

Town of Stockton Springs
Select Board – Morning Meeting
April 7, 2022
Minutes

1. Roll Call: Call to Order

Mr. Shute called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Present: Darren Shute, Betsy Bradley, Marsha Shute.

Also Present: Mac Smith – Town Manager.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda

Mr. Smith suggested the following adjustments to the agenda: Adding a section each for Select Board Member comments and Town Manager comments, moving Item #8 – Mt. Prospect Cemetery Donation Request to the following meeting, and moving Item #10A – Heights Road – up to the first item under New Business because there were people in the audience there for that discussion. There was no disagreement to those adjustments.

3. Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #62 and Payroll Warrant #63 as presented.

4. Minutes: March 17, 2022 Morning Meeting and Workshop

Motion was made, seconded and passed 2-0-1, with Ms. Bradley abstaining due to absence, to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2022 Morning Meeting and Workshop.

5. Public Comment – Any Topic

There was no public comment.

6. Parks Committee: Budget/Sandy Point Beach Issues

Mr. Smith said that members of the Stockton Springs Parks Committee had been invited to the meeting to discuss the budget and issues at Sandy Point Beach. It was decided to discuss the budget issues during the budget workshop, after the meeting. There was discussion of two complaints regarding uncontrolled dogs, as well as discussion of a

32 citizen concern regarding pedestrian erosion at the Lookout Point section of the park. It
33 was decided that signage would be placed at Sandy Point Beach reminding pet owners
34 that the responsibility for any injury done by a pet would be that of the pet owner.

35 7. Select Board Letter for Town Report

36 Mr. Smith presented a copy of last year's letter from the Select Board for the annual
37 Town Report. There was discussion of the possibility of a dedication of the Town
38 Report, and the possibility of historical pictures. It was decided that the Select Board
39 members would work on the letter.

40 8. Mt. Prospect Cemetery Donation Request

41 This item was moved to the next Select Board meeting, April 21, at which time a
42 representative from the Mt. Prospect Cemetery Association will be available for
43 questions.

44 9. Appointment of Election Clerks

45 Mr. Smith presented the Select Board a list of names for municipal elections, as provided
46 by the Stockton Springs Registrar of Voters.

47 **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the following**
48 **Election Clerks:**

49 **Faith Campbell, Sam Fuller, Daryl Smith, Beth Smith, Charles Hare, Rebecca**
50 **Emery, Amber Poulin, Malcolm Smith, Charlie Smith, Patricia Curley.**

51 10A. Correspondence – Heights Road Owners' Association Request for Town to Accept
52 Responsibility for Private Dirt Road

53 There was discussion of a written request from the Heights Road Owners' Association
54 for the Town to take over ownership of the private Heights Road. Jerry Huntoon, who
55 said he had lived on that road for fourteen years, said he was paying taxes but not getting
56 the services that other people on public roads received. He discussed the difficulty with
57 mail delivery and trash pick-up, all of which, he said, had to be handled at the end of
58 Heights Road. He said he would like public snow removal. He expressed concern about
59 the possible wiring of the town for broadband internet service. Mrs. Huntoon said the
60 road was not a dirty road, but was made of reclaim. Mr. Shute presented a copy of the
61 deeds for the homes on Heights Road, which clearly state that anyone buying the
62 properties would be required to join the homeowners' association. He said everyone
63 who purchased property on that road knew it was a private road. Mr. Huntoon said that
64 there had been a meeting of the homeowners' association and that three of the
65 homeowners voting voted against the Town taking ownership of the road. Mr. Smith

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68 outlined the options regarding the road, which included taking ownership of the road or
69 making the road a public easement. He said that if the Town accepted Heights Road
70 without a compelling reason, they would be required to do so with all public roads in the
71 Town. Mr. Smith presented an estimate obtained from Public Works Director George
72 Russell for \$130,000 to bring Heights Road to specifications, which would include
73 discontinuing the cul-de-sac at the end of the road. Mr. Huntoon asked about broadband,
74 and Mr. Shute assured him that the Town would be seeking to have broadband taken to
75 every home in the town without regard to whether those homes were on a private or
76 public road. Mr. Huntoon asked why the Comprehensive Plan had not been updated and
77 asked for a copy of the 2001 Town of Stockton Springs Subdivision Ordinance, which
78 Mr. Smith said he would provide after the meeting.

79 **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to not accept the offer of**
80 **ownership of the private Heights Road made by the Heights Road Homeowners’**
81 **Association.**

82 10. Select Board Member Concerns and Comments

83 There was discussion regarding the petition tables at Stockton elections and the
84 identification of the people taking signatures.

85 11. Town Manager Concerns and Comments

86 Mr. Smith requested from the Select Board to not hold the April meeting regarding short-
87 term rentals, and instead wait until the promised meeting in July, at which time options
88 regarding possible regulation would be presented. Mr. Smith cited time constraints
89 during a time when the budget is being prepared for June’s Town Meeting, as well as the
90 lack of productivity at the last meeting on the subject. Mr. Smith emphasized the amount
91 of time the Select Board had already spent listening to citizens on the subject. The Board
92 agreed to wait until July to again address the issue. The requested Mr. Smith contact
93 those citizens interested in the subject to inform them of the decision.

94 12. Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. ss 405(6)(A) Personnel Matters

95 **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to into Executive Session**
96 **pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. ss 405(6)(A) Personnel Matters.**

97 The Select Board moved into Executive Session at 9:24 a.m.

98 **Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to move out of Executive**
99 **Session.**

100 The Select Board moved out of Executive Session at 9:53 a.m.

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104 13. Adjournment

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

106 The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

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109 Approved – Select Board – Morning Meeting

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