

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2012
ALTON TOWN HALL

At 6:00pm, Vice Chairman, Loring Carr convened the meeting and led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence, members present included the following Board members and staff:

R. Loring Carr, Vice-Chair
Peter Bolster, Selectman
Cydney Johnson, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

*Note: Chairman David Hussey – Absent
Selectman Stephan McMahon – Absent*

Approval of the Agenda – The agenda was amended to add two items to New Business: #4 – Housing for the Elderly, Payment in Lieu of Taxes and #5 – Winter Carnival – Request by Alton Business Association – P. Bolster motioned to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by C. Johnson and passed with all in favor.

Announcements – L. Carr noted the Budget Committee will conduct a Public Hearing on January 10th with regards to the school. The Selectmen discussed their attendance at the polls, and agreed that they could be at the polls, R. Bailey will talk to the Chairman and Selectman McMahon, and C. Johnson and P. Bolster will be there when the polls close.

L. Carr read a prepared statement that a restraining order made by Peter Keen against the Selectmen and other State and Town officials and private consultants has been dropped. Mr. Keen has asked the State Police to review the events that took place. There will now be no public comments made by the individuals that were the subject of Mr. Keen's accusations, and no opportunity to explain what actually transpired during the Board of Selectmen's meeting at Trask Side Road. However, in the event the State Police pursue this matter further, it is expected that Mr. Keen's allegation will be found to be factually unwarranted. (see attached statement)

Selectmen's Committee Reports

P. Bolster updated the Board on the renovations to the Senior Center. Equipment has been moved back from the Masonic Hall to the center and that everything should be back to normal very soon. Also that some improvements projected for Phase II have also been completed. He noted a dedication is being considered for February. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to the Mason's for the use of their facility for the past three months.

C. Johnson - no report

L. Carr stated the Budget Committee had met and the Budget had been finalized, they are getting ready for the next phase.

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Town Administrator's Report

R. Bailey advised that the contractor for the Bay Hill Road drainage project has met the requirements, except for extending the culvert, and the last certificate regarding completion of the project needs to be signed. It was noted landscaping at the wall would be finished in the spring. P. Bolster motioned to have the Town Administrator sign, the motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Public Input I

Ruth Arsenault thanked the Board for listing the sale of Echo Point as a separate article on the warrant. She asked about the work planned for the sidewalks and the cost to get more done. She was advised that the Budget had been finalized but she could ask for an amendment on the warrant article during the deliberative session. She provided each Selectmen with a gift "to tie them to the community".

Selectmen's Minutes

P. Bolster motioned to table any action on the minutes, seconded by C. Johnson and passed with all in favor.

Old Business:

- 1) **2012 Budget & Warrant Articles** - R. Bailey noted there were 48 articles, the zoning articles would be finalized on the 10th, and the MS7 is being prepared. It was noted the Board had met their obligation to employees and the Budget Committee. R. Bailey continued that January 27th would be the last date to make changes to the warrant. A petition article had been received today concerning the Water Commissioners, signatures are currently being reviewed by the Supervisors of the Checklist
- 2) **Landfill Annual Report** – R. Bailey advised the Board the engineer for DES had included a memo with regards to an additional test well. A decision will have to be made soon on a required testing well possibly along Hurd Road, and the second one. P. Bolster motioned to forward the engineer's report to the State, seconded by C. Johnson and to approve the recommendation for the two wells. The motion passed with all in favor.
- 3) **Spring Street Drainage Signs** - R. Bailey advised he had received 3 options from the engineer for drainage on Spring Street. Also that K. Roberts had reviewed this matter., and that Option C would be the best solution to eliminate flooding and erosion, but an easement would be needed. Costs would increase depending on any ledge found. No decision would have to be made tonight. It was agreed to table this matter and to schedule a workshop with the Engineer and K. Roberts.

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4) Town Report – R. Bailey advised the bulk of the report would be produced in-house, and 150 reports will be made.

5) FEMA Status – R. Bailey advised that \$10,244.26 has been received for the overtime on the day of the hurricane. The funding for Reed Road has not been received to date, but he has had a verbal commitment for \$89,469 x .75% which equals \$67,101.

New Business:

1) Land Use Items – Vote to approve the recommendations of the Town Assessor –C. Johnson moved to approve and sign the land use items appropriately, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

2) Vote to Approve Pole Petition – NH Elec. Co-op & Fairpoint Communications for Pole #32/136 – P. Bolster motioned to approve the petition, noting this was for Reed Road, seconded by Cydney Johnson and passed with all in favor.

3) Payment in Lieu of Taxes – P. Bolster motioned to sign the Agreement, seconded by C. Johnson, in a discussion it was noted Elderly Housing is also designated for younger disabled citizens. The motion passed with all in favor.

4) Winter Carnival - R. Bailey advised he had met with the Alton Business Association (ABA) representatives and they have filed a special event application for the Winter Carnival with a Plan B back-up plan. Plan B would move the event to the Parking Lot in the Bay. The Selectmen approved the application and Plan B. Also the Board discussed the ABA taking over the Recreation Department events based on their desire to do so. This issue is still pending and waiting on the ABA decision. Also discussed when there is a cancellation of the carnival activities, to notify the media, including TV and radio, on the Monday before the event.

Public Input II

There was no Public Input

Non-Public Session – at 7:05pm, L. Carr motioned to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A:3, II (a)personnel (c)character/reputation (e) claims/litigation, the motion was seconded and L. Carr polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary
Minutes Approved: January 25, 2012

