

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
January 7, 2019
6:00 PM
1 Monument Square
Alton, NH 03809
Approved: January 23, 2019

Chairwoman C. Shapleigh convened the meeting at 6:00 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence. The following staff members were present:

Cydney Shapleigh, Chairwoman
John Markland, Vice Chairman
Virgil MacDonald, Selectman
Philip V. Wittmann, Selectman
Reuben Wentworth, Selectman
Elizabeth Dionne, Town Administrator

Agenda Approval

J. Markland made a motion to approve the agenda and P. Wittmann seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Board of Health

C. Shapleigh made a motion to recess as the Board of Selectmen and reconvene as the Board of Health and J. Markland seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Septic Waiver Request; Map 41 Lot 19, 116 Echo Point Road; Rossa

J. Dever, Health Officer was present to discuss the waiver request. There currently is no record of the existing system. A new three (3)-bedroom system is being installed. The primary issue is the topography of the lot, which is very steep. A new parking area will be installed with the new leach field being located in that area. V. MacDonald questioned the locations of tank, well radius, etc.

J. Markland made a motion to approve the waiver request for Map 41 Lot 19 tank & pump chamber to surface water (lake), required 75', actual 60' and C. Shapleigh seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Septic Waiver Request; Map 74 Lot 39, 244 Sleepers Island; Gannon

J. Dever, Health Officer and May Varney, Designer were present to discuss the waiver request. This is a replacement for a state approved system installed in 1972. The existing tank and pump chamber are less than 50' to the shore. Tank and pump have been pushed back further than the current system. The new leach field will be 94' from the lake with the old being abandoned. It will be a plastic tank and pump chamber, an improvement to the current system and meets the state requirements.

C. Shapleigh made a motion to approve the waiver request for Map 74 Lot 39 tank to surface water (lake), required 75', actual 53' and pump chamber to surface water (lake), required 75', actual 57' and V. MacDonald seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Septic Waiver Request; Map 74 Lot 1, Treasure Island; Gammon

J. Dever, Health Officer and May Varney, Designer were present to discuss the waiver request. This is one of a few undeveloped lots left on Treasure Island. This shorefront lot and its configuration does not leave a lot of room for location and staying within the property lines. The leach field will be approximately 108' from the lake. This meets the state requirements but will need a variance from Shoreland to place the house at the location.

V. MacDonald made a motion to approve the waiver request for Map 74 Lot 1; tank/pump chamber to surface water (lake), required 75', actual 54' and J. Markland seconded with all in favor of the motion.

C. Shapleigh made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Health and reconvene as the Board of Selectmen and J. Markland seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Announcements:

None

Public Input I (limited to 3 minutes per person on agenda items only)

None

Appointments:

None

New Business:

1. Water Bandstand Committee Request; Town Dock Usage, June 22, 2019

A request from the Water Bandstand Committee was received to reserve all of the Town docks on June 22nd from 8:00 AM to Noon for a boat show and two (2) docks from Noon to 10:00 PM to transport bands to the water bandstand. This is the planned day for the dedication ceremony for the water bandstand.

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the Water Bandstand Committee request for Town Dock Usage on June 22, 2019 and C. Shapleigh seconded with all in favor of the motion.

2. Alton Business Association Request; Fee Waivers, Pearson Road Community Center

V. MacDonald questioned if there was a problem with the heat in the Museum.

Roger Sample, Alton Business Association (ABA) Chair was present. His responses was the temperature is turned down low during the day; our meetings are sometimes very short so it does not allow time for the heat to come up to temperature.

V. MacDonald made a motion to allow the Alton Business Association (ABA) to use the Pearson Road Center and to waive the fees and R. Wentworth seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Old Business:

1. Castleberry Fairs Discussion; Terry Mullen

Terry Mullen representing Castleberry Fairs and her Attorney Deanne Chrystal were present for the discussion. T. Mullen stated when she previously came before the Board she was surprised to hear that there was a report regarding Castleberry Fairs she then read a prepared letter (*Note: edited according to what was not read*) into the record as follows:

Letter to the Alton NH BOS

January 7, 2019

Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to meet me this evening.

After reading and rereading Kellie Troendle's report to the Alton Board of Selectmen dated September 26, 2018 I must say how shocked and disappointed I was.

And I asked myself why was I not informed about a report about ME?

My relationship with Kellie has always been courteous and respectful.

My team assured me they went through the checklist and cleaned the Community Center.

In 29 years we have never forfeited our security deposit.

Common sense would tell you that something is amiss here.

We use spray chalk on the grass and hand chalk on the boardwalk and porch.

While marking out we notice the chalk lines left behind from Old Home Week. These are not permanent marks. These have never been a problem in the past.

We understand the capital improvements along the Bay and take great care to always leave the area in better condition than we found it. We walk the grounds continuously cleaning and emptying trash barrels during the fair and when the fair is over we make sure to pick up every cigarette butt, every zip tie, every empty food container, discarded trash from picnickers, local eateries, etc.

So I dispute the validity of this report.

The fact that I was never notified about this report is inexcusable.

I see the photos of the grounds and see the results of heavy foot traffic, nothing more.

Kellie stated it took her staff 2.25 hours to clean the depot and I find it suspect that she did not take photos of that as well.

After 29 years in Alton Bay our Craft Fairs have become a tradition.

This did not happen by accident.

We work our tail off to make sure our exhibitors have the best opportunity to sell their wares to a shopper with an appreciation for the hand crafted tradition.

And we do this in many ways: Jurying the applicants to keep the event diverse, designing a floor plan that allows them the best possible exposure ... Plus a hundred little things like signage, staffing, security, help unloading, coffee and donuts, spring water, sunscreen, bug spray, first aid kit, clean toilets, parking passes, artisan buttons, welcome letters, insurance, police details, promotion on our website and email blasts and of course advertising, advertising and more advertising.

Our exhibitors are NOT hobbyists.

They are professional craftsmen and artisans who count on the fairs to support their families.

The Alton Bay Fairs have 90% return exhibitors.

The shoppers who come to the Fairs are there to meet the Artisans.

So in a very real sense the Fair belongs to the Artisans, not me.

We know the residents and visitors love the Alton Bay Fairs otherwise the fairs would not be so successful.

Now, that said. Alton Bay is a NOT an easy fair to produce.

We have no day prior set up, almost half the booths slope at the back and it is difficult to secure the venue during concerts.

And with the new implementation of the "No Cargo Trailer Parking" we lost a few Artisans who have been with us 20 plus years. Because they need their trailer, tools and back stock nearby.

I am a professional promoter, having produced over 650 events in 29 years. I am not a hobbyist either. I take my job very seriously and even though we are a small family business (much like the Artisans we work for)

I leave no stone unturned. I pride myself on follow through and communication.

I understand if the Town no longer wants to allow craft fairs in Alton Bay.

If you only want your space for swimmers and boaters and so residents and tourists can enjoy the Bay that is totally understandable to me.

I just wish you had just told us that instead of proposing this ...

*Going up on the rent by 50%
Doubling the police detail an increase of 100%*

Moving artisan booths across the street and no longer allowing booths on the lower level by the swim dock (The size of the fair would then be reduced by 30%)

\$750 additional fee for trash pick up (\$150 per day)

\$200 additional fee for processing

and a \$4000.00 refundable security deposit? Up from \$50? Can I assume all who rent from the Town of Alton will now be required to pay a \$4000.00 clean up deposit?

By requiring this amount gives the impression that four thousand dollars worth of damage was somehow caused. This is preposterous. We use spray CHALK. AND finally requiring all Artisans to park elsewhere ... where would that be?

None of the above are acceptable to me.

Over the past 29 years we have paid the Town of Alton over two hundred thousand dollars in rental fees, police details and reimbursed septic pumping fees.

We are only in Alton Bay 5 days a year. But we have always treated the grounds and building with great respect. We endeavor to be a welcome guest and good neighbor.

*If there is ever a problem, an issue or incident we are there to handle it.
If the Town or the BOS requested a meeting we are always here to attend.*

If you look at the big picture Alton Bay residents would gain 5 additional days annually to enjoy the Bay. Instead of 360 days, they will now have 365 days.

But you would lose significant revenue.

*Our fairs are a nice little shot in the arm to the local economy.
Many artisans have already booked their local hotel or campground, most artisans and our team look forward to eating clams at Pops and ice cream at Shibleys and lets not forget the ad reps. We advertise the fairs in every local and state newspaper and those ads pay the staff at the Laker, Salmon Press, Weirs Times, The Sun, Union Leader, etc. And our membership in the Lakes Region Association supports their office as well.
We pay about \$600 annually just to Alton Dunkin Donuts alone. Every dollar counts.*

As for the thousands of visitors who come to the fair ... they shop and dine and enjoy all the Bay has to offer. The fairs have become part of their vacation plans and family traditions and they will be missed.

I would like the BOS to assure me that anyone else who wishes to host a craft fair in Alton Bay also have the same REQUIREMENTS in regards to rent, ancillary fees, police details, security deposits, parking restrictions.

I do not want our 29 years of hard work and due diligence just be handed over to someone else. I think this request would be FAIR.

And I am still hoping to end this well.

So let me say it ... I thank you I thank Alton Bay for so many wonderful years and memories.

You were our first fair, so long ago and you our smallest fair (with no space to grow)

And You taught us so much.

You were never easy or very profitable but we will miss your special charm and uniqueness and we wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

*Terry Mullen
Castleberry Fairs & Festivals Pembroke New Hampshire*

T. Mullen continued stating that she cannot comply with the new terms; it wouldn't be profitable and it would be dangerous to have people crossing the street and that one (1) \$50.00 lost deposit should not require all those changes/additions. Discussion ensued between T. Mullen, Attorney Chrystal and various Board members regarding various items that transpired during the events which included trash pickup, town staff being present (before and after events, security deposit being held back, photos being provided (outside) or not provided (inside), rates/fees with increases recommended by Parks and Recreation, encouragement of using the Bay area, crossing roadway dangers (crosswalk losses), businesses (help or hindrance), mutual agreement's, checklists to sign off on, why she wasn't approached, walk thru, willingness to work with the Town, etc.

C. Shapleigh noted she is not in support of pricing the Fair out of the Bay and that a far better compromise can be made between Castleberry and the Town and appreciates the efforts that all parties have put into this. C. Shapleigh put this on record: "I think this is a terrible, terrible mistake for us to price them (the fair) out of this". R. Wentworth voiced that he feels that attendance has gone down in the last few years, businesses do benefit and that something can be negotiated between the Town Administrator, Parks and Recreation Director and Castleberry Fairs to come to a mutual agreement that would be satisfactory to all parties concerned then be brought back to the Board. C. Shapleigh brought forth having a checklist at the end of the fair; Castleberry has one but it is only their checklist to be sure that all issues are addressed. Somebody from the Town should be available and concerns were voiced in regards to nobody being there to do so in the event there is an issue. Attorney Chrystal found it to be problematic that T. Mullen was not approached by the Parks and Recreation Department and why was she blindsided by them going to the Selectboard, this was concerning to her. T. Mullen defended Kellie stating "that she gets very busy too and after the season you just move on; I was just left out of the loop and if there is ever a meeting with her name on it, please let her know, I will be here, I need to defend this and have worked too hard to let it go and it's the smallest show we put together. We love Alton, it is charming and has a unique touch to it, it is a very special show but doesn't want anything to change". R. Wentworth feels that the day of the setup, somebody from the department should be there to walk through or greet them to be sure everything is all set and when you leave there should be somebody there to be sure that everything is all set so that this situation does not happen. T. Mullen doesn't feel this is necessary noting that she has K. Troendle's cell phone and can always reach her. T. Mullen stated she cannot meet the requirements and by reducing the size of the show it would hurt the show. She would like to keep the show the way it currently is and make sure that things are in order. Attorney Chrystal stated that the requirements are problematic and over the top, going from a \$50.00 security deposit to a \$4,000 deposit, not knowing if this was the amount it took to clean up after the craft fair left.

At this time, K. Troendle, Parks and Recreation Director and K. Roberts, Highway Manager were called upon to join the discussion. K. Roberts voiced that this was not the first time he had been called to the Bay; it has been several times for parking and trailer parking. The only time Castleberry was addressed directly, was with T. Mullen's son; he was very adamant with what he could do and not do. It became quite an issue and involved bringing a police officer; this was while they were trying to park on the hydro-seeded area last year. The Board of Selectmen were given three (3) options of how to handle this issue:

1. Do nothing
2. Deposit on the grass
3. Move people across the street

Photos were given to the Town Administrator from before and after. As far as the chalk that was used there was no attempt to remove it. Parks and Recreation reseeded the area for restoration. The estimates that were presented

were from the person who does the hydro-seeding for the Town; this is where the number came from (AJ Bauman). C. Shapleigh felt that people should be given an opportunity to correct the situation. K. Roberts agrees with R. Wentworth that there should be an inspection done after the event with all parties involved. K. Roberts was part of the inspection group for the Community Center stating it was dirty. The options were presented to the Board of Selectmen not knowing which way this should go. L. Dionne noted this was brought to the Selectmen because this is not a normal rental, that the Parks and Recreation Department would handle, if it were K. Troendle would have handled it. This is a Special Event that can only be handled and approved by the Board of Selectmen; this would be why it was brought to the Board. K. Troendle was directed to provide a report on the condition of the property and was not directed to contact the vendor/rentor and felt it was not her place to make the contact with the vendor/renter.

C. Shapleigh would recommend having the Town Administrator work with Castleberry Fairs to see if there is a compromise and work with a checklist. T. Mullen was asked if this was what she does with other Towns. Her reply was "no, we have a history, we have never had a problem, this is a new problem and we have been using hand chalk on the pavement and the boardwalk. There are usually chalk marks from Old Home Week too, they fade in time, we would be happy to do whatever is asked.

C. Shapleigh made a motion for the Town Administrator to work with Castleberry Fairs for a compromise and bring it back to the Board for further discussion and V. MacDonald seconded.

Further Discussion: P. Wittmann noted that he knows of at least one (1) business that hates the Fair and says it is not good for his business at all; noting it is not a food related business so it probably does not benefit but clogs up traffic in front of his place. P. Wittmann would like to see a poll done of the businesses in Town for input on benefits vs. not benefiting the businesses. It would be too late for this to be done this year perhaps it could be done next year. R. Wentworth agrees that the Town Administrator should work with T. Mullen to come up with feasible fees for the grass within reason and see if there can be an agreement brought to the Board that can be voted upon. There are several Special Events that take place each year. L. Dionne would like to aim for one of the meetings in February.

At this time, the vote on the table was called with all in favor of the motion.

4. Fire Department; Central Fire Station Heating Bid Recommendation

Fire Chief, J. Beaudoin was available for discussion. The heating system was put out to bid with only one (1) response; it was out for thirty (30) days; two (2) proposals were provided by the vendor. The Chief would recommend putting it back out to bid to see if there would be other responses. V. MacDonald asked if they were being put out properly; this was placed in the newspaper, sent to at least 6 or 7 specific companies and was sent to the three (3) companies that had previously shown interest, the only one who responded was Hillsgrove Plumbing and Heating. It was noted that this is the first time it went out to bid, the previous estimates were estimates from Chief Ridley contacting different vendors. V. MacDonald felt that if Hillsgrove took the time to bid then we should give them the contract. C. Shapleigh questioned Chief Beaudoin why he was recommending it go back out to bid; his response was because it has been past practice. The current system is up and working however, nobody will service it due to the cracked firebox, it is not an efficient system and it is not recommended to replace the firebox.

C. Shapleigh made a motion that the Board accept the bid as presented and Virgil MacDonald seconded.

Further Discussion: C. Shapleigh noted that we lost \$3,500 by putting this back out, it is more expensive. V. MacDonald again voiced that Mr. Hillsgrove took the time to bid. The three (3) people who previously quoted this didn't take the time to bid, what would we gain by going back out to bid again. Chief Beaudoin asked the Board which proposal they would prefer, difference being:

- Proposal 1
 - Two modine heaters in the bays
 - One heat pump with one thermostat for the admin area
- Proposal 2

- Two modine heaters in the bays
- Two heat pumps with two separate thermostats for each floor of the admin area

C. Shapleigh amended the motion to approve Proposal 2 (listed above) as recommended by the Chief and V. MacDonald seconded. The vote was 4 approved, 1 opposed; R. Wentworth.

Selectmen Reports

R. Wentworth requested to step down as a Board member and speak as a Water Commissioner and requested that V. MacDonald do the same; Commissioner P. O'Brien joined them. R. Wentworth noted that the Commissioners have meet over the last week. The Town Administrator and Town Attorney have met and spoken to DRA; there has been a concern over loss revenues from the Alton Water Department. The Auditor's Report, which has not been accepted for 2017 shows a revenue surplus fund for the Water Department of \$174,289. The Water Commissioners and water users cannot have that money because it has gone to the general fund. The past Water Commissioners failed to ask for the surplus revenues after the expenditures for the year. He isn't completely satisfied with the situation but without going to the Attorney General Office saying there is something wrong with the State Law; this is the rate payers money. This year there is an invoice to submit to the Board of Selectmen for surplus revenues for 2018 for \$160,560.97; we are requesting that the Board sign off on this so the Finance Department can process the invoice before the books close for 2018. Copies of the invoice were provided to the Board. Along with asking for this surplus and revenues for the yearly expenditures the Water Commissioners gave the Chairman at their meeting permission to meet with the Town Treasurer to set up an Alton Water Works Revenue Fund by the advice of the Town Attorney; all revenues will go into this revenue fund with the Town invoicing the Water Department for expenditures that the Town pays on behalf of the Water Department whether quarterly, semi-annually or annually. This way the ratepayers would not lose their surplus revenues. Since 2009, the 174K that was spoken about previously has not been looked at by the past Commissioner and Superintendents at the end of the year for their excess revenues. The money has gone back to the taxpayers not the rate payers. This would be one of the reasons why the Alton Water Department does not have any money in their Capital Reserves; attention to this has not been done over the years and is another reason for the Water Commissioners to be disbanded and that the Board of Selectmen take over the Water Department to supervise and oversee the fiduciary affairs of the Water Department as requested by DES and the Water Commissioners who are in favor of the Warrant Article.

C. Shapleigh made a motion to approve the invoice for surplus revenues for the Alton Water Department for \$160,560.97 and P. Wittmann seconded with all in favor of the motion. (3-0)

On another note R. Wentworth mentioned that Rick Skarinka from NH DES sent the audit survey on the water system; it came back in a bit more positive this year, it has not been reviewed yet. Mr. Skarinka would like to set up a meeting with the Board and the Water Commissioners to go over this and the future of the Water Department at a date to be determined for a joint meeting.

Note: R. Wentworth and V. MacDonald returned as Board of Selectmen

P. Wittmann reported that he met with the Zoning Amendment Committee (ZAC) and Planning Board to go over the five (5) recommended Zoning Articles. One had some verbiage changes, one was eliminated completely.

J. Markland had nothing to report.

V. MacDonald had nothing to report.

C. Shapleigh had nothing to report.

Town Administrator Report by E. Dionne

January and February Meeting Dates

L. Dionne, Town Administrator provided a calendar to the Board in reference to the second meetings in January and February as they are regular meeting dates and both fall on a holiday.

- Martin Luther King Day, January 21, 2019, Floating Holiday
 - meeting changed to Wednesday, January 23, 2019
- President's Day, February 18th meeting, Town Offices are closed
 - meeting changed to Wednesday, February 20, 2019

Warrant Articles

A copy of the Warrant Articles were provided to the Board. L. Dionne questioned the Board regarding their previous votes two (2) weeks ago whether to put the Articles on the Warrant or not and are the votes from then to be considered your votes for recommendations for the ballot.

- R. Wentworth - Yes
- P. Wittmann - Yes
- J. Markland - Yes
- V. MacDonald - Yes

All members thought that that was what was being done with the previous vote.

C. Shapleigh raised a concern of not being present at that meeting and would like to re-open one of the Articles and believes she has the ability to do so with the particular Article that had a 2-2 failed vote. R. Wentworth believed and was under the impression that the only one that could do that would be the one who made the original motion and the one who seconded the motion. C. Shapleigh would like to re-visit Road Reconstruction. R. Wentworth would still say no, P. Wittmann and V. MacDonald concurred. C. Shapleigh does not disagree that road maintenance needs to be done however the voters have voted every single year for this, they increased it by 200K because they wanted more and the second we don't have this Article it would be really hard to get back in the future. A lengthy discussion between the Board members transpired which included: pros and cons to having or not having the Article, maintenance vs. reconstruction, better management of the process, working together, irresponsibility, letting the voters decide, lack of staff, Highway Block Grant money, agreeing to hold money until next year, regrinding, slopes and repaving, catch basins and culverts, working together. We should not be taking away the ability for the department to perform the job just because it has not been performed the way it was promised years ago. It is a maintenance vs. reconstruction issue.

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the Warrant Articles as done two (2) weeks ago as they stand and V. MacDonald and P. Wittmann simultaneously seconded.

Further discussion: For the record, C. Shapleigh wanted it known that she is completely against that tactic and that it is not the best way to approach the problem.

At this time, the vote on the table was called. The vote was 3 approved, 2 opposed; J. Markland and C. Shapleigh.

L. Dionne, Town Administrator asked the Board if they wanted to review each Article to decide who would make the motions and seconds in preparation for the Deliberative Session. The consensus was to wait until the next meeting.

Employee Manual Policy Change (Holiday)

A memorandum was provided to the Board in reference to changes to the Employee Manual policy changes. The changes were already approved. L. Dionne wanted to be sure that the Board was in agreement with these changes.

C. Shapleigh made a motion to approve the holiday policy as presented by the Town Administrator and J. Markland seconded.

Further Discussion: R. Wentworth was under the impression that the changes covered more than just holidays. L. Dionne noted that each page represents a different section of the Employee Manual. C. Shapleigh noted that it all ties into the holiday and covers all salaried employees. C. Shapleigh clarified her motion.

C. Shapleigh requested to amend the motion and J. Markland rescinded his second.

C. Shapleigh made an amended motion to approve the recommendations to the policy as presented in the memorandum by the Town Administrator dated January 4, 2019 and J. Markland seconded.

Further Discussion: L. Dionne noted that the Board approved the changes; these are the newly created draft policies, this is to be sure that the Board is in agreement with the wording. These reiterate the wishes of the Board from the previous vote.

The amended motion on the table was called. The vote was 4 approved, 1 opposed, V. MacDonald.

Approval of Minutes

December 17, 2018

J. Markland made a motion to approve the minutes of Public Session, December 17, 2018 and V. MacDonald seconded. The vote was 4 approved, 1 abstention, C. Shapleigh.

J. Markland made a motion to approve the minutes of Non-Public Session, December 17, 2018 releasing #3 & 5 and R. Wentworth seconded. The vote was 4 approved, 1 abstention, C. Shapleigh.

J. Markland made a motion to approve the minutes of Public Session II, December 17, 2018 and P. Wittmann seconded. The vote was 4 approved, 1 abstention, C. Shapleigh.

Approval of Consent Agenda

J. Markland made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted and R. Wentworth seconded with all in favor of the motion.

1. 2018 Abatement Denial

Fitzgerald Family Trust	New Durham Road	Map 9 Lot 57	denial
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2. 2018 Abatement

LaMarca Family Trust	192 Woodlands Rd	Map 56 Lot 39	\$270.00
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Assessing Department Contract Renewal - Ralph J. Cutting, Data Collector 1/1/2019 through 12/31/2019 (annual contract renewal, no change in rate).

Assessing Department Conditional Hire, Part-time Secretary, Kathleen A. Currier; \$15.48 per hour.

Fire Department New Hires:

- Paramedic, Robert A. Brown, \$17.78 per hour
- Jordan E. Pellowe, \$13.52 per hour

Public Input II (limited to 5 minutes per person on any Governmental/Town Business)

Loring Carr approached the Board noting he enjoyed tonight's spirited discussion. He inquired about making the Road Agent a Part-time position with all of the other duties placed upon him and will it have an effect on the road maintenance. He believed that there had been complaints regarding roads, knowing he has complained. In addition, during the discussions on the Jones Field work Linwood Drive concerns were brought forward. C.

Shapleigh noted that both complaints and compliments have been received. His hope would be that now that the Board has recognized that there is an issue that the Board would start to manage it more in that area.

Bob Holt approached the Board, thanked them for their vote tonight and stated that it does no good to rebuild roads and without maintaining roads that is going backwards. You took a step in the right direction tonight. Mr. Holt referred to last year's Annual Highway Department report in the Town Report stating there is no mention of road maintenance during the year; all that is referred to is the road reconstruction. The Town has a Highway Department not a road rebuilding department, it is a maintenance department, it plows, does roadside mowing and ditch work which is not even mentioned. He voiced that he doesn't think the Board knows what the Highway Department is doing; management is a problem. Rebuilding roads is not the Highway Department job; it is maintenance. In order to rebuild roads you would need two (2) separate divisions, a maintenance division and a building division. You don't have enough help, Highway Departments don't construct roads and asked why we rebuild roads and was told it was cheaper. How do you keep track of the expenditures when we rebuild a road; all that is kept track of is the cost which is materials, you don't keep track of labor costs, equipment costs, you have no idea what you are spending to rebuild roads compared to farming it out or bidding it out to a construction company. It probably would be cheaper but you don't know that. Again, Mr. Holt encouraged the Board to read your town report. In addition, he voiced concerns on the Town's bidding process and advertising.

Peter Bolster approached the Board voicing how difficult a job it is to put together the budget and to think about the needs of the immediate period and to think of the long term needs. Last year the Board requested that the Planning Board reinstitute the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). In the past, the CIP program has not gone any further than the planning. In a short period of time, a very good flow chart was created to deal with as many of the capital improvement items that were presented for items that would be coming forth and needed to be replaced. The CIP program was followed; funds were set up for a lot of the items/equipment. It was stated at the time that we knew that for a few years it would raise the millage, it didn't raise it that much and was minimal last year. Assessments, housing needs, software changes were discussed. The tax rate has gone up this year. The concern of maintenance vs. reconstruction is an argument for the 950K Warrant Article and it was stated earlier if it is given up it will reduce the tax rate by quite a bit however people will become addicted to that and it will be hard to get it back again. This is a bad decision for the future and is sorry that the vote did not change regarding the 950K road reconstruction Warrant Article and on other items that were cut. If you want the CIP to work you need to follow the recommendations. The five-minute timeframe was reached.

Patrick O'Brien approached the Board stating that so many bridges have been crossed tonight, based on opinion; it bothers him when future planning is being discussed. He questioned if any charts had been looked at in regards to town roads vs. maintenance that is done; none of this has been referenced. We are cutting the road reconstruction fund out and wondered if the Highway Department has enough money in his budget to support maintenance through the entire summer and can guarantee he is planning on doing road reconstruction.

Discretionary Action on Requests for Appointments (No discussion, majority vote required to allow/not allow appointment)

None

Non-Public Session:

C. Shapleigh made a motion to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and J. Markland seconded. The Board was polled in the affirmative by roll call with all in favor of the motion.

R. Wentworth, yes
P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes
J. Markland, yes
C. Shapleigh, yes

R. Wentworth moved at 7:44pm to exit nonpublic session. V. MacDonald seconded. Roll call vote:
C. Shapleigh - yes J. Markland - yes
V. MacDonald - yes R. Wentworth - yes
P. Wittmann - yes Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Exiting Statement: Personnel items were discussed.

R. Wentworth moved to “not divulge” the minutes. J. Markland seconded. Roll call vote:
C. Shapleigh - yes J. Markland - yes
V. MacDonald - yes R. Wentworth - yes
P. Wittmann - yes Roll call vote carried unanimously.

J. Markland moved at 7:46pm to adjourn. V. MacDonald seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary K. Jarvis

Mary K. Jarvis
Recording Secretary