

**Alton Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
April 9, 2007  
Public Session I  
Alton Town Hall**

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At 6:00pm, Chairman Alan Sherwood convened the meeting of the Selectmen, those present including the following members of the Board and staff:

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

**Convene**

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

**Approval of Agenda**

R. Bailey amended the agenda to include an appointment with Robert Bystrack with regards to Lot Line Road and Rangeways. P. Fuller motioned to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

**Public Hearing**

A. Sherwood opened the Public Hearing. R. Bailey explained Metro Cast Cable TV had sent the total franchise fee rather than deducting the amount due for Lakes Region Public Access Channel. This was due to tax reasons. He recommended that the Board accept their check for the franchise fee in the amount of \$43,626.94 and authorize the Town Administrator to make the payment to LRPA-TV out of that check for the amount of \$11,260.80. He advised the auditors are aware of this and stated the Town could process the payment in this way.

A. Sherwood opened the hearing to the Public.

Robert Longabaugh introduced Denise Beauchaine, the LRPA-TV manager to the Board. She explained the new system and that it will almost double the volume of the access channel.

P. Bolster asked D. Beauchaine, about access to the website, she noted this is an issue the company is working to resolve, and should be finalized in a few months.

There was no further Public Input. A. Sherwood closed the Public Hearing.

W. Curtin motioned to accept the total amount of \$43,626,94 from Metrocast Cable TV, and to authorize the payment of \$11,260.80 to LRPA-TV, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

### **Appointment**

1. Robert Bystrack – The Board met with R. Bystrack. R. Bailey stated that the Town Attorney has reviewed this matter and advised that the range way is a private road, also that Mr. Bystrack has requested additional information. R. Bystrack passed out drawings of the road to the Board members and stated this road should be public, the easement has extended access to the general public as surveyed in 1980, this came from information at the Belknap County Registry of Deeds. A. Sherwood advised that the Town Attorney should review this matter. R. Bystrack stated the decision should be up to the Board of Selectmen, not the Town Attorney.

### **Announcements**

1. The Chairman noted a NH-DOT Public Forum is scheduled for April 11, 2007 at the Gilman Museum to discuss the Alton Traffic Circle.
2. The Chairman noted the Rabies Clinic to be held April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Central Fire Station.

### **Selectmen's Committee Reports**

P. Bolster noted that Kellie Troendle has suggested the need for two additional members on the Park & Recreation Committee. The beach work should continue as soon as weather conditions allow. The Beach Committee is also considering landscaping and privacy matters. He continued the Downtown Revitalization Committee is diligently working on parking lot matters and that some items of the playground equipment will be delivered soon.

P. Fuller reported on educational funding and CACR 18 a constitutional amendment has passed through the Senate Judiciary Committee, and will be before the full Senate sometime this week, Rep. Laurie Boyce is not in favor this. The Coalition was present when the Portsmouth Mayor testified before the judiciary committee. This amendment affirms the State's responsibility for Public Education and ensures ongoing state funding for education, it is flexible and directs more state education aid to NH communities who need help the most and does not go back to donor Towns, etc. The General Court will determine the statewide costs of adequate education. Some state aid will be required for every school district, including Alton, and it also requires a standard of accountability for Public Schools. She advised that she will ask Laurie Boyce why she is against this amendment.

W. Curtin stated he had attended the Planning Board workshop. One of the questions raised was the use of an ipod to record the meeting.

A. Sherwood advised the next meeting of the Belknap Range Committee will held Thursday in Gilford.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

R. Bailey advised that Town Meeting had approved purchasing property back from Peter Long for property located on Trask Side Road. A quit claim deed and an agreement have been prepared and reviewed by the Town Attorney. Following a discussion, P. Fuller moved to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the deed on behalf of the Town, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey continued that extinguishing recent tire fires with foam had put the Fire Department over-budget, there was \$2000 in Budget but the cost was actually \$10,000.

R. Bailey also noted that Michael Izard will not be accepting the position of Town Planner and he will re-advertise.

R. Bailey advised The NH Marine Patrol had requested permission to conduct voluntary boat inspections at the Town Docks on June 23<sup>rd</sup> with a raindate of June 24<sup>th</sup>. P. Fuller motioned to allow the Marine Patrol to perform boat inspections at the Town Docks on the dates requested, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey noted the Downtown Revitalization Committee desires to apply for a grant from General Mills and the requirements are currently being reviewed by Town Counsel He will have more on this at the next meeting.

### **Public Input I**

The Chair recognized Robert Longabaugh. R. Longabough noted the Selectmen and School Board currently meet on the same night. Hopefully this should change shortly. R. Longabaugh asked about the final plans for parking spaces at the Bay adjacent to the former Pavillion site relating to public and private parking. A. Sherwood stated the plan has not changed. P. Fuller stated the ZBA had allowed the owner use of 4 spaces across the way.

Loring Carr – L. Carr expressed his concerns about access at the beach area, and difficulties faced by operators of snowmobiles and moving bob houses. More persons prefer this access, especially in the winter time, including airplane pilots. He asked for more consideration in this matter.

### **Approval of the Selectmen's Minutes**

W. Curtin noted during the Board of Health meeting, the wording should reflect the *proposed* owner. A. Sherwood noted the minutes should reflect the correct spelling of the name *Matarozzo*. P Fuller also noted the word "reciend" should be *rescind*. W. Curtin noted that TJ's Tree Service should be changed to *DJ's Tree Service*. P. Fuller motioned to approve Public Session I & II and Sealed, Non-Public Session minutes of March 26, 2007, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

### **Old Business**

1. Highway Operations – 2007. – the Board met with Kenneth Roberts, Highway Agent and Jeffrey Roberts, Mechanic. Following a discussion about the purchase and maintenance and operation of a sweeper, P. Bolster motioned to authorize the purchase of two sweepers at a cost of \$10,500, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

K. Roberts advised about the need for a vehicle and the purchase must be made as soon as possible. R. Bailey had advised to look for vehicles within the \$3000-\$4000 price range for the Town Assessor. Following further discussion the Board did not favor purchasing a vehicle and asked for the cost of a lease.

K. Roberts requested that the Selectmen not add more Town roads until 2008 due to the lack of vehicles in his Department.

2. Roberts Cove Drainage Issue – It was agreed to observe the area and to conduct a site walk on May 16, 2007 at 3:00pm and that residents will be notified.

3. Alton Bay Parking & Pavillion Condo Conversion - R. Bailey advised the fence around the construction site has been moved. Brian Boyers has inspected the area and met with the abutters who are in agreement with the current set-up. The area will be regularly monitored. Parking matters were briefly discussed and included parallel parking at the curbside. R. Bailey will keep the Board informed.

A. Sherwood asked for any public comment about parking, there being none he closed Old Business.

### **New Business**

It was agreed to amend the items in New Business and change Item 7 to Item 1.

1. Town Land – West Alton – Arthur Douglas a contractor asked permission to store gravel on Town Land while he worked on a small private lot. After completion of his job he would donate the gravel and spread it at the Town parking lot at the West Alton Swim Docks. Also, he would not need the entire parking area to store gravel. P. Fuller authorized the use of Town Property to Arthur Douglas to store gravel and accept the gift of any remaining gravel, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.
2. E911 Road Name Acceptance – R. Bailey advised these names had been presented and accepted by the Planning Board and the E911 Committee. The motion to accept these recommendations was made by P. Fuller, seconded and passed with all in favor.
3. Castleberry Fairs – Waiver Request – It was noted this waiver was to sell cutlery during the Castleberry Fairs event at the Bay. P. Bolster moved to allow cutlery (Cutco) to be sold at the craft fair, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.
4. Speed Limit/Sign Request – The Board discussed the speed limit and a “children playing” sign. It was noted there has not been a response as yet from the Police Department with their recommendations. The Selectmen approved two “Children Playing” signs and to remove the speed limit sign.
5. Grant Approval – Police Radios – R. Bailey stated this grant is at no cost to the Town, but a form will have to be signed that the grant has been accepted. W. Curtin motioned to authorize the grant and to have the Chairman sign, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.
6. NH Electric Co-op – Pole Petition: Re: #2663T Mt. Major Park Rd – P. Fuller motioned to approve the petition as submitted seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.
7. Vote to Approve Items as Recommended by the Town Assessor – A. Sherwood read the documents and moved to sign them accordingly, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

**Public Input II**

A citizen asked how the Town would recuperate the cost of foam from fighting the tire fires and if there are any requirements to clean that site. R. Bailey advised the Town cannot recuperate the cost of foam.

There was no other Public Input.

**Non-Public Session** – At 7:45pm, A. Sherwood moved to enter into Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA91-A; 3,II (a) (c) and (e) and the motion was seconded. The Chairman polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Town Secretary  
Sheri Emerson, Secretary

Minutes Approved: April 27, 2007











