

TOWN OF STETSON
SELECTMAN'S MINUTES

DATE: January 26, 2022

6:00 P.M.

I. OPEN MEETING

Millard Butler opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. ROLL CALL

Millard Butler, Brenda Clark, Leslie Merrill, Danielle Withee and Tammy Buswell were all present.

B. MINUTES OF THE MEETING

1. Approve Town Meeting Minutes-Tabled.
2. Approve January 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve by Tammy Buswell, seconded by Leslie Merrill
Vote: Unanimous Aye
3. Approve January 12, 2021 Executive Session Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve by Millard Butler, seconded by Brenda Clark
Vote: Unanimous Aye

C. QUIT CLAIM DEEDS-None.

D. WARRANTS

1. Motion made by Brenda Clark, seconded by Tammy Buswell, to approve Advantage Payroll Warrant #14.

Vote: Unanimous Aye

Millard Butler read the line items.

2. Motion made by Tammy Buswell, seconded by Brenda Clark, to approve Expenditures #30.

Vote: Unanimous Aye

Danielle Withee and Leslie Merrill abstained

Millard Butler read the line items.

Tammy Buswell asked if the \$70.00 check from December for the Library PO Box had been voided?

Brenda Clark asked what the \$100.00 check to Noel was for- Mileage.

E. **BOARD OF ASSESSORS-** no report.

II. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Foreclosure Buy Back Program

The documents from Milford were given to each selectman to review.

B. Rapid Renewal & Debit/Credit Card machine-no report.

C. Policy & Procedure manual-

The insurances listed in the old version are no longer in place, and the Selectmen decided not to renew them, so they will be removed.

D. ZOOM Policy-

This was the first meeting using ZOOM for remote people to join.

E. ARPA update-No report.

F. Tape recorder for Selectmen's meetings-

The tape recorder has been working well.

G. Corinth recycling program-

The flyers have been posted at the Town Office, the Post Office and at Bratts.

H. CMP streetlight update-

Danielle Withee stated that the light at the intersection of East Newport Rd. and Mount Pleasant Rd. is now lit. Steven Ingalls stated that the light at the intersection of Lapoint Rd. and Merrill Rd. is also lit.

I. Dyed Kerosene at Fire Station-

Mike Feole reported that the technician from Dead River told him that Dyed Kerosene is only needed if the tank is un-heated. He also stated that switching from Dyed Kerosene to #2 Fuel oil requires no changes to the burner. Fire Lieutenant Gene Trojano said that he will check to see if the tank is heated or not.

J. Flagpole at Fire Station/Library-

Quotes are being sought. Danielle Withee said that the light has been turned off.

III. **NEW BUSINESS**

Sandee Kerr sent a request to the Selectmen to change her hours.

Motion made by Millard Butler, seconded by Danielle Withee to approve the change in hours.

Vote: Unanimous Aye to approve.

Tammy Buswell asked if the audit has been scheduled. Tammy Buswell and Danielle Withee will get contact information for auditors to Mike Feole so that he can arrange to have the audit.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. ANIMAL CONTROL- no report.

B. APPEALS BOARD- no report.

C. CEMETERY-

Julie Brownie said that she and her husband had to take down the flags in December at the Clarks Hill and Coboro cemeteries, and that the Mount Pleasant cemetery had already had the flags removed and placed in storage at the Town Office. She also stated that the contract for the lawn care says the flags should be removed after November 11.

D. CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER- no report.

E. E911- no report.

F. EDUCATION-

Steven Ingalls said that he has the Minutes from the last School Committee meeting. He also stated that the School Committee has made no decisions about the High School project. He said their budget season starts next month. He said that the State has said that they may contribute more next year, so hopefully our budget will remain the same as last year.

Brenda Clark said that she spoke with the principal about the car issue and she expects it to be resolved soon.

G. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE- no report.

H. EMT/RESCUE- no report.

I. FIRE DEPARTMENT-

Julie Brownie asked if the fire extinguishers would be inspected soon. She says it looks like a company does a yearly inspection and someone else does a monthly inspection

based on the cards attached to the extinguishers. She also asked if the Fire Department wants the refrigerator and hot dog grill back-no. She also asked about the light left on in one of the bays. Fire Lieutenant Trojano said that that was normal.

J. MEETINGHOUSE- no report.

K. PARKS & RECREATION-

Bethany Leighton said the arts and crafts fair in December was a huge success. There will be no Basketball this season due to no coaches being available. The next event will be during the Easter season.

L. PLUMBING INSPECTOR- no report.

M. RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE COLLECTION- no report.

N. ROAD COMMISSIONER-

Joe Gray said that the sand shed is down to around 1000 yards of sand, so that will need to be replenished soon. He also said that he was contacted by a contractor, who was out of town, to ask if Joe could sand the Post Office. The contractor will be reimbursing the town for the sand.

O. STATE LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDANCE- no report.

P. TREASURER- no report.

Q. WELFARE DIRECTOR- no report.

R. OTHER-

Julie Brownie said that the Library is renovating the common room (old town office) and they have volunteers for the painting and laying the new flooring. She asked if she could put a cart to sell used books by donation at the Town Office. The Selectmen approved it.

V. TRAINING- no report

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Randy Randall- Do we have a full time road crew? Where are the sand trucks on dirt roads? Somebody has to sand the roads. My daughter was stuck on the side of the road for 3 1/2 hours.

Joe Gray- We were out doing the roads. We have 30 miles of roads that we have to work on. We were working on it.

Jodi Lyford- What we need to do is figure out a way to make it better. I have the number of the Road Commissioner to call him if there is an issue.

Cheryl Lee Randall- I am disrespected on the town pages by selectmen. I have been called a keyboard warrior as soon as anyone makes a comment. Danielle Withee and Leslie Merrill are the ones that disrespected me. Is there a code of conduct in town?

Millard Butler- The town does not have a Facebook page. Does an individual or selectman have the right to respond?

Cheryl Lee Randall- Most of the town has joined the page.

Brenda Clark- Last year I was called into an Executive Session because I took a picture. I commented that wouldn't you like to have these men building our roads?

Cheryl Lee Randall- I don't think that I can trust you (Select Board). I don't like being slandered, lied to, and made fun of. This is the face of you.

Leslie Merrill- I don't go on there much and I don't sass people.

Cheryl Lee Randall- I made a comment about the crown of the roads.

Millard Butler- What was said to you Brenda? No one can tell you not to. There is nothing the board can do about what people do on their own time. This board does have to investigate the complaint. Now that we have a complaint, we can discuss it. The board cannot remove anyone else on the board. The public can have a recall and remove someone.

Brenda Clark- Joe, sometimes I think that you think that we are out for you. I apologize for the way things went tonight. Cory and Bethany got home at 8:00 that night.

Joe Gray- If it is raining, I also have issues getting up the roads. I have to go backwards so that we sand as we go along so we don't get stuck. We don't want anyone stranded but we also don't want anyone to get hurt.

Brenda Clark- Last year Stetson had perfect roads. I wrote that our roads were excellent. We aren't here as a vigilante.

Joe Gray- This is the place to discuss it.

Jasmine Rugan- I know that it is a thankless job. The slush needs to be scraped off.

Joe Gray- Last year we had thirty degree weather the next day and we scraped it off. This year it was freezing the next day. The plow has no down-pressure, so if it is frozen it won't scrape off. We were the only town in the area that sanded. If it is cold then that is all that we can do.

Danielle Withee- As far as Facebook and my husband, he is his own person.

Jackie Cook- My friend has been a selectman for fifteen years and she always tells us not to speak out if it will come back. Why is it OK for him to speak out?

Millard Butler- The Select Board does not do that (limit speech). I would like to go back to face to face conversation.

Cheryl Lee Randall- If you take a position as a Board member, then you should respect other people.

Tammy Buswell- I think what happens is: we are Selectmen who are also residents. When we post something we are seen as a board member, not as a resident. You don't look at what I said as a resident, you look at it as a board member.

Millard Butler- The first step is to do what you are doing now. The next step is to tell those people that you don't like what was said and give them a chance to stop.

Danielle Withee- I am not an administrator of the Stetson Rant & Rave Facebook page. At the last meeting, Leslie and I made it clear that we are not administrators on that page. The Stetson Maine page is used only for communication.

Millard Butler- Hopefully both sides have learned something and can move forward.

Steven Ingalls- The State said that the cap for delinquent tax payers is 4% interest. Our tax bills say 6%. The State was talking about the Calendar year.

Tammy Buswell- I will talk to Danielle Davis about that.

Bethany Leighton- Do the plows have shoes?

Joe Gray- No.

Jasmin Rugan- I will come again.

Millard Butler- That is great. Maybe we will come together again.

VII. SELECTMEN COMMENTS- None.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION 4056A- Personnel

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Millard Butler, seconded by Tammy Buswell, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

_____ Millard Butler, Chairman

_____ Leslie Merrill, Vice Chairman

_____ Brenda Clark

_____ Danielle Withee

_____ Tammy Buswell