

**Town of Stratford
Board of Selectboard Meeting
Fuller Town Hall @ 3:30 PM
February 24, 2025**

Call to Order: 3:57PM by Clayton Macdonald

Selectmen present: Harry Juergens, Charlie Goulet, Clayton Macdonald

Others present: Suzanne Goulet, Vanessa Toner, Maryann Lister, Amber Rock, Ron Scott

Maryann: The state offices have issued a software for elections and that it would cost the town money each election and that the town cannot afford the fee as it was explained to her it will double and it's a cost with each election that the town has. Even though the school is at the same day and time, it will be charged to the town as 2 separate elections. If there are 4 elections throughout the year those would add up each time. It's not a yearly fee but a per election fee. Bill 1264-FN is the bill that was passed and the towns thought they were given the right to deny but that was not the case per Maryann

Amber: Ms. Rock joins the board today to request help with a grant that she is looking to get a groomer for the North Country ATV Club. However, the club needs to be a charitable organization that is recognized. At this time, they are not but they have sent in the documents and are awaiting their letter. Amber states that the town can apply for the grant however the town would not have to put any money for this towards the grant and she advised that she would write a letter to this if the board needed this. The funds from the grant if approved would be administered by the North Country Council. After speaking with the board and reviewing her information that she provided they discussed it as a round table and Chairman Macdonald put forth the motion to approve and it was unanimous 3-0 approved for the town to be the applicant and the club be the co-applicant. Ms. Rock will handle the grant applications and reach out to the selectboard if she has any issues.

Suzanne: Mixer issues at the reservoir have been identified and it is an issue at this time. The cord will need to be replaced. Marbina Woods still not responding to request for an assessment of the property. Selectman C. Macdonald suggesting that the board try and make an appt with their land management team member Sean before using our warrant to gain access. The board unanimously agreed to allow Suzanne to sign documents for the sidewalk grants from Rural & Tribal that the board is currently in the process of applying for. The town has received the grant money from the NHCF, for the park renovations. She also advised the board that the town has received the FEMA money (\$53,554.10, FEMA & 58,000, NHCF). Work will begin once the weather changes. It was also advised that the property that was taken by deed have forfeited their rights to repurchase their properties as the time limit has expired.

Select Board:

Juergens: Has been working on the sidewalk grants with the board and per the initial reviews it looks like the roundabout could be moved west. However, this will require more discussions as to whether it is really feasible. It would require a very thorough look at the costs and the effects it would have on the town. As it was stated the roundabout will slow the traffic down as they come into town.

Macdonald: The chairman has expressed that he will continue to work within the town on the planning board and the conservation commission. Currently he will remain committed to the tasks that we are currently on and will provide input if needed as his tenure expires. He is still working on the meter

reading software from EJP and will advise of his progress. The chairman also advised that the tax collector cannot give any oaths of office without the board approval and just wanted to make sure that this was in the minutes for any future references.

Goulet: Has nothing to add at this time.

Manifest Macdonald/Juergens, Goulet, approved 3/0 to sign for 2/10/2025 and 2/18/2025.

Signed Documents:

PA-7 Intent to Cut-Robidoux, Hazard Mitigation Form SF424/424B, TH Rental: Butterfly Release, Deeda's Basket Making, Grange(multiple), Fire Contract; Maidstone, Brunswick

Old Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Reminders: NCC-Nick 2/25 @ 2PM, Town Elections 3/11 @ 10AM, School Meeting 3/12 @ 5:30PM, Town Meeting 3/15@ 10AM.

Public Input: Mr. Scott joined the meeting late but wanted to state he likes the idea of a roundabout however; he has concerns that the 18 wheelers and larger trucks who are not paying attention to the speed limit might not be able to stop or slow down in time. He was glad that the board would do a complete review with any advancement on this project.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:35PM

Minutes prepared by: V. Toner