

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
October 1, 2018
6:00 PM
1 Monument Square
Alton, NH 03809
Approved: October 15, 2018

Cydney 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. The following staff members were present:

Cydney Shapleigh, Chairwoman
John Markland, Vice Chairman
Virgil MacDonald, Selectman
Philip V. Wittmann, Selectman
Reuben Wentworth, Selectman
Elizabeth Dionne, Town Administrator
James Sessler, Town Attorney

Agenda Approval

John Markland made a motion to approve the agenda and Virgil MacDonald seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Announcements

None

Board of Health

Cydney Shapleigh made a motion to recess as the Board of Selectmen and to convene as the Board of Health and Reuben Wentworth seconded with all in favor of the motion.

- Septic Waiver Request; Map 40 Lot 45, 13 Wentworth Way, Finethy

John Dever, Code Officer was called upon to explain the waiver request. This will be a tank and pump combination. The property is located on Wentworth Way in the Peggy's Cove area. When the original plan was discussed they planned to reuse the existing tank and pump chamber, once it was looked into it was found that they could not. The current proposal is to install with a new plastic tank and pump chamber next to the existing tank. They don't want to remove the existing tank due to it being against the foundation; it will be cleaned and filled along with the drywell. This is a steep lot and an improvement from the existing system.

Reuben Wentworth made a motion to approve the waiver request for Map 40 Lot 45 pump chamber to lake, required 75', actual 48' and Phil Wittmann seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Cydney Shapleigh made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Health and re-convene as the Board of Selectmen and John Markland seconded with all in favor of the motion.

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

None

Appointments:

Budget Committee Annual Status Update

Roger Nelson, Chairman of the Budget Committee spoke on behalf of his committee. Roger stated that he has a full Board consisting of five (5) elected officials along with the two (2) appointed officials. To date, his committee

has not received any budget information for 2019. He would like to receive it as soon as possible in order to proceed forward with the budget process. The Committee has embarked upon a program and have been in contact with several towns in the region, putting together a spreadsheet asking the towns if they would like to participate in this program that consists of eight (8) questions for comparison purposes. Most have agreed to participate. David Hershey, Vice-Chair is in charge of the program and will be putting all of the information together and once obtained they will be happy to share with the Board of Selectmen. This will show us the averages in comparison. Roger has been tracking for seven (7) years actual expenses by line item by department and will be keying on them during the budget hearings.

Virgil MacDonald voiced he would like to see the report; Roger would be happy to provide once there is more definitive information.

New Business:

None

Old Business:

1. Water Bandstand Committee Update

Several Water Bandstand Committee members approached the Board to discuss a few items. Nancy Merrill voiced concerns about the Committee's longevity then requested if the Board would extend until 2020 their appointments. In addition, fundraising has been a topic of discussion with monies raised being used for future repairs; the committee wondered if approval was necessary each time for items they want to sell. It would be up to the Board to make that decision. Liz Dionne mentioned that any money that comes out of a Capital Reserve would need the Board's approval. Fundraising ideas, donations, escrow account held by the Treasurer have already been approved; the Capital Reserve was created for a specific purpose and probably not for fundraising supplies but for maintenance and upgrades. Nancy Merrill mentioned doing a Petition Article however, it would still need Board approval for release of any funds and used for the purpose stated; no matter what the Board are the agents to expend by law even if it is a Petition Warrant Article. Paul LaRochelle again questioned extending the term of the Committee members. Attorney Sessler doesn't see any reason as they serve at the will of the Selectmen; they are not elected officials.

Virgil MacDonald made a motion to extend the committee expiration date until 2020 and Reuben Wentworth seconded with all in favor of the motion.

The Committee was thanked for their participation. Paul LaRochelle continued with reporting the progress:

- Flagpole has been received; will be worked on this week
- Windsocks will be received this week (Weds. or Thurs.)
- Winnepesaukee Marine; has done their work, replaced boards, blocking and straightening as best they could. There were eight (8) other boards that needed to be replaced which the committee did last week; staining has begun and interior raised panels have been installed and painted
- Lighting has arrived; being coordinated with Greg Brooks Electric for installation of the new lighting and removal of the old lighting

Within the next few weeks, we should be close. Paul noted that when they get close to completion the Committee would like to invite the Board to view the Bandstand; arrangements will be made for transportation. Nancy Merrill inquired about the potential of having a fireworks display the evening of the ceremonies in June for the Water Bandstand celebration; would the Board be willing to include this amount within the Town's budget for fireworks otherwise a petition would need to be done. Another question was having a rain date which was not considered in earlier discussion. Cydney Shapleigh thought that a rain date would be important if fireworks were to be considered. Liz Dionne asked if the Committee had ever considered combining this with other festivities such as Old Home Week or July 4th; they are trying to keep the day as its own entity as a big celebration in hopes that this would be the case. Cydney mentioned that this could be kept in mind during budgeting however we would need to contact the people that are currently servicing the town for fireworks to be sure that they are available. The Committee would like to keep the day separate. John Markland mentioned the possibility of incorporating the cost for fireworks into the petition article.

It was the consensus of the Board to have the Town Administrator look into this option.

Selectmen Reports

Reuben Wentworth reported on the Water Department noting that the water summer lines will begin to be turned off the week of October 15th. The hydrant at the Mount Washington would be done around the 18th and Rollins Hill the week after.

Phil Wittmann had nothing to report.

Virgil MacDonald reported that the Planning Board began working on the West Alton Marina extension.

John Markland reported that the CIP Committee has been working with the department heads for updating and finalization. In addition, the first official meeting of the Recreation Center Study Committee will be on October 15th at 6:00 PM at the Pearson Road Community Center.

Cydney Shapleigh had nothing to report.

Town Administrator Report by Liz Dionne

Budget Committee Form

For the record, in response to the Budget Committee's annual status update. The form that was spoken about was placed on the Town's website on the Budget Committee's page in the spring.

GIS

The Town has been trying to get a GIS program moving however, it is very expensive with only so much per year being budgeted. A foundation needs to be created before the layers can be put on. The foundation is roughly 40K with the flyovers roughly 18K to 20K. A decision was made to wait until next year; with the Boards approval to create through the CIP to begin budgeting rather than a larger hit. Reuben Wentworth questioned if there was any grant money available for communities; this option will be looked into. The Board had no problem putting this to CIP.

Shibley's at the Pier Restaurant

The owner of the business has asked if a Warrant Article would be placed on the Warrant in March for renegotiation of his lease. An explanation for his reasoning was provided regarding banking and projects for the business; legal counsel was consulted, it is a decision of the Board to put a Warrant Article forward for this purpose. The current lease expires in 2024. Attorney Sessler stated you do not have to extend or amend the lease. If you want to extend the lease it probably would be good to get town approval, if renegotiating you already have the approval. You are not required to place this on a Warrant Article if Shibley's wants it to be on the Warrant they would have to do a Petition Article.

It was the consensus of the Board that this is premature and could wait until 2020.

Budget Workshop Dates

Liz requested dates for the Budget Workshops noting that most of the budgets are in however, there are a few stragglers; insurance and benefits would not arrive until much later. Discussion ensued on various dates; incomplete books can be made available this week, agreed upon dates are as follows:

- October 10
- October 11
- October 16
- October 18
- October 23

Thanksgiving Holiday

Liz inquired if the Board would consider closing at noon the day before Thanksgiving. It was the consensus of the Board not to allow.

Morin Insurance Parking

Previously requested by the Board was for Liz to talk with Morin Insurance regarding their employees parking in the bay asking them to park on the other side of Route 11. Liz has been hesitant to do so because there are other businesses in the area. It appears all of the employees are parking in reserved parking spaces; there are quite a few reserved spots for them in front of their building. Reuben voiced concerns regarding the spaces and does not know that the town would allow. We do not know who owns the vehicles. A debate transpired regarding the reserved spaces on town property across from the Pavilion; this needs to be researched and reported back to the Board. Attorney Sessler suggested beginning with the Planning Department to see what was agreed upon with that property. Ken Roberts may have knowledge regarding this issue.

Approval of Minutes

September 17, 2018

Reuben Wentworth made a motion to approve the minutes of Public Session I, September 17, 2018 and John Markland seconded. The vote was 4 approved, 1 abstention, Phil Wittmann.

Reuben Wentworth made a motion to approve the minutes of Non-Public Session, September 17, 2018 releasing #1, 2, 3 & 4 and Cydney Shapleigh seconded. The vote was 4 approved, 1 abstention, Phil Wittmann.

September 18, 2018

Reuben Wentworth made a motion to approve the minutes of Non-Public Workshop Session I, September 18, 2018 releasing none and John Markland seconded. The vote was 3 approved, 2 abstentions, Phil Wittmann and Virgil MacDonald.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Reuben Wentworth made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted and John Markland seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Approval - Halloween Hours, Wednesday, October 31, 2018 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Approval - Fire Department Reclassification; Michael Okoniewski, EMT/Firefighter to AEMT/Firefighter \$15.19 per hour to \$16.69 per hour.

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

Loring Carr approached the Board to discuss the Zoning Amendment Committee who met last month. There was no Selectman present at the meeting and he asked that the appointed members please show up. In addition, the density of the surrounding lakefront properties changed last year. It seems that the majority feel this was a mistake but nobody wants to support the Petition Warrant Article to rescind the decision. While on the Board there were issues regarding the parking spots and knows that there are minutes reflecting such.

Ray Howard approached the Board and voiced that when the Pavilion was being turned into condos there were parking issues that the Planning Board addressed. In addition, Ray questioned the September 18th Non-Public Workshop Session and requested the specific letter pertaining to it. Cydney Shapleigh responded legal, it was really a non-meeting which was a consultation with legal counsel.

David Hershey approached the Board as Vice Chairman of the Budget Committee. Questions had come up regarding benchmarking efforts of the Budget Committee undertaking this with other towns explaining he had approached Gilford, Meredith, Laconia, New Durham and Tuftonboro. He received positive information from all but Meredith who does not have a Budget Committee. He is looking to pick 5 to 7 departments with the highest expense ratio and compare that as a percentage to a number of residents in the town, tax base as a way of comparing one town to the other. The emphasis are the towns that have a large seasonal influx, which seemed to be a reasonable representation. If the Board feels that there are other towns that would be better, he is absolutely indifferent to that.

Discretionary Action on Requests for Appointments (No discussion, majority vote required to allow/not allow appointment)

- Ruth Arsenault; Waterside Parking in Alton Bay
- Kevin Murphy; Public Boat Access to Hills Pond

Cydney Shapleigh noted that there are two (2) requests for appointments one (1) is being recommended by the Town Administrator the other is not. Reuben Wentworth voiced until the parking situation is resolved there is really no sense in talking about it at this time. In addition, on the second request the thought was to release the item (it was released) and if he has something otherwise he would like added or other concerns then he can come into a meeting under Public Input II.

Non-Public Session: Vote to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A:3, II (a) through (k) as deemed necessary.

Cydney Shapleigh made a motion to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) (b) (c) and (e) and Reuben Wentworth seconded. The Board was polled in the affirmative by roll call with all in favor of the motion.

Roll call vote:

Reuben Wentworth, yes
Phil Wittmann, yes
Virgil MacDonald, yes
John Markland, yes
Cydney Shapleigh, yes

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary K. Jarvis

Mary K. Jarvis
Recording Secretary

