

**STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, February 9, 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 the Pledge of Allegiance.

Take action on minutes for January 12<sup>th</sup> and January 26<sup>th</sup>

Chuck made a motion to accept the minutes. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

Patrick read the motion: The Select Board of the Town of Stockbridge hereby calls a meeting of the proprietors of the lands to be included in the Beachwood/Lenstock Maintenance District at Town Hall on Thursday March 23, 2023 at 7:30pm. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Patrick asked for a motion to approve the warrant for the Beachwood/Lenstock Maintenance District meeting. Chuck made the motion, Jamie seconded, all were in favor.

Refer to the planning board for a public hearing the draft sign bylaw.

Patrick said that they received a referral from the Planning Board to change the sign bylaw regulations. Chuck made a motion that they move it back to the Planning Board for a public hearing. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

Public Safety Roundtable/Public Question and Answer Forum with the Chief of Police, Chief of the Fire Dept. and the Highway Superintendent

Chief Fennelly said they are beginning to plan for Mercy Sunday which will be at full capacity this year. They will also begin planning for the summer Tanglewood season.

Chief Garofoli said that they have passed a new fire code and they are working on training and getting updates. The department continues moving ahead with fire prevention, code enforcement and normal emergency response activities. Hugh Page, Highway Superintendent, said they are keeping up with the roads this winter and will be picking up with Parks and Rec and Cemetery projects. They are continuing to outfit and upfit their shop and equipment. They are looking at doing some road surfacing this summer along with compactor improvements. Mike added that they are putting together a comprehensive list of a number of roads to pave using Chapter 90 money and possibly free cash to off-set. Chuck complemented Hugh and his guys on taking care of the Highway garage and their equipment. Hugh noted his thanks to Mark Buffoni on doing a great job. Chuck suggested an open house once everything is complete.

Patrick asked how we were doing with budgets vs expected expenditures around plowing this year. Mike said they were in good shape overall. Patrick also asked Vinny to talk to COVID statistics. He said the numbers before COVID were just below 500 and as soon as COVID hit, 2020, 2021 and 2022, numbers went up to 511, 515 and 513 for calls. Typically, they were split with 50% fire calls and 50% EMS calls. Well over 50% of the fire calls are in the false alarm category (mechanical and non-intended.) Vinny reviewed emergency weather kits for vehicles; blankets, shoe spike, extra gloves, charger for phone and weather radio. Patrick asked Darrell if they were seeing any new scams. Darrell said that some of the scams in Town have been Sherriff and Police Department solicitations over the phone; both of which are scams. There have also been ongoing text and email scams. On recruiting for the new position, Darrell said that it is a work in progress; they no longer have the reserve pool they had in the past. Hugh said they are working on having separate phone lines for Highway and the Compactor.

#### Project Report: Town Administrator

Mike said they finished the engineering on the Tuckerman Bridge and are moving toward the CH 80 design. Borings have shown that the decking needs to be raised and the footings can be reused. Project beginning time is still on track for the summer of 2025. Timing is also the same for the second Averic Road Bridge.

Overall prices have gone down for black topping roads and he and Hugh are working on a plan. The salt shed is currently under engineering. Mike said that street lights are going to be replaced with LED lights. This will be an overall savings to our carbon footprint. The Green Committee is also beginning the work on an electrical aggregation plan and the charger stations at Town Hall. Four stations will be going in this spring along with wiring for ten pads.

#### Pine Woods and Heaton Court Update

Patrick said that affordable housing tends to be underfunded for the country and also is here. He said the both Pinewoods and Heaton Court have faced a number of challenges and through the AHT work with Pinewoods. He said the Stockbridge Housing Authority has a number of capital projects and they made a minor request for some ARPA funds.

#### Stockbridge Housing Authority ARPA request for Heaton Court: Take action on \$5,000 for emergency sprinkler pipe burst and \$5,000 for Parking Redesign and Topographical Survey

Patrick mentioned the above request for \$10,000 from ARPA funds. Patrick asked to discuss/ make a motion. Jamie said she felt ok with the water but was not sure about the parking. Chuck asked who runs Heaton Court. The Housing Authority is a quasi-public agency who owns and runs Heaton Court. Chuck made a motion they do the \$10,000. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

Take action on one-day alcohol license for the Berkshire Botanical Garden for an Annual Meeting on March 1, 2023 from 4pm to 7pm.

Chuck made a motion that they grant the alcohol license. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

#### Public Comment

Patrick announced that Representative Smitty Pignatelli and Senator Paul Mark will be at Town Hall on Monday at 10 AM in person and via zoom. Jamie said that micro-transit has been delayed because of staffing but hopefully will be up and running by the end of February. This is and on demand service for small senior busses for anyone who needs a ride for Egremont, Great Barrington and Stockbridge. This is a supplement to BRTA.

#### Executive Session

Patrick read: Anticipated executive session in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A Paragraph 21 (a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, as meeting in open session would have a detrimental impact on the Board's negotiating position (Police Union Contract). Jamie made a motion to go into executive session and not to come back to public session. Chuck seconded. Aye Patrick, Aye Chuck, Aye Jamie.

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