

**TOWN OF STRONG – SELECTMEN’S MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 8, 2019**

1. **Call meeting to order – flag salute:** Rob Elliott called the Selectmen’s Meeting to order with flag salute.
2. **Board Member Attendance Recognized:** Rob Elliott, Andy Pratt, Jim Burrill, Rodney Cook, and Rodney Spiller. Others Attending: Sandra Mitchell, Betsy DuBois, Duayne Boyd, Tonia Boyd, Tom Marcotte, Lawrence Curtis, and Valerie Tucker.
3. **Approval of the Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes from 9/24/2019:** Rod Spiller made a motion to approve minutes from the 9/24/2019 selectmen’s meeting. Andy Pratt 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.
4. **Approval of the Treasurer’s Warrant for week of 10/10/2019 for \$15,320.85:** Jim Burrill made a motion to approve Treasurer’s Warrant for week of 10/10/2019 for \$15,320.85. Rod Cook 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.
5. **Tom Marcotte:**

Jim Burrill voted to go out of order and take Tom Marcotte first on the agenda. Rod Cook 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor. Tom Marcotte was present at the request of the selectmen to address the infractions at the property located at 8 West Freeman Road. Tom handed out information from the Code Enforcement Officer’s enforcement manual. Tom first addressed the issue of Enforcement Authority. He pointed out from the CEO manual that Police do have the authority to enforce the Junkyard laws, but often don’t, so this task usually falls to the Towns and Municipal officers. If the selectmen want Tom to be the enforcement authority for the town, the selectmen would need to take a vote and put it in writing in a letter authorizing him to enforce. Once we begin this process, the Town will need to bring in the town attorney as this will likely end up in court. Tom then read the definition of junkyard as stated in Maine Law – which includes scrap copper, brass, rope, rags batteries, paper trash, rubber debris, waste and all scrap iron, steel and other scrap etc. He said in the description of automobile graveyard it states if you have three or more unregistered vehicles in the yard you are considered an “Automobile Graveyard”. Also under the heading Dangerous Buildings; the CEO can be your authority for determining if a building or structure is “dangerous”, but again this has to be done right and in writing. He said Plan B would be to stop and talk with the home owners to see how serious they are in continuing what they are doing. Vehicles in the road right of way can be enforced by State Police, Sheriff, or moved out of the way by snow plows. That is not a Code Issue. Tom Marcotte said that if we do decide to pursue court action, the town can plan on a minimum of \$10,000. He cited a recent case that went to court where a town spent \$65,000 to get a \$35,000 fine. After some discussion, Andy Pratt made a motion that they approach the landowner at 8 West Freeman Road as a board prior to taking legal action. Rod Spiller 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.
6. **FMB Windows:** Rod Cook has a quote from American Glass to repair two cracked windows in big upstairs room, two windows in town office, one in selectmen’s office, and one in the library for \$2,304.80.
7. **FMB Flooring:** Rod Cook would also like to do the flooring in the Town Office with Northland Flooring using the same flooring as selectmen’s office and entry way for \$894.38.
8. **FMB Electrical Outlets:** Lawrence “Buster” Curtis said that when they are cooking with Community Table they regularly trip the circuit breakers. He is requesting an additional outlet to

keep this from happening. Tonia also suggested the light get fixed at the same time near the back hall and kitchen area. Rod Cook will pursue with IEC. Rob Elliott made a motion to have Rod Cook move forward with the Forster Building purchase and installation of windows, flooring, and electrical in the kitchen. Rod Spiller 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.

9. **Job Description – Tax Collector/Treasurer/GA Administrator:** Jim Burrill made a motion to accept the job description for the Tax Collector/Treasurer/GA Administrator as revised on 10/8/2019. Rod Spiller 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.
10. **Highway Positions:** The selectmen had a chance to review and give feedback on the applications received for the full time and part time highway positions. Andy Pratt made a motion for him and Duayne Boyd to interview Applicants 1, 2, and 3 for the full time position between now and next week. Rod Spiller 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor. They will add all part-time applicants to the call list for winter plowing.
11. **Reports of the Treasurer/Town Clerk/Highway Foreman:** Sandy shared with the Selectmen the list of 2017 taxpayers that will receive foreclosure notices by October 23. Betsy asked that Robert Worthley be appointed as Warden for November 5, 2019 election. The selectmen signed the appointment paperwork for Bob Worthley to act as warden for the 11/5/2019 election. Betsy encouraged selectmen to select the next Boston Post Cane recipient for next meeting. They would need to order a plaque and contact the family after they make a decision. Duayne Boyd reported that the winter sand should be done by next week. Duayne would like to go ahead with the plan that was approved at Town Meeting to get the first phase of Town Garage parking lot paved. Rob Elliott made a motion for Duayne Boyd to move forward with the Town Garage paving project. Rod Spiller 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor. Duayne announced that the Strong Fire Department has received Assistance to Firefighters Grant through FEMA, written and submitted by Aaron Marden for \$29,000 to purchase new extrication tools.
12. **Selectmen's Reports:** Jim Burrill inquired about hiring someone to mow the landfill. After some discussion, Rob Elliott made a motion to hire Pete Durrell to mow the landfill. Jim Burrill 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.

Jim Burrill made a motion to adjourn. Rod Cook 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:49pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Betsy DuBois, Clerk