

**TOWN OF STETSON**  
**SELECTMEN'S MINUTES**  
**September 13, 2023**  
**TIME: 6:00 P.M.**

**I. OPEN MEETING**

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

**A. ROLL CALL**

Millard Butler, Tammy Buswell, Gene Trojano, Jody Lyford and Leslie Merrill were present. Danielle Davis, Administrative Assistant, was absent.

**B. MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

Upon motion by Jody Lyford, seconded by Gene Trojano, it was unanimously voted to approve the August 23, 2023 meeting minutes with the following correction: Leslie abstained from voting on Expenditures #4 making the vote 4-0.

**C. QUIT CLAIM DEEDS – None**

**D. WARRANTS**

1. **Bangor Payroll # 4** – Tabled
2. **Expenditures #5**

Upon motion by Tammy Buswell, seconded by Leslie Merrill, it was unanimously voted to approve AP Warrant #5. Discussion of when the TDS contract was set to expire.

**E. BOARD OF ASSESSORS – None**

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Boiler Estimates – We should have an answer regarding the grant to replace the boiler on September 19, 2023.
- B. Broadband – TDS emailed Danielle Davis with an update. They will not be applying for the upcoming BEAD grant as there is no guarantee of funding. They will be electing the Enhanced ACAM, which is a guarantee for funding. The election for this funding will be made by September 29, 2023, is a guarantee for funding, meaning Stetson, Exeter, Corinna and Jonesport will be receiving funding for fiber. The program's start date is January 1, 2024. This program also means no town funds will be needed.
- C. ARPA Wish List – None
- D. Playground – Jody Lyford gave an update after meeting with a gentleman who was involved in the Town of Exeter's new playground. His recommendation is that, due to the age of the playground equipment, we should raise the ground by placing 6x6 posts around the exterior of the playground and then filling that area with chips. By fixing one piece of equipment, it may cause damage to another place in the equipment. He recommends using the funds to purchase new equipment rather than spending the money to fix our outdated equipment. She

- also stated that Exeter received grant money for their playground. She also was giving a catalog. She stated volunteers would be needed if this is a route we would like to take.
- E. Loon Cove – Millard Butler had met with the Road Commissioner, the trash contractor and the plow contractor. He stated the plow contractor has a one-ton truck with a V-plow and a wing and does not feel plowing will be an issue. The resident at the end of Loon Cove had done some tree pruning, therefore the trash contractor has no issues with collecting trash. The concern is trees, flower gardens, fencing, etc. that may get damaged during the winter. Millard would like to meet with all residents on the extension to discuss possible damage. The discussion was for an agreement to be signed waiving the Town's responsibility for damage. Jody also suggested, where a letter had been sent where the Town was no longer going to provide services, another letter gets sent stating that we would. The resident at the end of Loon Cove would also like to include grading, as that had not been discussed in prior meetings. Millard assured him that would also continue.
- F. Dam – Danielle Davis is still waiting for a call from the correct DEP department.
- G. Meeting House – Tammy Buswell provided the Board with an updated draft agreement on the rental between the Town and the Church with changes made by Board members and the Church. There was discussion regarding the dates of pay and adding the fiscal year to each contract. She stated she will make the updates, provide a copy to each Board member as well as Nevin Miller and, if all are in agreement, we may be able to sign at the next meeting. She also said Mr. Miller had received a call from a resident who works for MDOT. The gravel will need to be removed from the catch-basin or we will continue to have water issues. With the upcoming storm this weekend, Tammy will check with Mr. Miller to monitor water damage. Tammy also asked if the Board wanted to work on some of the list items provided. Danielle Davis will need to check with Brent Dorman to see if he is interested in any of the work. Regarding the damage to the steeple, Millard will check with Scott Bellefluer to see if he knows anyone who may have a lift high enough to get up there.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. LS Power – Millard Butler had met with them and received a package of information, including a list of property owners this project will affect. The routes are not definite due to houses LS Power was not aware of when they were mapping. There were several residents in attendance as well as Steve Foster, Maine House of Representatives. Mr. Foster provided a lot of information on how this started as well as suggestions on how the Town should proceed. The consensus of the Board, with the residents in attendance in agreement, was to start a committee. The following are members: David Cyr, Chairman, Kathy Grant, Greg Grant, Michael Kamorski, Nancy Washburn, Blaine Batchelder, Lyman Frost, and Steve Ingalls. They will meet and provide an update to the Board at the next meeting.
- B. Trio upgrade – Upon motion from Jody Lyford, seconded by Gene Trojano, it was unanimously voted to approve \$4,000 be taken from ARPA funding for the upgrade.
- C. Trio program for Commercial Truck Registration - Tabled
- D. Sand Contract – Upon motion from Gene Trojano, seconded by Tammy Buswell, it was unanimously voted to accept the sand contract from Street's for 3000 yards of sand at \$14.50 per yard.

#### **IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. ANIMAL CONTROL – Gene Trojano reported on behalf of the ACO that she only received a phone call last night. Millard Butler requested a report as the Board did not receive one last month. Gene will follow-up with the ACO.
- B. APPEALS BOARD – Nothing
- C. CEMETERY – Julie Brownie stated they had a stone cleaning day where 7 volunteers were in attendance and cleaned 16 stones. She would like to make this an annual event, or maybe hold one twice a year. She and Jody Lyford had both been doing some brush cutting. A large tree had come down in Clark’s Hill Cemetery that Leslie Merrill had taken care of. Fortunately, this did not cause any damage to any of the stones.
- D. CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER/PLUMBING INSPECTOR – Adam Caldwell stated nothing to report other than the usual handful of permits being issued.
- E. E911 – Nothing
- F. EDUCATION – Nothing
- G. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE – Nothing
- H. FIRE DEPARTMENT/EMT/RESCUE – Fire Chief Eric Strout was in attendance and provided a report. Discussion of the rescue vehicle having some wiring issues with the lights. Upon motion by Millard Butler, seconded by Leslie Merrill, it was unanimously voted to take money from the EMS rollover account to pay the estimated \$7708 to replace and fix the lighting and wiring. Chief Strout also stated he would like to put a dry hydrant at the intersection of Lapoint and Dearborn roads. He has all of the materials but would like an excavator to dig the trench. Millard Butler will reach out to a couple of people he knows to see if anyone would be interested.
- I. LIBRARY – Nothing
- J. MEETINGHOUSE – As stated above in Old Business
- K. PARKS & RECREATION – Nothing
- L. PLANNING BOARD – Nothing
- M. RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE COLLECTION – Nothing
- N. ROAD COMMISSIONER – Nothing
- O. STATE LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDANCE – Nothing
- P. TREASURER – Nothing
- Q. WELFARE DIRECTOR – Nothing
- R. OTHER – Nothing

V. **TRAINING** – Kelli Dodge and Danielle Davis have upcoming training at the end of the month.

VI. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Steve Foster, Maine House of Representatives, stated there is \$300,000 in ARPA funding through Penobscot County still available to towns. He said the contact person is Andre Cushing. Chief Strout stated Levant Fire Department had received money and the process for applying is relatively simple. Steve Ingalls stated he received information regarding the old dump being used as a brownfield for solar. They need a minimum of 5 acres, the lease agreement would be for 25 years and would pay around \$5000 per year. He also stated the Building Code for the Town needs to be revisited as it had not been updated since 2006. Adam Caldwell agreed with this.

**VII. SELECTMEN COMMENTS** – Tammy Buswell explained that CMP had found an bare voltage wire at the Town Office and they also stated we needed an electrician to replace the box holding the meter. Danielle Davis has reached out to an electrician for an estimate and is hoping to coordinate the work between the electrician and CMP on a Thursday morning to not affect the business hours. She also stated she had a call from Sheriff Troy Morton who proposed the Town hire a full-time deputy at a cost of \$110,000-\$115,000 for 40-hours, splitting the cost with Levant and sharing this service. She stated if the Board was interested in this or had questions regarding this, she would invite Sheriff Morton to a meeting to better explain the process and answer any questions. The consensus of the Board was this service is not needed at this time.

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – 405-6(A) Personnel evaluation – Tabled until next meeting due to the employee not in attendance of the meeting.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion from Tammy, seconded by Gene Trojano, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Millard W Butler Millard Butler, Chairman

Tammy B Buswell Tammy Buswell, Vice Chairman

G to Gene Trojano

Jody Lyford Jody Lyford

Leslie Merrill Leslie Merrill

Respectfully submitted – Tammy Buswell