

**ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 6, 2008**  
**Public Session I**  
**ALTON TOWN HALL**

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

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

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence**

A. Sherwood led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

**Approval of the Agenda**

P. Fuller motioned to approve the Agenda, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

**Announcements**

Halloween - Trick or Treat hours will be from 5 -7 PM, October 31<sup>st</sup>.  
Barn Tours – The tours will take place on October 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-4:00pm.  
Fire Station - Barbeque beginning at 5:00pm on October 11, 2008

**Selectmen's Committee Reports**

P. Bolster reported the School Building and Grounds Committee continue to work on the warrant article and they are discussing energy savings and working cooperatively between the school and Town. He noted the B&M R.R. Park facilities will be available during the Barn tours. He had also met with the Parks & Recreation Commission new ideas and programs are being considered.

S. McMahan reported the Budget Committee meetings begin October 21<sup>st</sup>. Town Budgets will be finalized on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

W. Curtin noted the Planning Board is looking for alternate members. He also advised that the water department will be shutting off the water to seasonal residents after Columbus Day unless the weather holds.

P. Fuller stated she had attended the last ZBA meeting and commended the members for their excellent work. She noted the ZBA is looking for members and alternates.

A. Sherwood explained the Planning Board will be meeting Wednesday. They will be using photos to identify locations of for future planning.

### **Town Administrator's Updates**

R. Bailey presented a document from the Town Clerk for the Board's signatures relative to the posting of the National Elections on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

He noted the engineering had been approved for a new culvert on Cooke Road and that the project could go out to bid. W. Curtin motioned to go to bid on the culvert for Cooke Road, seconded by P. Fuller and passed.

He reported that the LRPC had obtained a hazardous mitigation grant to update the several Towns Mitigation Plans including Alton, and the Board of Selectmen had no objection to working with LRPC to update the plan.

R. Bailey advised he will be at the DRA in Concord to set the tax rate and the Board agreed to \$100,000.00 overlay and not use any surplus.

### **Public Input I**

The Chairman recognized Dorothy Wentworth. D. Wentworth questioned why the Police Department is withholding information concerning break-ins in Alton, especially when these involve senior citizens. Board members advised they are unaware of any intent to withhold information but will pass her concerns to the Police Department.

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

The Board reviewed the minutes as presented and the following action was taken.  
9-15-08 – to correct the word lightening to "lightning" and to correct the minutes of 9-23-08, pg 2; the amount of \$500 should be corrected to "\$1500."

W. Curtin motioned to approve the minutes of 9-15-08, Public Session I and II and the (sealed) Non-public Session minutes as amended, seconded by P. Bolster and passed  
With one abstention (PF)

W. Curtin motioned to approve the workshop minutes of 9/23/08 as amended, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

W. Curtin motioned to approve the workshop minutes of 9-24-08, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

W. Curtin motioned to approve the workshop minutes of 9-29-08, Public Session I & II and (sealed) non-public Session, seconded by S. McMahan and passed with two abstentions (PF) (PB)

W. Curtin motioned to approve the workshop minutes of 9-30-08, seconded by A. Sherwood and passed with one abstention (PF)

### **Old Business**

1. 2008 Budget Status – R. Bailey advised the tornado funding request was approved by FEMA in the amount of \$161,731 and \$10,568 for paving. The Board and Mr. Bailey discussed the 75%-80% reimbursement to the Town, (a minimum would be \$121,298) and if the funds will be received in 2008 and other scenarios if necessary such as use of surplus funds. R. Bailey stated he would have more information for the Board at the next meeting.
2. 2009 Budget Status – R. Bailey advised the town department budgets have been reviewed and will be finalized this week and the Budget committee will begin their review on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. He noted the Town has sent out for fuel bids, bids should be back on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **New Business**

1. Road Policy Waiver – Note: W. Curtin excused himself from the Board and did not participate in any discussion of this matter. R. Bailey explained that this is a request for an waiver from the Selectmen on a 50' width requirement with regards to a 2-lot subdivision from Richard Coskren on Mt. Major Highway. Following a discussion, S. McMahan motioned to grant the waiver conditional that the Board is not setting a precedent, matters such as this will continue to be on a case by case basis, the road must be built to Town standards, the lots are not to be further sub-divided. Mr. Coskren will work with the Planning Board and engineer to prepare the road. This is a two-lot subdivision only and this should also be included as a condition in any Planning Board approval. The Town will not provide winter maintenance on the road, the motion was seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

Mr. Curtin rejoined the Board.

2. Donation Acceptance – R. Bailey noted that recently two donations have been received anonymously. \$2500 for repairs to Echo Road Boat Ramp and \$250 to Levey Park. P. Fuller motioned to accept both donations in the spirit in which they were given and to use the funds for the purpose as specified at the boat ramp and Levey Park, seconded by S. McMahan and passed with all in favor.

New Business (con't)

3. Approval of Land Use Items as recommended by the Town Assessor – A. Sherwood read the items as submitted and motioned to accept the recommendations of the Town Assessor and to sign them accordingly, seconded by W. Curtin and passed.
4. Downtown Revitalization Committee – Building Donation – The Board met with Judy Fry, Chairman of the Committee and Marty Cornellisen, Member. Their discussion included relocating a former R.R. station to the new B& M R.R. Park. It was noted the building has been donated but the committee needs the Selectmen's support to move forward with the project. It was agreed to conduct a Public Hearing on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Public Input II

The Chairman recognized Gregory Fuller. G. Fuller noted that the B&M R.R. Park is an asset to the Town, the committee and Chairman have done “a fantastic job” it has been so much work, and not “one penny” was requested from the Town Budget. He continued he was skeptical about the project but he was wrong.

Non Public Session

At 7:10pm, the Chairman motioned to enter into Non-Public session pursuant to RSA91-A,3;II (a) (c) and (e) the motion was seconded and the Chairman polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary  
Minutes Approved: October 20, 2008