

Town of Stoddard  
Selectmen's Meeting  
Monday, January 24, 2022  
Town Hall – 7PM

MINUTES

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendees include: Robert Fee – Chair, Chris Madden – Selectmen, Stephen McGerty – Selectmen, Michelle Pong – Town Administrator and Vickie Williams – Secretary.

Guests include Joe Traniello, Mike Angell, Harry Power – Compliance Officer, Trevor Anderson – Deputy Fire Chief, Chris Pong, Margo Santoro, Terri LaRoche and Noreen & Ray Durand.

Mask comment by Bob Fee – Chair

Over a year ago the Selectmen voted to encourage face coverings in all public buildings, and signs remain posted at The Town Hall, Library and Gould House. We will continue to encourage face coverings in all public situations where social distancing is not possible. At the start of the pandemic the Board voted against issuing a mandate or ordinance in regard to face coverings. There has been no change in opinion on this matter as it stands.

Appointments:

NONE

To Be Signed/Approved:

1. A/R and/or P/R Manifest.
2. Minutes of 1/10/2022.

**All Signed & Approved.**

Guests/Requests:

NONE

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)

Terri LaRoche – Back to the masks. Can people who have auto immunities make appointments for registrations with the Town Clerk separately from others?

Answer – Can contact the Town Clerk with that question. Also all registrations can be done online from the Town website under the Town Clerk.

Are there any N95 masks available to give out to the public?

This will be looked into to see if any are available and how much they will cost if none can be gotten from the State.

Old Business:

Tax Rate:

The Town does not have a rate as of this meeting. Still working with the Auditors on a daily basis to get them everything needed. The Town books are closed, but not set up in a format that the Auditor wants because of the antiquated software. This has been worked on daily and through the weekend. This will be worked on everyday until the town has their Tax Rate.

Bookkeeping Plans Going Forward:

BMSI upgrade of software – the programs are intergrated with the State System. The upgrade is based on window/excel programming instead of Dos being operated currently.

Stephen McGerty asked about getting rid of the Treasurer position as an elected position and making it an appointed position.

This has to be brought up as a Warrant Article at Town Meeting and voted on by the Town Citizens.

As the Town gets larger we need someone with bookkeeping experience.

Action Plan going forward:

- Fisical year ending June 2021 balances have been fully reconciled.
- We will continue to rely on outside resources to fully reconcile cash to current as to avoid similar experiences in the future.
- We will separate the cash reconciliation from the Treasurers office and reassign to another employee.
- Will develop an internal written reconciliation process to provide to those responsible for the cash reconciliation going forward.
- Will begin the process to upgrade our existing financial software including comprehensive training for those using the system.
- Close the books every month and present a report to the Select Board.

BSMI upgrade \$3500.00and the annual fee is already include in the budget. Training is included in the upgrade.

**Chris motioned to go forward with the BSMI upgrade for software. Stephen Seconded. Motion Carried.**

Direct Deposit – Pat has been working on this and gathering information. Will wait to see if there is money in the budget to implement this.

Protection Road:

Ongoing research is being done. Mr Winship would like to come talk to the Board about this issue.

SB249 – prohibiting regulation on short-term rentals

Would there be a room & meals tax on these rentals?

Stephen McGerty

Are we going to do anything about the Yard Sale ordinance? The issue was tabled and can be brought up again by any member of the Board.

New Business:

NONE

Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items Only)

Bob Maden-

Article in the Sentinel on our tax rate situation. People who work on a budget to pay their tax bill. Can they pay their tax bill before being sent the actual bill?

Yes they can, they can contact the Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

Bob Maden-

West Shore Road in Nelson was closed at the end of October because of a culvert between the lake and Mill Pond. Concerns for mud season. Logging trucks coming down Aten Road 3 or 4 times a day with full loads. Concerns about the travel on Aten Road, West Shore Road and North Shore Road in Stoddard. The roads very rutted and a heavier volume of traffic due to the closure of West Shore Road in Nelson.

Will check the Timber Permit to see when they should be done with the logging. Will also speak to David Vaillencourt Road Agent about this issue and have him check the roads.

**Chris motioned to adjourn the Public Meeting at 8:05pm. Stephen Seconded. Motion Carried.**

**Chris motioned to go into Non-Public meeting RSA 91-A:3, II(c). Stephen Seconded. Motion Carried.**

**Stephen motioned to come out of Non-Public session of meeting 8:29pm. Bob Seconded. Motion Carried.**

**Chris motioned to adjourn the Public Meeting. Bob Seconded. Motion Carried.**

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm**

Submitted

Vickie Williams – Secretary

Robert Fee\_\_\_\_\_

Christopher Madden\_\_\_\_\_

Stephen McGerty\_\_\_\_\_