

**Town of Stratford  
Board of Selectboard Meeting  
Fuller Town Hall @ 3:30 PM  
November 04, 2024**

Call to Order: 3:40PM by Clayton Macdonald

Selectmen present: Harry Juergens, Charlie Goulet, Clayton Macdonald

Others present: Vanessa Toner, Suzanne Goulet, See attached attendance List

1st 1.5 hours of meeting the Selectboard and Town administrator answered questions regarding the new Property Tax increases and the citizens were concerned as they were not expecting such a big increase and demanded to know why this happened. Both Administrator and Boardman Macdonald tried to explain but also advised that they could only explain why the towns portion went up. They could not explain why the county and education went up and that all members of the town are welcomed at the school board meetings and the county budget meetings so that they can understand why they went up. The board encouraged the citizens to go to the school board meeting that was set to happen 11/13/24 and they could ask them why that portion went up. At 5:00PM Selectman Macdonald advised the town citizens that they would no longer answer questions regarding the taxes as there was select board agenda items that they needed to address and work on. The citizens were encouraged to stay and be involved but they could also leave if they wanted too.

**Malcom Tileston** appeared before the board and recently had a backed-up culvert and stated that the culvert is the towns property and they should have to maintain it not himself. He states he was told years ago that it was property of the town and he would not fix it. The board advised that the culvert which is under the Mr. Tilestons driveway per the RSA that it was his to maintain. They did agree that putting down more stone in the ditches besides the culvert would help with the runoff and the culvert getting blocked. The board will have someone take a look and get that additional stone placed. They again stressed the culvert was cleaned this one time and the town would not do anything further to address any additional blockages and all parties agreed that hopefully the new gravel/rocks would help the issue.

**Suzanne:** Sewer ordinance needs to be updated. Discussion was put forward to do more research on having meters placed within the town to help better assess the revenue received. This is an ongoing discussion and no decision was made. Road agent ad has no interest. Should the town change it from employee to contract position and all were in agreement. All 3 boardman would like to see any of the candidates on the meeting for 11/18/24. There have been calls regarding renting out the towns excavator and the board voted against this. There are too many variables of the damage to the equipment or to people whom need to know how to use the equipment and any injuries that may happen and the added cost to the town for insurance etc. The board also agreed 3-0 to approve the Est from Lufkin to put in a security buzzer on the town hall door. Asbestos on 561 Bog Road. The board is in the process of getting Est to have the building torn down due to asbestos. Estimate is ongoing and will discuss at next meeting.

**Select Board:**

**Juergens:** Has met with John-John regarding doing work with FEMA.

**Macdonald:** Submitted the lead survey for the state and there will be ongoing records to maintain and he will

coordinate with Erik since he takes care of the water/sewer lines.

**Goulet:** Rocks on Bridge street, will have Ryan move the big rocks .

**Manifest** Macdonald/Juergens, Goulet, approved 3/0 to sign for 10/21/2024 & 10/28/24.

**Signed Documents:**

Health Officer Nomination for Jim Lee approved 3-0. Voting warrant, Utility warrant.

**Old Business:** N/A

**New Business:**

Approval of Selectman Minutes 10/21 and 10/28,

**Reminders:** Public PILOT Solar meeting at 12/11 @ 6PM

Meeting Adjourned: 5:45PM

Minutes prepared by: V. Toner