

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
Public Session II
March 17, 2008
ALTON TOWN HALL

At 6:00pm, the Chairman convened the meeting of the Board of Selectmen, the following members of the Board and staff were present:

Alan Sherwood, Chairman
Patricia Fuller, Vice-Chairman
Stephan McMahan, Selectman
William Curtin, Selectman
Peter Bolster, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Moment of Silence

A. Sherwood led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Approval of the Agenda

P. Fuller motioned to approve the agenda as submitted, seconded by S. McMahan and passed with all in favor.

Announcements

The Chairman noted the Solid Waste Center will be closed on Easter Sunday. He continued the Annual Report is on-line and reports are available at the Town Hall, he thanked all who worked on preparation of the Town Report. A. Sherwood expressed the Board's condolences to Virgil MacDonald and family on the death of their son.

Reorganization of the Board

The Board members reorganized as follows:

Alan Sherwood, Chairman
William Curtin, Vice Chairman

Committee Representatives:

Planning Board – William Curtin – (P. Bolster, Alternate)

Budget Committee – Steve McMahan – (A. Sherwood, Alternate)

Parks & Recreation – Peter Bolster

Conservation – Alan Sherwood

NH Coalition – Patricia Fuller

ZBA Liaison – Patricia Fuller

School Liaison – Peter Bolster

Lakes Regional Planning Commission (LRPC) – Planning Board to Recommend Appointment

Household Hazardous Waste – Alan Sherwood

Downtown Revitalization Committee – Peter Bolster

Belknap County Economic Development Council – Patricia Fuller

Selectmen's Committee Reports

S. McMahon – no report

P. Bolster reported the Recreation Committee had met and reorganized with a full compliment of members and alternates. They meet four times a year. While Kellie is on leave, Liz O'Neil her assistant will be in the office, all projects are going well. The Downtown Revitalization Committee has a meeting next week, grant applications have been made and more work will be finished at the park this summer. With regards to the Building & Grounds Committee for the school they will continue to look for suitable land for a school, he reported the committee meets on a regular basis, concerns are now with maintenance and structural issues and the older construction that something will have to be done.

P. Fuller reported on recent legislation matters regarding education funding. At this time a House Bill spreadsheet does not indicate that Alton will be a donor town. Although this is good news, it could be subject to change, a constitutional amendment is needed to do away with donor towns. The bill would satisfy the supreme court mandate for the entire State.

W. Curtin stated the Planning Board will meet on Tuesday, they are still looking for alternates on the Board.

A. Sherwood reported that the HHHW Committee will meet this Thursday. He continued that in September there will be a medical collection at the Solid Waste Center. Also the Police Department will be collecting drugs to have them destroyed. They will be incinerated, and no threat to the water systems or ground water.

Town Administrator Verbal Report and Updates

R. Bailey provided bids for contracted plowing services. With regards to the Energy Committee he explained he had asked for representation from the schools and expects a response soon. R. Bailey explained the Town had received the Franchise Fee and that amount of \$47,978 will go into the General Fund.

Public Input I

The Chairman acknowledged R. Messier who stated her best wishes for the Board in the coming year, and that she concurred with A. Sherwood about the Town Report except for the quality of the photographs. She suggested that the Selectmen send a memo to town boards and elected officials concerning the posting of their meeting notices, locations of meetings and legal requirements for submitting minutes. She asked about the size of the meeting room at Parks & Recreation, and how many people could be accommodated.

She asked about the status of a Town Historian. She also noted that she was recently told a copy of a Planning Board tape of a meeting would be \$30.00 and why these original tapes are being removed to a private home, she thought Town policy was to have all Town records remain at the Town Hall. She asked that the Board review this issue promptly.

The Chairman recognized Robert Longabaugh. R. Longabaugh commended the Board for having the ballots inserted in *The Baysider*, but not every paper had the inserts and to remember that for the next time, he suggested that Public Input be first on the agenda before "Approval of the Agenda." He noted Article 40 concerning videotaping meetings, would not necessarily be for every meeting, but for taping meetings of interest.

W. Curtin advised that Channel 26 is not shown on the line-up of the Metrocast Cable TV Channel 36 Program Guide. R. Longabaugh advised he would look into this matter.

Approval of the Selectmen's Minutes:

Vote to Approve Minutes of March 3, 2008 – Public Session I & II and (sealed) Non-Public Session – A. Sherwood motioned to accept the minutes, W. Curtin noted a correction should be made to Public Session II to add the word "voted" in Item 1., P. Fuller seconded and the motion as amended passed with all in favor.

With regards to the Minutes of January 21st, as previously approved, W. Curtin amended an original motion to make certain corrections in the typed grammar as noted on pages 2, 4, and 5, these corrections will not affect the outcome of the previous approval, seconded by A. Sherwood and passed with all in favor.

Old Business

1. The Board and Town Administrator reviewed the Town Election results including the operating budget.

2. Bid – Horne Road Culvert Replacement – R. Bailey noted that the Highway Agent, had recommended awarding the bid on this project to North Hampton Excavating & Rental for \$48,700. Also the Board would have to grant approval for the Town Administrator to sign the contract. Following a discussion, a motion was made by P. Fuller and seconded to award the bid to North Hampton Excavating & Rental for \$48,700 and to have the Town Administrator sign the contract documents and the motion passed with all in favor.

3. Emergency Management Plan – R. Bailey explained the new emergency management format in which departments would be the lead groups vs. support groups. The Board would have to adopt this plan. He continued the emergency management director should be someone with the ability to coordinate all of the departments and not be a department head. Also he recommended that the Town Hall would be the most logical place for the command center. This would require a generator and communications. P. Bolster motioned to have the Town Administrator approved as the Town's Emergency Management Director, seconded by W. Curtin and passed. R. Bailey advised he will bring back more information to the board about using the Town Hall as the EOC at a future meeting, and also noted grants have been sent out for a radio.

4. Milfoil Program – The Board and Town Administrator reviewed the plan for Milfoil Management and Control as proposed by the State for two locations in the Bay. R. Bailey asked if the Selectmen wanted a committee to assist with the long term problem and planning concerning milfoil. It was agreed to ask the Conservation Commission and Parks & Recreation Commission and staff for assistance, and perhaps to contact other associations who may have knowledge about grants.

New Business

1. Fire Works Bid – R. Bailey advised two bids had been received from Atlas Pyrotechnics Products and American Thunder Fireworks for displays on July 4th and on Old Home Day in August. Atlas Pyrotechnics was the low bidder at \$16,000 for both events, and American Thunder's bid was \$16,500 for both events. R. Bailey noted the number of shells was 1695 from Atlas and 1605 American Thunder. As part of the bid it was also noted that the vendor would coordinate use of the barges, with the Town bearing the costs. R. Bailey advised that Atlas had its own barge for smaller shoots, if it was used Town costs would be less. A. Sherwood motioned to award the Fireworks Bid to Atlas for \$16,000 to cover both events, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

2. Request from Castleberry Fairs – R. Bailey advised this request has not changed from other years, there was no exclusivity clause. P. Fuller motioned to approve the request with stipulations as noted in 2007, and no exclusivity before or after the event, and to amend the dates, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

3. Building Expansion/Upgrade Requirements – R. Bailey presented a summary of building projects that have been discussed for possible implementation, including a draft RFQ for the hiring of an architect. Projects include, Town Hall, Pearson Road Buildings, Police Station, Fire Stations, and Transfer Station. P. Fuller motioned to proceed with these recommendations, noting that the Town could back out of some of these projects and the Transfer Station could use Solid Waste Engineers, the motion was seconded by P. Bolster and to send out the RFQ, and passed with all in favor.

4. Vote to Approve Recommendations of the Town Assessing Department – A. Sherwood reviewed the items as presented, and motioned to sign them accordingly as submitted by our Town Assessor, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

5. Request by Alton Central School Art Department – Town Hall Annual Artwork Display – R. Bailey advised the display would be from April 18th until May 16th. P. Bolster moved to approve the request, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

Public Input II

None

Vote to Enter into Non-Public Session

At 7:30pm, the Chairman motioned to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A;3,II (a) (c) and (d), the motion was seconded and he polled the members who each voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes Approved: April 7, 2008