

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes

March 18, 2019

6:00 PM

1 Monument Square

Alton, NH 03809

Approved: April 1, 2019

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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 acknowledging the Eckert family. The following staff members were present:

Cydney Shapleigh, Chairwoman  
Philip V. Wittmann, Selectman  
Reuben Wentworth, Selectman  
Elizabeth Dionne, Town Administrator

**Agenda Approval**

C. Shapleigh requested amendments to the agenda postponing the Reorganization of the Board and item #4 under New Business, Appointments to Boards, Committees & Commissions and P. Wittmann seconded with all in favor of the motion.

**Reorganization of the Board**

The reorganization of the Board was postponed until the next meeting.

**Announcements**

- Town road weight limits are in effect until further notice.
- 2019 Dog Licenses are available in the Town Clerk's Office and are due no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>. A rabies clinic is scheduled for dogs and cats at the Alton Central Fire Station, 65 Frank C. Gilman Highway (Route 140) on April 13<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM. The cost per shot is \$20.00 and microchipping is \$40.00. Dog licenses are available at the clinic for Alton residents only.

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

None

**Appointments:**

None

**New Business:**

1. 2017 Town Audit Presentation by Tim Greene, Town Auditor

Tim Greene, Town Auditor from Roberts and Greene provided an overview of the Town Audit for year ending December 31, 2017. The audit was issued in December. The point of the audit is to give an opinion on the various opinion units. The town has multiple functions of the financial statements that are reported on separately. The Town has received a clean opinion across the board, which is the goal that is strived for. The financial statements were briefly discussed, the town is in good shape and the Town does not have a lot of debt. R. Wentworth posed questions specifically in regards to retirement and the Water Department.

2. Fire Department; Request for National Fire Academy Overnight Training

Fire Chief J. Beaudoin approached the Board to discuss the request for training line, which will be for four (4) employees in Emmitsburg, MD. The total for the training is just under 2K. It is within the budget and training; due to it being overnight training it needs Board approval. This is a yearly training.

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the Fire Chief's request for travel and training overnight at the National Fire Academy not to exceed \$1,964 and Phil Wittmann seconded. The vote was 2 approved, 1 abstention, C. Shapleigh.

3. Special Events Application; LOCO Sports, Big Lake Half Marathon, Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> - Approval

Michael St. Laurent from LOCO Sports approached the Board to explain the order of events for the planned Big Lake Half Marathon.

P. Wittmann made a motion to approve the Special Event Application for LOCO Sports, Big Lake Half Marathon on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, and C. Shapleigh seconded with all in favor of the motion.

4. Appointments to Boards, Committees & Commissions

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

Old Business:

1. Special Events Application; Castleberry Fairs, July 13 & 14, 2019 - Approval

L. Dionne gave a status update that Castleberry agreed to the 3K flat fee for just the July event. Once the event takes place, we will be looking at the fee to be sure that it covers all of the Town expenses. R. Wentworth spoke in regards to the reseeded of the grass areas with some sort of grounds fee to cover this expense. The 3K for July will be reevaluated after the July event to see if the fee needs to be increased for things that might not be covered. This is a non-refundable fee and will be a good baseline. We are not being harsh but we are looking out for the best interests of the community.

C. Shapleigh made a motion to approve the Special Event Application for Castleberry Fairs for July 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> with a flat fee of \$3,000 and P. Wittmann seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Selectmen Reports

R. Wentworth reported that he is no longer a Water Commissioner but feels that the other two (2) members did a great job for the Water Department. It has come a long way from where it was with revenues up. In addition, he spoke with the Highway Department on Saturday who was tasked with fixing the roads with the frost coming out of the ground. They worked until about 9:30 PM and had it well under control by placing crushed stone in the areas needed. They did a superb job getting the job done.

P. Wittmann reported that the Old Home Week Committee met and discussed the mailings for advertisements with concerns of printing them at the Town Hall, currently the carnival is not moving forward and that there is a need for more social media advertisement.

C. Shapleigh had nothing to report.

Town Administrator Report by L. Dionne

Request for Reserved Parking, Alton Bay Community Center

L. Dionne i that there is a request from someone that is renting the Alton Bay Community Center on Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> for a wedding; they are looking to reserve four (4) parking spaces on Route 11 in front of the center from 7:00

AM to 11:00 AM for elderly people that will be in attendance at the wedding. Someone will place cones at the location.

R. Wentworth made a recommendation to approve the request and C. Shapleigh seconded with all in favor of the motion.

**Approval of Minutes**

C. Shapleigh made a motion to approve the minutes of Public Session, March 4, 2019 as presented and P. Wittmann seconded with all in favor of the motion.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

C. Shapleigh made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. R. Wentworth requested that Item #2 be held.

C. Shapleigh amended the motion to approve Items 1 & 3 on the Consent Agenda and R. Wentworth seconded with all in favor of the motion.

It was requested that Item #2 be moved to Non-Public Session under personnel.

1. **Land Use Items:**

**2019 Veterans Credits Approval**

Childs, Stephen	119 Route 11D	Map 51 Lot 9-1	\$ 500.00
Rochette, Claude	425 Dudley Road	Map 4 Lot 30-4	\$ 500.00
Tower, Matthew C	9 Meadow Drive	Map 9 Lot 43	\$ 500.00
Troyer, Suzanne	74 Mallard Drive	Map 6 Lot 5-7	\$ 500.00
Pellowe, Timothy	76 Old Wolfeboro Rd	Map 8 Lot 40	\$1400.00
Williams, Martin G	47 Rand Hill Road	Map 34 Lot 14	\$1400.00

**2019 Veterans Credit Denial**

Levasseur, Gerald	57 High Point Drive	Map 11 Lot 13-22	\$500.00
Raney, William	584 Rattlesnake Island	Map 79 Lot 17	\$500.00

2. Moved to Non Public under personnel.

3. **Parks & Recreation Department:**

- Conditional Hire - Tessa R. Carter, Camp Counselor \$8.75
- Conditional Hire - Lucas A. Therrien, Camp Counselor \$8.75
- Conditional Hire - Brandon J. Stellon, Camp Counselor \$8.75
- Conditional Hire - Jacob R. Street, Camp Counselor \$8.50
- Conditional Hire - Laurie A. Argue, Summer Camp Director \$16.25
- Conditional Hire - Abigail Thomas, Camp Counselor \$10.00
- Conditional Hire - Cassidy R. L. Kelley, Camp Counselor \$8.25
- Conditional Hire - Crista L. Woodbury, Assistant Camp Director \$15.25

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

Joseph Haas approached the Board stating that he spoke with them previously about urging the Tax Collector to put out a statement regarding the school funding mess. An email was sent to the Town of Warner who is having an issue; the Board of Selectmen was cc'd; the email has not been distributed yet. He would like the Board to get together with the Gilmanton Board of Selectmen to have a joint meeting and give the appropriation request to the Town's Representatives to take to Concord. There is a bill in the House Education to increase the statewide property tax. Mr. Haas' time limit was called.

Loring Carr approached the Board and questioned what has happened to the Highway Department's backhoe. R. Wentworth gave a brief explanation. On another noted it was noted that the last video for Selectmen's meetings is January 23<sup>rd</sup>. In all fairness, he urged that when the appointments to Committee and Commission's takes place that it is equally distributed amongst the members.

Ray Howard approached the Board to validate the good point that Mr. Haas brought forward. It is a point that needs to be addressed. In the Claremont decision of the State funding of schools, it was supposed to be state funding not property taxes; the Legislature worked their way around that and created the Statewide Property Tax. Originally, Alton became a donor town, there has been a lot of Legislation this year about the adequacy funding and state funding of an adequate education based on a statewide property tax. Unfortunately, the way things are being passed in the Legislature it looks like Alton will end up being a donor town again. Representative Howard offered to bring the tax warrant into the state, get it to the right party and request that they own up to their obligation of funding the school portion of the tax base under the Claremont decision. It is the Board's decision and is willing to fight for this.

**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 R. Wentworth seconded. The Board was polled in the affirmative by roll call with all in favor of the motion.

R. Wentworth, yes  
P. Wittmann, yes  
C. Shapleigh, yes

C. Shapleigh moved at 7:06pm to exit nonpublic session. R. Wentworth seconded. Roll call vote:  
C. Shapleigh - yes                      R. Wentworth - yes  
P. Wittmann - yes                      Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Exiting Statement: A personnel wage item was discussed. The nonpublic minutes were not sealed.

C. Shapleigh discussed her attendance record stating she has had personal family issues, a new position at work which requires lengthier hours resulting in difficulty at times attending all meetings or workshops. She wants what is best for the voters and is questioning if she is representing the voters as well as she can. If residents are questioning the attendance and Committee reports by Selectmen, as mentioned in Public Input, then perhaps she should consider resigning.

R. Wentworth stated he would not want her to leave the Board. Things happen to everyone that are unavoidable. We have all been in those situations. You are entitled to take a vacation, as well.

P. Wittmann agreed with R. Wentworth on all counts, stated he missed six months due to illness last year, and does not want to see her resign.

R. Wentworth moved at 7:15pm to adjourn. P. Wittmann seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary K. Jarvis*

Mary K. Jarvis  
Recording Secretary