

Town of Stoddard
Selectmen Meeting
Monday, February 14, 2022
Town Hall – 7PM

MINUTES

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendees include Robert Fee – Chair, Stephen McGerty – Selectmen, Michelle Pong – Town Administrator and Harry Power – Compliance Officer and members of the public.

Appointments:

Harry Power – Compliance Officer

421-13 – Building Permit for Doyle shed – Has not received permit application from Chris Hardwick for the shed.

115-82 – Garage converted to 2 bedroom but no septic yet – permit expiring soon.

2 seasonal cottages on Tigola Trail are being paid attention to. Melissa Rios, Map 115 Lot 17 Spencer used to own it when it needed a septic, but it never got approval for operation. The other one down the road can't find a septic system, so they are installing now and expect an operation permit soon.

To Be Signed/Approved

1. A/R and/or P/R manifest
2. Minutes of 1/31/2022

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

Old Business:

Tax Rate – The rate has been set at 16.57

Direct Deposit – Will recommend executing in next fiscal year due to high expense. It will also coincide with the implementation of upgraded BSMI system.

Protection Road – Had a response from Winship on the Question of Protection Road.

BOB MOTIONED TO LOOK INTO ATTORNEY FOR WINSHIP/PROTECTION ROAD ISSUE. STEPHEN SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Budget – Moderator Training Pay

Moderator has requested \$30.00 an hour for him and \$20 per hour for the Deputy Moderator to attend training, with an estimate of 18 hours of training plus travel.

STEVE MOTIONED TO TABLE THIS DISCUSSION FOR 2 WEEKS TO SEE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE MAKING IN OTHER TOWNS. BOB SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Tax Warrant – signed by Bob and Steve

Fire Department/Fibercast Contract

Fibercast is not emailing the Town Administrator. The new contract is about \$60.00 more than we pay now. The Selectmen signed the Fibercast Contract. The Town Administrator gave it to Steve Rockwell – he promised to provide her with a copy.

New Truck – The slow production is delaying the truck. If we cancel the truck now there will be an increase in pricing. The price will stay the same if we do not get out of the pipeline. The body build has started but waiting on the chassis. Steve Rockwell will reach out to the Bank to see if there will be any financing issues. Michelle will determine if this has to go back to Town Meeting.

Article for Town Meeting

To see if Town will vote to authorize the appointment, rather than the election of a Town Treasurer per RSA 41:26E

BOB MOTIONED TO PROCEED WITH THE WARRANT ARTICLE. STEPHEN SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

BOB MOTIONED TO WAIVE RENTAL FEE ON TOWN HALL FOR THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. STEPHEN SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Stephen McGerty had a number of questions for the Town Administrator:

Steve requested a letter from the Auditors firing us. Michelle stated that we only received a phone call.

Steve thanked Chris Pong for his work on the finances and did a nice job, but had a number of questions.

What was found that was wrong with the books. Michelle said she didn't have a clear picture of the problem but can get Chris to help answer them.

Can municipal records be taken off the property? Michelle answered in the affirmative. Stating that they were public information. Is there a law that says they can't be removed from the office?

Does Chris Pong have a Bond?

He has insurance. Steve requested copy of insurance paperwork. Michelle said she would check with Chris and confirmed that he had his own business. Steve thought the town should have a copy of his papers. Michelle reminded the Selectmen that Chris wasn't paid for his work, but she would ask him if he wanted to provide that information. She also confirmed that Mr. Pong is a business owner. Bob asked Steve why we needed that. Steve wanted to make sure we didn't end

up in a situation like this. Michelle offered to invite Chris into the meeting. More conversation took place regarding balancing Town books.

Bob asked if there was anymore business to be brought before the board.

**STEVE MOTIONED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING @8:17 PM. BOB SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED.**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:17 PM

Submitted

Vickie Williams – Secretary
Michelle Pong – Town Administrator

Robert Fee_____

Christopher Madden _____

Stephen McGerty_____