**TOWN OF STRONG – SELECTMEN’S MEETING MINUTES**

**December 10, 2019 – 6pm**

1. **Call meeting to order – flag salute**: Rob Elliott called the Selectmen’s Meeting to order with flag salute at 6pm.
2. **Board Member Attendance Recognized**: Rob Elliott, Andy Pratt, Jim Burrill, Rodney Cook, and Rodney Spiller. Others Attending: Sandra Mitchell, Betsy DuBois, Duayne Boyd, Valerie Tucker, Theresa and Michael Parker.
3. **Approval of the Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes from 11/26/2019**: Rod Spiller made a motion to approve minutes from the 11/26/2019 selectmen’s meeting. Rod Cook 2nd the motion and all voted in favor.
4. **Approval of the Treasurer’s Warrant for week of 12/12/2019 for $11,042.93:** Jim Burrill made a motion to approve Treasurer’s Warrant for week of 12/12/2019 for $11,042.93. Rod Spiller 2nd the motion and all voted in favor.
5. **Town Cleanup/Concern of Citizens:** Theresa and Michael Parker stated that they have talked with Rod Spiller several times regarding the clean-up of properties on Main Street. She stated that she understands that a lot of taxpayers in town don’t want restrictions and wondered if it could be brought up at Town Meeting for a vote for restrictions. She is concerned about the devaluation of her property. She specifically referred to the number of unregistered cars across from her Main Street property at the former EJ’s Market property. She wonders about the stream that runs near there and if any hazardous fluids or materials might be leaching into the stream that leads to the Sandy River. Rob Elliott suggested that a good first step for the selectmen to take would be a personal visit from selectmen before they look into other actions. Rob said the selectmen will put some time into it and come up with a solution.
6. **Purchasing Policy:** Rod Spiller said that a couple places on the purchasing policy that said Town Clerk needs to be changed to Town Treasurer. He asked for Selectmen’s input on policy. Rod Spiller made a motion to approve the Purchasing Policy to govern all purchases for the town of Strong. Rob Elliott 2nd the motion. Discussion: Duayne said he has issues with the policy because it is too restrictive on days when the liaison isn’t available or when the Town Office is closed or evenings. Rod Spiller said the purpose of the purchasing policy is to keep everything accountable and more transparent for people to see where monies are going. Rod Cook brought some samples of the PO’s that Farmington uses. He will further check to see if Farmington has a written policy we can look at as well. After further discussion, Rob Elliott made a motion to table the purchasing policy until selectmen do further research and have a chance to look at Rod’s example from Farmington. Rod Spiller 2nd the motion and all voted in favor.
7. **Budget:** Rod Cook passed around the librarian’s first draft of the library’s budget. They are waiting for final numbers from the trust. She has budgeted in money for some additional library hours. Jim looked at a three year average for some of the line items to see where the budget could be reduced. Rob cautioned that we also don’t want to leave those line items short, especially where we don’t have final figures yet. Jim pointed out that some line items could be eliminated completely, such as, sidewalks or the pole barn. It was decided that the budget committee would be invited to join budget discussions for the January 14th Selectmen’s meeting.
8. **Reports of the Treasurer/Town Clerk/Highway Foreman**: Sandy said that Ver-Tran had to come to the office and repair the lift. It is ok for now, but if we have trouble again it might need a new brake or motor. Sandy said we need someone with a bucket truck to repair the flag pole. Rod Cook will check with Mike Carleton. Sandy would like to close the office on December 31st at 3pm to close the books. Selectmen agreed that would be fine. Betsy said that nomination papers are now available in the office for elected positions for the following: One Selectman 3 year term; Two School board members 3 year terms; one budget committee member 4 year term (the person elected would be filling out the remainder of Clarence Nutting’s six year term). Those papers need to be filed by January 21st at 4:30pm. Duayne said that he would like to see something put in the paper reminding people that it is a State Law that people are not allowed to plow snow into the roadway or across the road.
9. **Selectmen’s Reports**: Rod Spiller congratulated Duayne Boyd for receiving the Spirit of America award. **Rod Cook** said that he would like to meet with Sandy to make sure there are no additional bills coming in for the FMB and then schedule flooring downstairs in the kitchen and cafeteria. **Andy Pratt** said thatthey are still waiting for a fax regarding financing for the new truck. It didn’t come through tonight, but Andy is hoping to have an agreement for selectmen to review next meeting.

Rod Spiller made a motion to adjourn. Jim Burrill 2nd the motion and all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

Betsy DuBois, Clerk