

## TOWN OF STRONG – SELECTMEN’S MEETING MINUTES

August 25, 2020 – 6pm

1. **Call meeting to order:** Rob Elliott called the Selectmen’s Meeting to order with a flag salute at 6pm.
2. **Board Member Attendance Recognized:** Present: Rob Elliott, Andy Pratt, Jim Burrill, Rod Cook, and Dick Worthley. Others Attending: Betsy DuBois, Sandra Mitchell, Tonia Boyd, Duayne Boyd, Rod Spiller, Robin Lisherness, and Loretta Deming.
3. **Approval of the Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes from 8/11/2020 and Special Selectmen’s Meeting from 8/15/2020:** Jim Burrill made a motion to approve minutes from the 8/11/2020 selectmen’s meeting and Special Selectmen’s meeting on 8/15/2020. Dick Worthley 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.
4. **Approval of the Treasurer’s Warrant for week of 8/27/2020 for \$18,010.69:** Dick W. made a motion to approve Treasurer’s Warrant for week of 8/27/2020 for \$18,010.69. Andy P. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.
5. **Tax Commitment:** Jim B. made a motion to approve and sign the 2020 Tax Commitment and Municipal Valuation. Andy P. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.
6. **Town Recreation/Park:** Rob E. made a motion to close the Town Park effective immediately for the remainder of the year for maintenance and repair and to reopen in the spring as funding becomes available. Dick W. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor. Selectmen discussed several issues that led to this decision including disrepair of wooden structures and dangerous tree problems. Rod Spiller, former selectmen and liaison for the park, stated that he felt it was a town park and a town responsibility and said a larger budget will be required for future upkeep and repairs. Rod Spiller also expressed his frustration with lack of volunteers and noted that the Park committee had mostly resigned. He suggested that if the park had to be closed permanently perhaps the memorial for veterans could be relocated to other town property. There are no plans at present for permanent closure. Duayne suggested because it is a park honoring veterans, there may be grant money available. Selectmen also discussed several ongoing issues with the town beach; overrun with ducks, dogs, and cigarette butts. Tonia said she has had many of those same issues plus additional problems with excessive trash, dirty diapers, and human feces inside and outside of bathrooms. Tonia said sanitation and safety are major concerns for her and those using the beach. Tonia would like to see a portable toilet over there instead of the facilities there presently. It was suggested we have a designated smoking area at the beach with a receptacle for the cigarette butts. Selectmen noted that the beach area is separate from the State’s Public Boat launch.
7. **Budget Committee Appointment:** Dick W. made a motion to appoint Mary White to the Budget Committee until the next town election in March 2021. Rob E. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and all voted in favor.
8. **Cemetery Deed:** Selectmen signed a cemetery deed for Duayne and Tonia Boyd.

9. **Reports of the Treasurer/Town Clerk/Highway Foreman:** Sandy said that tax bills will be mailed out tomorrow, August 26<sup>th</sup>.
10. **Selectmen's Reports:** Rod Cook said that he can get 6 Christmas lights for the poles on Main Street for the \$2,500 voted for at Town Meeting with no deadline for purchase. Rod C. said that he met with a representative from Capozza Concrete Services that did the flooring in the basement of the FMB. He said they were baffled by the issue, took pictures, and would be contacting the manufacturer of the product to see what can be done.
11. **Executive Session – MRSA §405 (6) (A) Personnel Matters:** Selectmen entered executive session at 6:40pm. Selectmen came out of executive session at 7:06pm. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Betsy DuBois, Clerk