

**TOWN OF STETSON
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
DATE: September 8, 2021
5:30-6:00 P.M. – Executive Session
6:00 P.M. – Regular Meeting**

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Millard Butler, seconded by Leslie Merrill, it was voted 4-0, Brenda Clark arrived during the Session, to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. section 405(6)(A) regarding a resident's complaint with a member of the Planning Board at 5:30 p.m.

Upon motion by Millard Butler, seconded by Danielle Withee, it was unanimously voted to exit Executive Session at 5:45 p.m. with this issue needing to be addressed at a later date after further information is acquired.

II. OPEN MEETING

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

A. ROLL CALL

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

B. MINUTES OF THE MEETING

1. Upon motion by Danielle Withee, seconded by Brenda Clark, it was unanimously voted to approve the August 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes
2. Upon motion by Leslie Merrill, seconded by Danielle Withee, it was unanimously voted to approve the August 30, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes
3. Town Meeting Minutes - Tabled

C. QUIT CLAIM DEEDS - None

D. WARRANTS

1. Upon motion by Brenda Clark, seconded by Tammy Buswell, it was unanimously voted to approve Advantage Payroll Warrant #5 with a question by Tammy as to the purpose of the date on the warrant, whether it is the paid date, selectmen's meeting date, or when the warrant is actually completed. Millard Butler will get an answer from Diane Lacadie.
2. Upon motion by Brenda Clark, seconded by Millard Butler, it was unanimously voted to approve Expenditures #4
3. Upon motion by Tammy Buswell, seconded by Danielle Withee, it was unanimously voted to approve Expenditures #10

E. BOARD OF ASSESSORS – None

III. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Foreclosure Buy Back Program – Tabled
- B. CMP update regarding LEDs and streetlights – Tabled
- C. Meetinghouse repairs update – Tabled

- D. Status of applicants regarding open positions within the town

There have been only two applicants, neither with town office experience. Brenda Clark recommended, and the Board agreed, placing an ad in a larger coverage area, such as the Bangor Daily News. Jody Lyford inquired if there was a website where employers could search for applicants. Millard Butler stated the openings were posted on the Maine Municipal Association website where qualified applicants go to search for jobs of this nature.

- E. Zoom policy – Tabled
- F. Computer needs for upcoming elections – Tabled
- G. ARPA update

Millard Butler reported that Diane Lacadie called the telephone number on the email and the person she spoke with had no knowledge of the information. Millard provided an email address, which Diane followed up with. Steve Ingalls stated this money is purpose-specific, with broadband being a significant prospect for use of this money. He also stated that the county and state are also getting funds, which we may also be able to get in on. This is tabled for further updates.

- H. School tax update - Tabled

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discuss Town Office evening hours

Due to a shortage of office staff, the Town Office will be open Monday evenings and will now be temporarily closed on Thursdays.

- B. Bids for municipal plowing

Consensus of the Board was to get ads placed for bids for the municipal plowing.

- C. Statement from Chairman of the Board

This was covered above in “Discuss Town Office evening hours”.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. ANIMAL CONTROL – None
- B. APPEALS BOARD – None
- C. CEMETERY

Julie Brownie reported Maine Gravesite Maintenance, LLC spent 4 days cleaning and repairing 12 stones, 3 of which were done for free. She has also ordered signs from Sign Service, Inc. for the cost of \$200. Julie stated Rosa Bellefleur personally cleaned 4 stones and received a \$200 donation for her work. This \$200 will be used to cover the signs purchased by Sign Service. Julie continued with information that she located a stone of a veteran who was also a Mason by the name of Cloudman. She has reached out to the Masonic Lodge in Newport inquiring if they would be interested in doing a fundraiser to repair this stone, which they are. Maine Gravesite Maintenance, LLC will not be able to do any further work until 2022, so the Masonic Lodge has a year to do their fundraising. She also stated she has found 2 more stones that were

both veterans and Masons that the Masonic Lodge may be interested in. Julie continued that she and Mary Annette have done some bush cutting at the cemeteries. Millard Butler stated that he cut and removed some of the trees that had been flagged to be removed at Coboro Cemetery. Julie stated Mark McKay is currently ill but is still interested in cutting limbs and trees with a bucket truck. Millard inquired if Joe Gray could reach out to a couple of his contacts to get additional estimates.

D. CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – None

E. E911 – None

F. EDUCATION – None

G. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE – None

H. EMT/RESCUE – None

I. FIRE DEPARTMENT – None

J. MEETINGHOUSE – None

K. PARKS & RECREATION – None

L. PLANNING BOARD – None

M. PLUMBING INSPECTOR – None

N. RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE COLLECTION – None

O. ROAD COMMISSIONER

Brenda Clark inquired of Joe Gray if there would be paving done this year. Joe stated not this year.

P. STATE LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDANCE – None

Q. TREASURER

Danielle Withee asked if a Treasurer's Report could be provided for next meeting.

R. WELFARE DIRECTOR – None

S. OTHER – None

VI. TRAINING – None

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeff Dorman inquired as to why there was a Stetson Fire Department truck parked at Levant Fire Department. Millard Butler explained that one truck was parked at the Stetson Fire Department for resident fire department members to use and the second was parked at Levant Fire Department to be used in Stetson and that Levant Fire Department was servicing and maintaining them.

Steve Ingalls inquired about the mock tax bills. He stated he checked the Stetson website and the actual tax bills are supposed to be mailed the end of September. This makes a narrow window from mock tax bills to actual tax bills. By his calculations the mill rate should be, at the maximum, approximately 16.63, although Danielle Davis was going to set it at 17.25 or 17.5 for the mock tax bills. Seeing as the Board has not been provided supplements, his opinion is the supplements may actually balance out the abatements that may come in. Steve also suggested the Board address this mill rate at the next meeting.

There was a lengthy discussion by both members of the Board and the public regarding the mailing of the mock tax bills and how the assessments were completed. In summary, Millard Butler will attempt to determine where the tax bills were actually mailed from. Brenda Clark will contact our post office to determine if they were mailed from there and, if so, why have the residents have not received them.

VIII. SELECTMEN COMMENTS

Tammy Buswell stated that the Board had received a formal written complaint from a resident regarding the tax assessor and asked if anyone had reached out to the resident to advise her that the tax assessor has not been available for follow-up. Millard Butler will reach out to the resident.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Millard Butler, seconded by Leslie Merrill, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

_____ Millard Butler, Chairman

_____ Leslie Merrill, Vice Chairman

_____ Brenda Clark

_____ Danielle Withee

_____ Tammy Buswell