**Town of Stow**

Selectmen Meeting Minutes 8-13-2019

**Opening:** The Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm in Stow, Maine by Margaret Robbins.

**Present**

**Selectmen:** Margaret Robbins, Ray Ryan, Jim Wilfong

**Town Clerk:** Christine Carone **Treasurer:** Diana Davis **Secretary:** Carrie Garland

**Residents/Guests:** Tom Gilmore, Martha Westlund, Cynthia Westlund Chris May, Bob Andrews, Heinrich & Linda Wurm, Jeff West

**Approval of Agenda:** Agenda approved.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were approved for selectmen meetings held on August 13th.

**Clerks Business:** None.

**Treasures Report:** Reconciliations for June and July complete.

**Open Issues:** A letter will be sent to the residents of Wiley Road regarding the removal of a town placed culvert, and ditch filling. Wiley Road is a three-rod road, and work paid for by the town was within the town’s setback.

1 bid was received for the snowplowing contract. Bids have been closed.

Town roads will be posted for weight (26,000lbs) anyone requiring travel on town roads with loads heavier will require a $100,000 bond and a $20 nonrefundable permit fee per job.

The old gravel pit in Chatham is up for sale. Make an offer.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Wurm wrote a letter to the town asking that Stow try and work with Lovell to fix Kezar Lake Rd. Mr. Wurm said many towns have interlocal agreements and feels that both the Town of Stow and The Town of Lovell should work together. The road belongs to Stow, but it is the only access for the residents of Lovell. Half the road pays taxes to Lovell and half to Stow.

Tom Gilmore commented that potholes are dangerous, and the road needs good material put down. Jim Wilfong expressed that Kezar Lake Rd. is still a priority and the culverts need replacing and ditching done first. Tom Gilmore does not want to hear any more excuses from Jim Wilfong and wants the road fixed.

Bob Andrews commented that he had sent a link regarding federal funding. Since the town has not exhausted all possibilities, he will investigate it himself. The last time they had visited the selectmen, they had requested that a professional study take place on what it would cost to fix Kezar lake Rd. That has not happened. Maybe the residents of Kezar Lake Rd. should just take over the road.

Peg Robbins agreed that was an option.

Jim Wilfong stated that the selectmen oversee the roads, and that means all the roads in town. Things don’t happen overnight, and the town only appropriates money for all town roads once a year. Unfortunately, the town has no money, the county tax has gone up significantly, school budget is over a half million dollars, trash and other bills take the majority of the town’s money. The surplus the town once had is gone due to previous administrations wanting to keep the taxes down.

Tom Gilmore demands that one person be put in charge of overseeing the repair of Kezar Lake Rd. Wants to know who that will be.

Jim Wilfong explained that the road will need gravel and hopes the town can utilize the pit it owns. Tom Gilmore asked Jim Wilfong if he was a road engineer.

Bob Andrews wants a timeline with dates and work to be done.

Mel and Harold Drew were asked to join the conversation. Harold Drew was asked what dumping gravel on the road will accomplish, and how he plans on maintaining it. Harold responded that gravel roads need to be, at a minimum, york raked weekly, but nothing will hold up if you don’t get the water off the road.

Ray Ryan, again tried to explain that Kezar Lake Rd. is not the only road in town, and that all the town’s roads are in disrepair.

Bob Andrews demands that a plan be put in place. 5-7- or 10-year plan and the town allocate money to this. Currently the town doesn’t have a plan.

The selectmen were asked when the next town meeting was scheduled. March.

Heinrich Wurm stated that they had to get going. They were headed to the Lovell selectmen’s meeting to see if they could get the two towns to work together based on the taxes paid to the town of Lovell, and Kezar Lake Rd. being the only access for those residents.

**New Business:** The public sand & salt shed needs to be built. Harold Drew says he can do it for $500.00.

Carrie Garland will put on her Facebook page that the garden has vegetables available.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 by Margaret Robbins. Next meeting will be August 27, 2019 at 7:35pm

Minutes submitted by Carrie Garland.