

## Starksboro Selectboard Meeting

Minutes of 12/1/20

Approved

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**Board members present:** Nancy Boss, Eric Cota, Koran Cousino, John Painter, Carin McCarthy

**Others present:** Rebecca Elder, Amy McCormick, Robert Turner

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The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

The board reviewed the agenda for any changes or additions:

1. Maple tap lease in town forest
2. Pottery studio lease update

*The introductory statement regarding open meeting law and how public meetings are being conducted in the Town of Starksboro due to the State of Emergency declared by Governor Scott as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and pursuant to Addendum 6 to Executive Order 01-20 and Act 92, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.*

*In accordance with Act 92, there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously, however the meeting was conducted with public access via internet or telephone with the ability to listen/interact contemporaneously.*

### Maple Tap lease

Robert Turner reported that there is a new person who will be taking over the map tap lease for the town forest. Brandon Mansfield will tap the 60 acres with roughly 2,300 taps. Robert provided a draft lease copy for the board's review. Carin requested addition of removal of the tubing if the lease were to be terminated. Robert will add and circulate a final copy for signatures by the leasee and the town.

**Motion:** Nancy Boss made a motion to enter the lease with agreement as discussed and pending proof of insurance and addition of tubing removal language. Eric Cota second.

**Motion approved unanimously.**

### Reserve Fund planning and Budget discussion

The board continued budget planning discussions and review of the working budget spreadsheet. Robert and Celine are responding to questions. A new draft will be circulated in advance of the budget meeting so board members can review and bring questions to the special meeting.

**Special budget meeting to be held on 12/8/20.**

### Town officer discussion forum:

The board is considering holding a virtual forum to answer questions for anyone interested in running for town office. Information about the open seats will be sent on FPF. The board will decide on a forum based on level of interest from town residents. To be discussed further at next meeting.

### Recycling Center discussion:

Erin Bent provided updates from the current team of volunteers working at the recycling center now. She, Louis DuPont, and Steve Rooney have taken the reigns and carry on Jennifer Turner's vision. They are hoping to address some request from the community including a possible Haz. Mat or special pick up day. ACSWD is not offer haz mat at this time, but Acker can offer metal scrap pick up if needed. The current volunteers have declined the stipend offered and asked for the funds to be used to support the program itself. John noted that these funds should remain earmarked in the budget.

## **Action Items:**

### Bills and Orders

**Motion:** Eric Cota made a motion to approve the warrants for bills and payroll as presented by the Treasurer with a question regarding \$5 not included on credit card receipt reimbursement. Nancy Boss second. **Motion carried unanimously.**

### Minutes of 11/2

**Motion:** Nancy Boss made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/2/20 as presented. John Painter second.  
**Motion approved** (EC, CM, JP approved; NB abstained.)

### Minutes of 11/10

**Motion:** Nancy Boss made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/10/20 as presented with one correction as noted. John Painter second. **Discussion:** Remove on p. 2, under school discussion, first line of 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph  
**Motion approved unanimously.**

### Minutes of 11/17

**Motion:** Nancy Boss made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/17/20 as presented. John Painter second.  
**Motion approved unanimously.**

### Website updates:

Rebecca summarized her conversations with the insurance company about a potential claim for time and services associated with the website issues. The board wants to seek clarity on what coverage is available and the timing for which any claim would need to be made. Nancy will follow up with the insurance company and report back.

### Letter of support for Addison County Community Trust

**Motion:** Eric Cota made a motion to approve the letter of support for Addison County Community Trust (ACCT) as presented. Nancy Boss second.  
**Motion approved unanimously.**

### Selectboard Concerns

**Pottery Studio lease update:** the board has spoken with legal counsel and is awaiting next steps from the attorney. Nancy to follow up.

### Executive Session

**Motion:** Nancy Boss made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing an employment contract and agreement. John Painter second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

**Motion:** John Painter moved to come out of Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. Carin McCarthy second.  
**Motion approved unanimously.**

**No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.**

**Motion to adjourn:** Nancy Boss moved to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. Eric Cota second. **Motion approved unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Elder, Selectboard Assistant