

Town of Stockton Springs
Select Board – Morning Meeting
January 20, 2022
Minutes

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6 1. Roll Call: Call to Order

7 Mr. Shute called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

8 Present: Darren Shute, Betsy Bradley (speaker phone) and Marsha Shute.

9 Also Present: Mac Smith – Town Manager.

10 2. Adjustments to the Agenda

11 Mr. Smith said that Item #2, Executive Session, would not be necessary.

12 3. Meeting with Prospect Select Board/Shared Ambulance Service

13 Diane Terry, Select Board Member from the Town of Prospect, was in attendance at the
14 meeting. There was continued discussion of a contract between the two towns versus a
15 combined department, as had been requested by Prospect in a letter dated December 2.

16 There was discussion of the difficulties that might be faced if the two towns had a shared
17 department versus the two-year contract.

18 Mr. Smith pointed out potential difficulties with personnel management and budgeting.
19 He asked what would happen if one town approved the ambulance budget but the other
20 town did not. He said he felt the spirit of a joint department was reflected in different
21 ways, such as having the name of Prospect along side that of Stockton Springs' on the
22 side of the ambulances. He said sticking with the contract solidified that spirit and the
23 relationship that has maintained for more than half a century. He said that the contract
24 was the best way for Stockton to offer Prospect the security it was seeking. He said that
25 the way the two towns were working together on this important issue was a good sign for
26 how they could address any problems that might come up with the ambulance, as well as
27 a good sign for working together on any future municipal issues. He said he felt that
28 merging the two departments formally would overcomplicate a relationship that was
29 working well.

30 Ms. Terry said she agreed and would take the information back to the Prospect Select
31 Board. It was agreed to see how things worked out with the Prospect Town Meeting in
32 April and move forward from there.

35 Ms. Terry reminded the Stockton Select Board that there are two roads that run through
36 both Prospect and Stockton, Hatch Road and Muskrat Farm Road, for which the two
37 towns have an informal agreement for plowing. She asked about a written agreement,
38 saying that the agreement should be in writing for the sake of continuity. Mr. Smith said
39 he would talk to the Stockton Public Works Director regarding the subject.

40 4. Discussion with Ambulance Director/Self-Loading Stretcher
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42 Stockton Springs Ambulance Director Amy Drinkwater was in attendance at the meeting.
43 There was discussion of the purchase of a self-loading stretcher for the ambulance. Chief
44 Drinkwater explained that if purchased, the new stretcher would go into the first
45 ambulance, and the current stretcher from that ambulance put into the second ambulance.
46 She said there would be a trade-in value to the current, non self-loading stretcher
47 currently in the second ambulance. There was discussion of the amount of money
48 granted the Town from ARPA funding. There was discussion of the need of an extended
49 warranty on the new stretcher. Chief Drinkwater said both the stretcher and power unit
50 came with warranties but that extended warranties could be purchased when the original
51 warranty expires.
52

53 **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the purchase of the**
54 **Stryker self-loading stretcher, at a cost of \$41,490.06, minus any money received**
55 **from the trade-in of the old stretcher, and to be purchased from ARPA funding.**
56

57 There was discussion of a letter drawn up by the Ambulance Director and Town Manager
58 that would be sent to neighboring towns regarding the coverage that Stockton Ambulance
59 is giving those towns outside of mutual aid calls. The letter outlines a plan to be
60 implemented on July 1, 2022, in which \$300 would be charged per call for non-mutual
61 aid calls. Mr. Smith explained this move would be fair to Prospect, who is facing a large
62 increase in financial support of the ambulance, and that Prospect would not receive that
63 charge. Chief Drinkwater explained the money would be used in part to defray calls
64 which are not reimbursed by insurance.
65

66 **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to authorize the sending of the**
67 **letter drawn up by the Ambulance Director and Town Manager requesting \$300 per**
68 **call, starting July 1, 2022.**
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70 5. Public Comment – Agenda Items Only
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72 There was no public comment on agenda items only.
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76 6. Minutes: January 6, 2022 Morning Meeting and Workshop
77 **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the**
78 **January 6, 2022 Morning Meeting and Workshop as presented.**

79 7. Accounts Payable Warrant #46/Payroll Warrant #47

80 **Motion was made, seconded and passed 2-0-1, with Ms. Bradley abstaining due to**
81 **lack of physical presence to review the warrants, to approve Accounts Payable**
82 **Warrant #47 and Payroll Warrant #46.**

83 8. Treasurer's Report

84 Mr. Smith presented the Treasurer's Report. He presented a report with the balances of
85 all budget items at the halfway point of the fiscal year. He said that Bookkeeper Amber
86 Poulin would be present at the Budget Workshops in March and would give an overview
87 of the Town's bookkeeping. There was discussion of looking into banking options.

88 9. Spirit of America Award Nominations

89 There was discussion of possible nominees for the Spirit of America Award, which is an
90 award given in every municipality in Maine, and which honors the spirit of volunteerism.
91 The Select Board agreed on a nominee.

92 10. Update on Town-Owned Property Bid Process

93 Mr. Smith explained the status of the town-owned property bid process. He said that two
94 advertisements would run in the newspaper, and that the first running would have three
95 incorrect properties, and the second running would be correct. He explained there were
96 two mistakes. He said first that he had put two properties on the list that the Town had
97 already deemed to be gifts to the Town, and therefore could not go out to bid without
98 authorization by a vote of the Town at Town Meeting. He said the second error was from
99 a property put out to bid that had been found to have an occupied house on it. Mr. Smith
100 said the error appeared to have occurred many years ago. The Select Board asked him to
101 investigate the matter.

102 11. Public Comment – Any Topic

103 There was no public comment.

104 12. Adjourn to Workshop

105 **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn to workshop.**

106 The Select Board adjourned to workshop at 9:34 a.m.

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108 Approved – Select Board – Morning Meeting

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Town of Stockton Springs
Select Board – Workshop
January 20, 2022
Minutes

1. Roll Call: Call to Order

The workshop was called to order at 9:34 a.m.

Present: Darren Shute, Betsy Bradley (speaker phone), Marsha Shute.

Also Present: Mac Smith – Town Manager.

2. Select Board Member Concerns and Comments

Ms. Bradley and Ms. Shute discussed the upcoming Valentine’s Day activities for the Stockton Springs Community Builders.

There was discussion of internet connectivity and Consolidated Communications. Mr. Smith said that he had received a citizen complaint regarding that subject and the subject would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Ms. Shute asked about short-term rentals. She asked for the status of any bills before the Maine Legislature on the subject.

There was discussion of people speeding on various Town roads and the approach that could be taken regarding that problem.

Ms. Shute asked about the MDOT project at Carley Brook and the absence of guardrails at the project site.

3. Town Manager Concerns and Comments

Mr. Smith told the Board that the amount left in the septic account, which is state grant money, is roughly \$5,000. This was in response to a question from a previous meeting.

Mr. Smith updated the Select Board regarding upcoming projects regarding a water main replacement on Cape Jellison Road and a culvert replacement on Rt. 1.

144 Mr. Smith handed out a message from the State regarding gas detectors in public
145 buildings and the requirements for them. He said the various department heads had been
146 given the same information.

147 Mr. Smith explained how Eben Moore of the Town's Public Works Department had
148 saved the Town roughly \$6,000 in mechanical repair on one of the plow trucks.

149 Mr. Smith said he had received an email from the Harbor Committee Chair regarding the
150 building of finger docks, and that the item would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

151 **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn the workshop.**

152 The workshop was adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

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