

STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 23, 2023
6:30 p.m.
ZOOM MEETING - TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET

Present:

Patrick White, Chuck Cardillo, Jamie Minacci and Mike Canales

Call to Order:

Patrick called the meeting to order and lead with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements by Board members

Patrick mentioned that located on excise bills is an area explaining how to donate to the Elderly & Disabled fund and the Scholarship fund. This can also be done on line.

Round table discussion: Chairs or designees of Parks & Recreation, Conservation Commission, Agriculture and Forestry Commission, Highway Superintendent

Nik Fredsall (Parks & Rec), Matt Boudreau (AFC), Ron Brouker (ConCom) and Hugh Page (Highway) joined the discussion.

Patrick asked if there were ways to improve collaboration and if they need any town resources.

Nick said that they are working on getting the beach parking lot finished, new kayak racks at the beach and possibly moving them, a kayak launch on the river on Park Street and possibly by the damn. More benches, Adirondack chairs, and picnic tables are coming and they are looking at redoing the tennis courts and fencing on Pine Street plus resurfacing of the skate park. The tennis courts on Main Street are now also lined for pickle ball.

Matt said that this year they are working on town forestry stewardship plan, monitoring invasive species and are working with ConCom with recommendations for property owners. They have sent out a call for a Farmers Market manager and look forward to a 4 to 6 week farmers market at the end of the summer. There are many questions still around days, dates and hours. This will hopefully be on the Town Hall grounds; possibly on the ball field. There are community composting ideas as well. Chuck asked when they might see results on the treatment of Ice Glen trees. Matt said they will need to do another assessment once the treatments are completed; he would defer to Ken on when to complete the assessment.

Ron said that they had a site visit on the north west side of the bowl and the hemlock trees there are infected. They are bad as well on Rattlesnake Mountain Road. The AFC is hoping to put out an informational pamphlet for homeowners as well as links on the new website. Ron also mentioned the Interlaken Park damn breeched a number of years ago and should be looked into. He said that the ConCom has reviewed performance standards and when it is final, it will be

shared. These will serve as a guide line. The Conservation Agent, Dave Cameron, has been a plus to the Commission. Mike said that this budget has been keeping up. Ron said that they are also working on a resident's guide to wetlands protection in Stockbridge handout.

Discussion of draft Fiscal Year 2024 Budget – Capital and Operations

Mike gave an overview of the budget which will be reviewed by the selectmen at a future meeting. The over-all growth in the budget is \$300,000. The initial salary increase is at 2.5%. Mike noted that these are all initial figure requests. Mike shared a chart showing stabilization, free cash, OPEB funds, and others. He explained that Stabilization is money set aside and available to be used and is at 2.3 million, Free cash is at 2.6 million, OPEB is at 3.7 million, Cemetery \$71,000, ARPA 382,000, Water surplus \$687,000, Sewer surplus \$358,000 and available in Chapter 90 is \$655,000.

There is no change this year to our debt schedule. Mike reviewed uses. White asked if money should be set aside for dredging? There are no final numbers as of yet or a decision of who is paying what portions. Patrick suggested having a joint Finance meeting on March 16th.

Take action on Change of Officers/Directors/LLC Managers for the Trustees of Reservations, DBA Naumkeag

Patrick made a motion to approve the change of officers for Naumkeag. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Jamie adjourned the meeting.

Please see <https://ctsbtv.org/government-channel-1303/> to view the full meeting.