

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
Public Session I
June 17, 2013
6:00 PM
1 Monument Square
Alton, NH 03809
Approved: July 15, 2013

Cydney Johnson 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:

Cydney Johnson, Vice Chair
David Hussey, Selectman
Marc DeCoff, Selectman
Robert W. Daniels, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

R. Loring Carr was absent

Approval of the Agenda

E. Russell Bailey requested adding #5 to New Business, Special Event Application for a wedding to be held this weekend and Cydney Johnson added to New Business #6 an editorial from the Baysider. David Hussey made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Public Hearing

Depot Street, Monument Square and Old Wolfeboro Road Intersection

Cydney Johnson opened the Public Hearing and turned the meeting over to Kenneth Roberts, Highway Agent. The order of the Hearing will be:

- Depot Street
- Old Wolfeboro Road Intersection
- Monument Square

Depot Street

Kenneth Roberts noted that there technically are no changes to the street, with the existing pavement remaining exactly as it is today. Most of the changes will be underground; there are issues with the current drainage and new drainage would be added which will exit down behind the bank. Catch basins will be added to trap as much sand as possible. The Water Department will work with us and add a new water line which enters at the bank side, with all new connections bringing it to the homes, Police Station, the park and to town hall. The road will be ground down and a two (2) inch binder coat will be applied and left for one year in order to correct any deficiencies that may arise before a top coat is laid next year.

The Public Hearing was opened for questions.

Bob Buchanan owner of the Maxfield Realty building had concerns with the elevation of the street as there is not a lot of pitch from the sidewalk at the rear entrance onto Depot Street so on occasion we get water backup and would appreciate it if this would be kept in mind with the grinding and resurfacing of the street. Kenneth Roberts noted that a remedy would be adding a catch basin at the end to trap the water which they previously discussed.

Old Wolfeboro Road Intersection

There are two (2) ways to enter/exit this roadway now at the bottom section. There have been several complaints that it is like a raceway so we are trying to prevent this issue. Several years ago a curve was added so we plan to close that section down and bring it in traffic by the insurance company. Parking will be added in the front of the closed section which will help add more visibility. There will only be one exit/entrance to Old Wolfeboro Road. The closed area will be grassed and will have raised curbing and a sidewalk re-connecting to the existing sidewalk that goes through the park. There will be a small island area that will be raised but drivable. In front of the insurance company there will be raised sidewalk/curbing with a grass area connected to the existing sidewalks which should slow traffic down in that area. Something not shown on the plan, are sidewalks from the Hair Salon back to the old Legion building are plans to connect with the existing sidewalks at Monument Square which still needs some negotiations.

The Public Hearing was opened for questions.

Elizabeth Cantrell from the Baysider asked for clarification as she did not understand the closing and opening of the road. Kenneth Roberts further explained the traffic flow.

Monument Square

The bigger challenge is due to what is under the surface of the road; there is a lot going on that we don't understand, that has to do with drainage. We flooded the catch basins at Monument Square to find out what is going on and won't know until it is dug up. Across the street at the old White Lodge the drainage begins and goes across the Route 140 then to the catch basin that sits there in front of the store at the intersection. When this was flooded it went to another catch basin at the end of Monument Square and we don't know how it intersects from one point to the other and these structures are starting to collapse. We want to add as much parking and drainage as possible, new sidewalks with raised curbing will be installed and the Monument section has already been completed. The drainage will This area will be ground with a two (2) inch binder coat then a one (1) inch top coat would be applied right away so there won't be a need to go back again. There will be colored imprints which will show the parking etc. The traffic pattern will be back to where it should be

closing it up some. The snow removal will all move down to the back with no pushing of the snow to the green areas, as much as possible should all be taken away. The water line comes across in the area and we will try to put a new water line in with reconnections back through, not wanting to come do this at a later date. This should correct the drainage issues.

The Public Hearing was opened for questions.

Robert DeRoche owner of the True Value Store and the apartment Building next door voiced a lot of questions and concerns regarding the project. He stated he had not been informed until just recently, after the plans were made. He is disappointed with the area being one way as it has always been two way traffic with very little problem. The current parking is for five (5) vehicles and now it is only three (3) being told that there is going to be more parking but believes that he is being given less and always shared parking with the Town Hall; believing that he is the most effected business and wanted to know how long the business would be shut down and what steps will be taken to get customers to get to the store. Owning the property to the middle of the road and he doesn't want to give an easement and doesn't want someone coming in on top of him and have to move his stuff so that someone can get down the sidewalk. Mr. DeRoche asked for help with his concerns.

Kenneth Roberts responded to some of the issues brought forth by Robert DeRoche.

Most of this design was done by the engineer; the parking spaces are still there and they can be designated as parking even though it states display area that would be entirely your decision. Again, the one way was designed by the engineer and they really tried to maximize the area. We will be working with everyone in this area and try to do this in small sections.

David Hussey pointed out that nothing has changed; if five (5) cars fit there today then five (5) cars will fit there again. It will be up to the Board if there are lines painted.

Kenneth Roberts mentioned that they will move as fast as they can to get things done. There are a lot of people and businesses to accommodate and will try to do this after the holiday. Ken believes that a three week timeframe will be sufficient if I can get in there and move without running into any potential problems underground.

Bob Buchannan questioned the phase order?

Kenneth Roberts responded with Depot Street first then moving into Monument Square but could jump over to Old Wolfeboro Road then back to Monument Square with all being subject to change and weather; the paving needs to be before the winter hits with a projected 2013 completion date.

Robert Buchannan suggested possible bump ups to slow traffic down on the corner, do away with the one parking spot coming out of Depot Street which would allow better sight vision looking south.

Robert Daniels questioned if there would be any Police enforcement issues with parking and E. Russell Bailey stating unless it is signed there would be no issues.

Cydney Johnson made comments that this is all part of the downtown revitalization project; to spruce up the appearance of the downtown area and improve upon the sidewalks to bring to the businesses. The Board wants to work with the businesses for the best solution and be sure that the businesses are successful and we cannot commit to anything tonight without discussing this together. As far as the parking is concerned they don't have to paint lines. The same recommendation came from the Police and Fire Departments as well as DOT for the one way traffic which is for safety reasons. It there is a recommendation from all of these entities it would be hard to go against that recommendation.

Robert Daniels questioned the timeframe of the shutdown?

Kenneth Roberts will consider the businesses, do small sections and get the work completed as fast as possible and do whatever it takes to get traffic in and out.

Cydney Johnson inquired about the actual timeframe from start to finish?

Kenneth Roberts hoped that it would be about three (3) weeks if all is prepped and ready to go. Cars and foot traffic will have access; the only time there might be an issue would be when the water line goes in.

David Hussey noted that they are very accommodating to helping the businesses, to make it as easy as possible to have access to the stores.

The goal would be to make it as easy as possible for people to have access to the stores with Kenneth Roberts noting that we will get them in at all cost.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:30 PM.

Announcements

- July 4th Fireworks to be held on July 3rd @ 9:20 PM weather permitting

Selectmen's Committee Report

Robert Daniels reported on behalf of the Budget Committee; they are looking to fill a vacancy as the new member resigned, it is being advertised and the next meeting is June 26, 2013; hopefully select a new person.

Robert Daniels plans to meet with Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) on June 24, 2013 and have spoken with Mr. Koulet, Executive Director regarding milfoil; he didn't offer many suggestions regarding the organization itself. The meeting will be on milfoil; suggesting sending a letter to other towns in the area and meet directly with them about approaching the State for support.

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

- We have converted the heating systems in all of our buildings except the AVAS building. We have quotes which are over \$5K, suggest putting it out to a formal bid for a new high efficiency heating system, probably propane; the heat is currently K1. David Hussey made a motion to put this out to bid and Marc DeCoff seconded the motion with all in favor of the motion.
- Our meetings are televised on the lakes Region Public Access Television Channel; there have been some issues and debates by others on continuing with them. We are processing our payment of \$14,127.00 it is in the operating budget and supported by the Budget Committee. It has been voted in every year.
- The two (2) military surplus 10 wheeler trucks and the roller can now be transferred/titled to the Highway Department from the Police Department and will be signing the titling paperwork for the transfer.
- There is a parking issue by Dunkin Donuts on Route 11 which is a State Highway. The Board was presented a letter from Chief Ryan Heath; if approved we will request no parking across from the entrance at Dunkin Donuts. David Hussey made a motion to approve sending the letter to DOT requesting no parking signs (with changes) and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.
- A letter from the Fire Department along with the Police Department regarding emergencies up at Mt. Major and having no place to park,; they are trying to designate a place to park. Marc DeCoff questioned how many emergency vehicles? E. Russell Bailey stated at a minimum an Ambulance but they would probably like more and we don't know what the State would be willing to do. David Hussey noted that we need to know before voting to find out how much area and Marc DeCoff suggested a minimum of the Ambulance and a maximum of Ambulance and Rescue and Cydney Johnson agreed to request a minimum for an Ambulance and maximum for an Ambulance and Rescue for designated parking with all in favor.

Public Input I

None

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the minutes of Public Session I, June 3, 2013; after questions by Robert Daniels regarding the B&M RR Park and Board discussion. David Hussey seconded with all in favor of approving the minutes as written with all in favor of the motion.

Marc Decoff made a motion to approve the minutes of Non-Public Session, June 3, 2013 opening items# 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10; E. Russell Bailey recommended holding on #4 as it was not ready to be opened. Marc Decoff changed the motion to approve the minutes of Non-Public Session, June 3, 2013 opening items# 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10; David Hussey seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the minutes of Public Session II, June 3, 2013; and David Hussey seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Old Business:

Richardson's Deed Approval

At Town Meeting the townspeople had approved to take a tax deed and deed it over to the Richardson's this dates back to the 70's and 80's, Jim Sessler prepared the deed and has taken out the word "wood building". David Hussey made a motion to sign the deed and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Project Status Update

An update on the Senior Center; the 24x24 addition is on location, the siding is being finalized, the plumber and electrician need to finish their connections for the air conditioning, heat and emergency generator once that is complete Ken will bury it and complete the site work. The interior has some work to be done which will be discussed at a later time.

We have been talking with the property owners in the Roberts Cove Beach area regarding improvements. Working on finalizing two (2) easements, the work won't be done this summer as wetlands permits need to be filed and that won't be done until the easement are signed. Both property owners are in agreement and one requested having a porta-pottie there to reduce the trips made to his property. Cydney Johnson suggested if we do that that to pour a cement slab and chain it down due to vandalism. There were no objections otherwise.

Bowman Road we are working on an easement deed and will need another one for drainage on the stone wall on the left hand side of the road moving the wall with encroachment for a slope easement for drainage it is being worked on by the town attorney.

Stockbridge Corner Road a letter has been sent to the State which was previously approved and the State will control the traffic. A culvert is going to be replaced and the road will be closed for 3-4 days, I emphasized that his work is to done during the summer as to not interfere with school bus routing. This will be going out to bid later this summer with completion of this road next year.

New Business:

Land Use Items

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2012 Timber Warrants for \$3,063.20 on Map 05 Lot 53; Map 21 Lot 24, Map 12 Lot 61 and Map 12 Lot 62 and David Hussey seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2012 Timber Warrants for \$1,055.90 on Map 11 Lot 30 & 31 and David Hussey seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Note: #2 is for informational purposes only; needs no vote as we have no control over them.

Special Event Application ~ Lungs for Life Kayak Run

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the Lungs for Life Kayak Run for June 30, 2013 at Liberty Park and David Hussey seconded with all in favor of the motion.

PMHS Tri-M Music Honor Society Car Wash

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the car wash for July 21 and August 25, 2013 from 8:00 AM to Noon and David Hussey seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Alton Garden Club Request

The Alton Garden Club wants to plant a tree in memory of Shirley Copeland who was involved with many committees.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to put the tree at the RR Museum property and David Hussey seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Special Event Application Wedding

This is for a wedding which is estimated to have over 100 people; by our ordinance they must apply. The Police have no issues with this as long as they are not blocking or parking on the road. E. Russell Bailey recommends approving and will follow up with them regarding this matter. David Hussey motioned to approve and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Editorial Baysider

Cydney Johnson wanted to discuss addressing work force housing and the recent editorial in the Baysider. Her concern is that the editorial has a tone to it that seems to imply that perhaps people are not performing their jobs in the way of the oath that they have taken with several comments by the ZAC members having been in support of the concept of work force housing.

Discussion:

David Hussey also showed concerns noting that the Town of Alton has to have an ordinance regarding this and that the state and feds mandate that we come up with this ordinance, if we don't then they will; stressing again that Work Force Housing is required by the Federal Government and the State.

Cydney Johnson mentioned the need to be careful how this is presented and should be in a non biased objective manner which may give the impression of not being neutral and the need to work together as a team for the Town of Alton.

Public Input II

None

Cydney Johnson 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.

Adjournment 7:12 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Mary K. Jarvis

Mary K. Jarvis
Recording Secretary