray Ryan suggest that the two boards work together on long term planning for the town. Steve Dupuis agreed this is a great idea. All would like to hold an informational meeting by the end of summer.

Steve Dupuis, Chairman of the Cemetery Committee, spoke about the issues last year regarding flags placed on Veterans graves. Twice, Steve has had flags moved off a grave and placed on another grave. Steve asks that if there is a Veteran in town that is not receiving a flag, notify the town hall with the name and cemetery and Steve will make sure it is taken care of. Please respect our Veterans. Do not remove flags that have been placed.

Old Business: Peg Robbins suggests that the selectmen revisit the idea of Dana Forcier speaking with the larger companies in quoting road work, and costs. The selectmen agree this is a good idea. Ray Raymond will email Dana Forcier and see if he is still available to help with this project.

New Business: Selectmen want to get the bid proposal for snow plowing out early. Peg Robbins will contact the Conway Daily Sun and the Bridgeton News, Carrie Garland will upload the proposal to the town's website making it accessible to anyone interested.

Selectmen received a letter from the state regarding trash and recycling. Jim Wilfong will be contacting the committee members listed to get more information.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 by Margaret Robbins. Next meeting will be May 28, 2019 at 6:00pm.

Minutes submitted by Carrie Garland.