

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2014

6:00 PM

1 Monument Square

Alton, NH 03809

Approved: April 21, 2014

R. Loring Carr 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 members and staff were present:

R. Loring Carr, Chairman
Cydney Johnson, Selectman
Lou LaCourse, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

Marc DeCoff, Vice Chairman arrived to the meeting late.

Approval of Agenda

Cydney Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and Lou LaCourse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Announcements by R. Loring Carr

- There will be a rabies clinic for dogs and cats at the Alton Central Fire Station, 65 Frank C. Gilman Highway on April 12, 2014 from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM. The cost is \$15.00 per shot and dog licenses will be available for Alton residents.
- The Transfer Station will be closed on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2014.
- There will be a Public Hearing held on Monday, April 28, 2014 at 5:30 PM on the proposed renewal of the MetroCast Franchise Agreement.

Selectmen's Committee Report

Lou LaCourse reported that the ZBA held a meeting this week; there were three (3) variances & exceptions which were all approved.

Note: Marc DeCoff arrived at this time.

Marc DeCoff attended a ride around with the police officers for the corporal position and will be sitting on that Board tomorrow.

Cydney Johnson reported that R. Loring Carr attended the Old Home Weekend meeting on her behalf.

R. Loring Carr reported on both Old Home Weekend and Household Hazardous Waste meetings. Old Home Weekend is proceeding forward, trying to finalize the activities for this summer.

Town Administrator's Report and Updates by E. Russell Bailey

This has been discussed over several years and during the budget season. A complete list of all streetlights has been requested from NH Electric Coop. I am recommended to pursue a complete inventory of the lights, verify the type of lights, locations and billing. Then I would come back to the Board with any changes and recommendations. I would also recommend that all intersections be lit for public safety purposes. This process would take roughly 3-4 months over the spring/summer and should be ready for review and approval by the Board with any changes to be done and to prepare for the upcoming budget season.

Last year there was a change with the billing for Lakes Region Mutual Aid Fire which is the regional dispatch center. The billing was previously through the County; it is no longer going to be done this way in Belknap County. Each of the individual nine (9) city and towns now has this in their budgets. They did not fund the full balance from last year; the amount is \$3,101.86, the money was held over/encumbered. There are three (3) towns that have not paid yet, we are one of them. Marc DeCoff questioned why the county isn't paying? The amount paid from last year was short therefore we are not paying twice.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to pay Lakes Region Mutual Fire dispatch in the amount of \$3,101.86 and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

The bid to replace the highway truck is being prepared; it has been amended 2 or 3 times with the specs being made more generic. Provided is information based upon what the state uses which includes a plow package. After reviewing, R. Loring Carr recommends going with a more generic type bid package like the state specs; noting we don't need a 4 door vehicle. Other features of the vehicle were discussed and the need to check with the Highway Department on any other features that are necessary.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to use the standard state bid change from 4 full doors to 2 doors, change the weight as needed and check with the Highway Department on anything else absolutely needed. Lou LaCourse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Public Input I

Don Kleeberg approached the Board in reference to the opening on the Selectboard and questioned what the process is to filling the position and how soon will it be done.

R. Loring Carr responded that the closing period is April 11th for applications; there will be an interview process then a decision will be made.

Russ Wilson approached the Board mentioning that the last time there was a vacancy on the Board some of the criteria that was used for replacing that person was that they ran in the election, that they received a significant amount of the vote and that the person that you selected had similar views, opinions and philosophies that are congruent to the person that they are replacing. So, with that in mind, I would like to say that Mr. Wittmann did receive a significant amount of the vote and also has views similar to Mr. Daniels.

Russ Sample approached the Board and concurs with Mr. Wilson's words. To reiterate the fact that it seems we have an application process; that being an election and the idea is to have the voters take their time and cast a vote. Here's a gentleman that's worked very hard, he has an opinion and has concerns and it's seems to me it is in the Board's best interest and the interest of the community that a similar individual be selected to fulfill the position on the Board, thirty (30) votes in a community is not that far off in getting a tremendous amount of support, I would encourage the Board perhaps to not drag out the process, but reevaluate the thoughts to this point. It is a shame that someone that has already expressed an interest to fill the position is seemingly not even perhaps being considered at this point. The time has come where we need more representation rather than less representation for that aspect of the community. I wish that you would take the time to weigh some of these things and I know that a lot of other people feel exactly the same way.

Ron Rogers approached the Board voiced his concerns that the rumors going around town are that the last Selectman who just stepped down did so for the fact that basically the Selectmen's job has been one sided since he was in there and want to remind the Selectmen that they work for the Town not for half the Town and appreciate you giving Mr. Wittmann a chance.

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes

Cydney Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2014, Public Session I as presented and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Cydne Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2014, Non Public Session as presented releasing items #1, 2, 3 & 7 and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Cydne Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2014, Public Session II as presented and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2014 reconvened to March 18, 2014 at the Bandstand, Public Session as presented and Lou LaCourse seconded. The vote was 3 approved, 0 opposed and 1 abstention, Cydne Johnson.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the minutes of March 31, 2014, Public Session I as presented and Lou LaCourse seconded. The vote was 3 approved, 0 opposed and 1 abstention, Cydne Johnson.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the minutes of March 31, 2014, Non Public Session releasing items # 1, 2c, 3 & 4 and Lou LaCourse seconded. The vote was 3 approved, 0 opposed and 1 abstention, Cydne Johnson.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the minutes of March 31, 2014, Public Session II as presented and Lou LaCourse seconded. The vote was 3 approved, 0 opposed and 1 abstention, Cydne Johnson.

Old Business:

Road Construction Schedule

E. Russell Bailey met with Ken Roberts and has scheduled a workshop for Thursday to discuss the road reconstruction schedule for this year which includes Trask Side Road, Phase II, Roberts Cove Beach and Monument Square which includes Old Wolfeboro Road intersection and the sidewalks. A handout from Ken was provided to the Board showing the roads that are done and still need to be done; there are several that Ken has concerns with (Rines Road, Tom Road, Chestnut Road & Woodlands Road). If Chestnut Cove and Woodlands are done we would need to have surveys done due to drainage issues and to verify the right-of-ways. We would be looking for approval at the workshop for the surveys to do planning for those roads as it is a long term process.

Town meeting approved the regular 750K plus there is 300K in the reserve fund realizing the need to do the overlays on the roads done last year with an approximate cost of 200K. Ken has been asked to give us some conservative paving numbers so there would be some total numbers for the workshop. The Public Hearing was done for Phase II, Trask Side and the tree bid was approved

and Ken is contacting the tree cutter to get him started. The workshop will be at 5:30 PM.

Lou LaCourse questioned why Frohock Brook Road is not on the list and has Ken looked at the drainage? E. Russell Bailey responded that there is a need to talk with Ken regarding the issue which he is very familiar with; he will go into this further, update and answer any questions at the workshop.

Senior Center Building Expansion

The expansion has been several years and been done in phases. A sketch was provided to the Board from Ken MacWilliams who has been working with the Fundraising Committee; 1/3 of the money or more has come from fundraising by the Fundraising Committee. Facing the building the next phase/addition is to the left of the existing building; originally the expansion was 36x36 but now it is 36x40 based upon approval of a basement opposed to a slab. We need to get the bid specs together for the concrete work. From the new parking area, will be a new entrance to the addition, the basement door would be to the left so that it won't take away from the area within the center and will allow for more functionality. The question is whether or not we will be installing a basement or if it is going to be a slab.

Lou LaCourse questioned what we currently had for storage space and what would be the cost differences of a slab opposed to full basement? E. Russell Bailey stated that there is small area of storage above the old original section but it is not good for any large items; there has been discussion on the need for more storage which would be beneficial to the Town. The approximated cost for a full basement would be an additional 5-6K or slightly more. Based on a slab the utilities would have to go into the attic. The existing facility has a slab with the new section having a crawl space.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to go with a basement for the addition at Pearson Road and the 40 ft for the extra stairs and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Transfer Station Operations/Closure Plans

NH DES requested we update the Operating and Closure Plan which is required to be submitted for filing. This follows what is already in place and meets DES requirements for operating a Transfer Station, but they may need some fine tuning.

R. Loring Carr would like clarification on Drilling Fluids on the 2nd page of the Operating Plan.

Lou LaCourse questioned the names of recyclers on the 2nd page in the section Recycling. Cydney Johnson thought that it should be more generic by not naming anyone in particular. R. Loring Carr suggested adding the word “*currently*” before the word are, in that paragraph.

Lou LaCourse noted there were two (2) spelling errors under the section Fire Prevention and Emergency Procedures: section Fumes correct the word compactore, remove the “e” and under Container Fire correct TAM should be RAM.

There was a discussion on extinguishing fires.

DES requires that a Closure Plan be written and filed with the State even though there is no plan in the foreseeable future to close the facility, therefore we chose the year 2050. We would like to get these fine tuned, submitted and filed with DES.

Lou LaCourse made a motion to accept the Operations and Closure Plans drafts as presented and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Town Hall Roof Project

This bid was done last year in order to have base pricing to go to town meeting. The bid is for the roof, dormers, trim work and removal of the chimney at the Town Hall. The bid from JMS Roofing was rejected as incomplete and T. Buck Construction was the next low bidder. Their bid is in the amount of \$94,100.00; they have been notified, spoken with regarding the bid price and they have guaranteed the amount, we have checked several references and the money was approved by town meeting; we need to finalize this project.

Cydney Johnson made a motion to accept the low bid from T. Buck Construction in the amount of \$94,100.00 including chimney work for the Town Hall roof and trim and Marc DeCoff seconded. A discussion followed regarding the roof.

R. Loring Carr made an amendment to include looking into a steel shingle type of product that looks like shingles asking for the cost difference in pricing, if they can do this type of work. Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the amended motion.

Draft Sidewalk/Curbing Bid Documentation

This was approved at Town meeting and is to continue and replace the concrete that is breaking up on the sidewalks and curbing beginning at Town Hall all through Monument Square in front of the four (4) stores on Main Street continuing onto Old Wolfeboro intersection which will close off that section

then go across the street to corner of Mooney Street to Route 140 and down to Church Street then down to the Church just before Wayne's Garage. This has been broken into five (5) sections to get a breakdown of pricing as it possibly this may need to be done in phases depending on scheduling. Our crews will be removing the old materials and compacting the new gravel for the concrete and curbing company. These are the same specs that were used last year. R. Loring Carr suggested adding the word *approximately* in each Section before the footage on both bids.

Cydney Johnson made a motion to send the bids out as presented and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

New Business:

Appointment Boards/Committees

E. Russell Bailey gave an overview of each of the Committees and Boards. Lou LaCourse questioned the amount of members on the Milfoil Committee and Cydney voiced concerns of her appointment as a voting member on the Parks n Recreation Committee. E. Russell Bailey to check into the matter.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to appoint the following to the Parks n Recreation Committee for a 3 year term and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

- Elizabeth Shelton

Cydney Johnson made a motion to appoint the following to the Old Home Weekend Committee for a 1 year term and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

- Andrew Hernandez
- Brian Mitchell
- Carolyn Schaeffner
- Duanne Hammond
- Justin Avery
- Roger Sample
- Tim Croes

Cydney Johnson made a motion to appoint the following to the Milfoil Committee for a 1 year term and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

- Brian Fortier
- Henry Carl
- Jonathan Downing
- Joseph Catudal
- Lawrence Hallin

- Nancy Downing
- Nancy Merrill
- Paul Richardson
- William Mannion

Cydney Johnson made a motion to appoint the following as a Levey Park Trustee for a 3 year term and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

- Allen Giles

Cydney Johnson made a motion to appoint the following to the Fundraising Committee for a 1 year term and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

- David Countway
- David Hayden
- Fred Sallah
- George Feeney
- Gerald Theodora
- Muriel Stinson
- Peter Bolster
- Shirley Young

Land Use Items

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2014 Veteran's credit for Map 18 Lot 36-11 and Map 12 Lot 62 and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2014 Current Use for Map 17-26 & 59-25 and Map 61 Lot 1 and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2014 Disability Exemption for Map 6 Lot 1-10 for \$40,000 in value and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the Barn Preservation Easement Renewal for Map 9 Lot 56 and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2014 Abatement for Map 54-11 in the amount of \$95.00 and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2014 Excavation Permits for SUR Construction-Hamwoods @ Suncook Valley Road, Penny Williams and Green Oak Realty and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2014 Timber Warrants for Map 14-1, 1-1 Operation 13-011-020-T in the amount of \$2,664.62 and Map 7 Lot 14 in the amount of \$378.11 and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

SB 333 Taxation of Travel Trailers

This is pending legislation which has already passed in Senate and is before the House now. There have been several hearings with an issue regarding campgrounds that have travel trailers. There are a lot of the campgrounds that have trailers year round they have decks, sheds, etc. and are basically being used as summer homes; the courts have ruled that they are to be taxed. Towns are all doing things differently, some are taxing as vehicles, some tax as property, some are taxing them as both and some are not doing anything. Anything smaller than 8 ½ ft wide would not be considered or taxed as property, there is supposed to be an amendment coming through regarding decks etc. that if they are permanent they would be taxed. We do not know where this legislation will end up, if it passes in its original version it would be a loss of 12K-14K in lost tax revenue for us; we won't know for several months. Our tax bills need to go out and what is being recommended is that we don't tax them until the legislation is finalized. We don't need an answer tonight if more information is needed. The campground land is not affected.

R. Loring Carr voiced concerns about this issue being the same across the board, town to town.

Cydney Johnson made a motion to hold off on billing until the 2nd cycle and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

R. Loring Carr questioned sending a letter to the taxpayers letting them know about this situation; depending on legislation. E. Russell Bailey will talk with Tom and get back to the Board at the next meeting.

Public Input II

Bill Clemme requested clarification on the process for filling the open spot on the Board of Selectmen, questioned why wouldn't there be a special election and would the board consider and recommend the position to the runner up since the towns people voted already, having expressed their interest of who they would like to have in that position. Mr. Clemme recommends that the Board give consideration to Mr. Wittmann in making their decision.

E. Russell Bailey explained there is a state law that basically states that the Selectmen would fill the vacant position until the next election in March 2015.

R. Loring Carr noted that the current practice has been, for a number of years to advertise, people apply, the Board interviews; then a decision is made by the Board. This has been the practice for many years; the School Board, the Selectmen and the Budget Committee have all made this their practice.

Mrs. William French agrees that during these times when people feel that their vote doesn't count that Mr. Wittmann should be given consideration as he received a lot of votes and that he would be a fine candidate for the position.

Non-Public Session:

R. Loring Carr made a motion to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A:3,II(a) personnel (c) character/reputation and (e) claims/litigation and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mary K. Jarvis

Mary K. Jarvis
Recording Secretary