

**Budget Committee
Town of Alton
Thursday, October 20, 2011
Minutes Approved October 27, 2011**

1. Call to order 6:32 pm

2. Roll Call –

Marc DeCoff – Chairman
Barbara Howard Member
Loring Carr – Selectmen’s Representative
Steve Miller, Vice Chair
Terri Noyes – School Board Representative

Others Present:
R. Bailey

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Public Input - No public input seen or heard
Public input closed.

M. DeCoff read letter from Douglas Kirkpatrick that due to health reasons he is submitting his resignation to the committee effective immediately.

T. Noyes accepts resignation, B. Howard seconds. Committee accepts resignation with regret.

5. Approval of Agenda

T. Noyes asked to discuss August 30th meeting minutes and the decision to support S. Miller reading of his letter. T. Noyes requested the minutes from the meeting and M. Decoff informed her that there were no minutes available.

Discussion continued with T. Noyes questioning S. Miller why there were no minutes? She wanted to know when was decision made. Why would there have been no minutes? If a vote was taken to allow S. Miller to read the letter then, in accordance with RSA91 there should be minutes. S. Miller stated there was no vote. He asked everybody if they would allow him to read the letter and everybody said yes, there was no vote. T. Noyes stated they took a vote and it was unanimous. B. Howard stated we gave our consent. T. Noyes continued to ask for the minutes of the meeting. Discussion continued as to whether it was an actual vote or just permission to read the letter

Additional discussion occurred with the posting of meetings. B. Howard stated that she attended a recent School Board deliberative session. B. Howard continued her discussion of a meeting she attended where the School Board had a public meeting prior to the deliberative session that was posted to start at 7:00pm. At 6:15 pm a full board meeting was held, that included the attorney, moderator and school clerk was held. B. Howard stated that it was a public meeting.

S. Miller told T. Noyes to go take your legal remedies. T. Noyes said if that's the way you want to go forward, I feel bad. S. Miller stated she didn't feel bad one minute.

B. Howard asked if minutes were taken at the SB pre-meeting that was supposedly posted. T. Noyes responded, at 7:00, which meeting are you talking about. B. Howard commented that the SB posted a deliberative session announcement on the calendar and school website, T. Noyes confirmed August 30th. B. Howard stated that was correct. At 6:15 you had a full board meeting and I called you on it and I talked to the woman from the state. B. Howard commented that the woman from the state contacted her and when she asked what happens if you have a meeting prior to the deliberative session and if you had to post it. It came back to that it is understood when there is a deliberative session the SB is automatically going to meet before hand. B. Howard asked the question how do the taxpayers in the community know that?

T. Noyes asked B. Howard to clear up what meeting she was talking about and noted that there was a meeting the SB had with their attorney before the deliberative session that we did not have to post.

B. Howard asked, why not?

T. Noyes stated it is covered under legal. It is a non-meeting. Anytime we meet with our attorney it is a non-meeting. B. Howard asked then why did you have to vote before you went into a non-public session if it was a non-meeting. T. Noyes responded that it is covered under legal and is a non-meeting, anytime we meet with our attorney. B. Howard asked why did you have to vote before you went into a non-public session if it was a non-meeting?

T. Noyes my only point in closing is that you are a public board and you need to follow (unintelligible)... that they have a secretary, a superintendent that does their work and the BC does not and she understood that when you get up and make a statement that you have made a decision as a board you want the school to be part of the BC.

S. Miller stated he did not say that. He asked for verbal consensus. That everybody stood for that particular statement. T. Noyes asked so we can make verbal consensus without keeping minutes of the meeting? S. Miller stated that it happened at the deliberative session and it was a posted meeting. T. Noyes stated she didn't see it

T. Noyes will bet a verbatim of the meeting minutes.

July 25th Minutes - L. Carr accepts, B. Howard seconds, No discussion. All in favor.

September 15th, Page 2 should say for the JMA it was supposed to have D. Kirkpatrick's name with B. Howard, S. Miller and the 2 Appointments. Under no. 2, should have listed V. MacDonald as the alternate.

September 15th Minutes - L. Carr moves to approve minutes with modifications, M. DeCoff seconds, All in favor

5. Approval of Agenda

Add to Old business

Town hand outs will be listed under old business, transfers line to line not needed list of revenue up to date, trust balances coming in and going out, Chair request for percentage use for admin percentage use for Alton, number served in Alton, fuel usages, transfers from line to line automatically you do not have to do, it all balances. Within town, S. Miller asked hypothetically if there were a \$500,000 transfer between departments, would that be OK. R. Bailey said that it would have to be noted.

Add to New Business

Add S. Miller's request to School Dept.

D. Kirkpatrick's resignation, and position

Motion by L. Carr move to approve amended agenda, M. DeCoff seconds, all in favor

6. Old Business

Handouts were provided to the committee with regards to fuel pricing, non-profits. (non-profits is still a work in progress) and summary sheet for total town budget. Discussion was held regarding handouts.

Phone system, legal, which will be per case, and settlements paid out are not yet complete

7. New Business

Budget calendar adjustments were made due to department head schedules. Planning, Code and Tax Collector were moved. Police will be moved from the 27th. R. Bailey will try and swap it with another larger department. Will know by Tuesday October 25, 2011.

**2012 BUDGET
Town of Alton
Budget Committee Schedule**

All meeting will be held in the Heidke Room or in the second floor meeting room of the Town Hall at 6:00 PM with Department reviews beginning at 6:20 PM

Thursday	October 20, 2011	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting
Tuesday	October 25, 2011	6:20 PM	Water Department Planning Library Highway Department
Thursday	October 27, 2011	6:20 PM	Cemetery Code Enforcement Police Department Animal Control
Tuesday	November 1, 2011	6:20 PM	Assessing Department Town Clerk/Elections Fire Department
Thursday	November 3, 2011	6:20 PM	Tax Collector Solid Waste Welfare Patriotic Street Lights
Tuesday	November 8, 2011	6:20 PM	Gen Gov. Legal, Ins, Benefits Gilman Museum Parks & Rec./Bldg & Grounds
Thursday	November 10, 2011	6:20 PM	School
Tuesday	November 15, 2011	6:20 PM	School
Thursday	November 17, 2011	6:20 PM	School
Tuesday	November 29, 2011	6:20PM	PMHS
Thursday	December 1, 2011	6:20 PM	CIP
Tuesday	December 7, 2011	6:20 PM	Warrant Articles
Thursday	January 3, 2012	6:20 PM	Public Hearing/Town Regular Meeting
Thursday	January 5, 2012	6:20 PM	Snow Date
Tuesday	January 10, 2012	6:20 PM	Public Hearing/School Regular Meeting/Petition Articles
Thursday	January 12, 2012	6:20 PM	Snow Date

S. Miller requested minutes since from July 1, 2011 school board regarding, buildings and grounds meetings. He would like to familiarize himself with the financial decisions made by both of those committees prior to school. In some instances only posted up to August some instances July wasn't posted. He has requested copies of all bills, invoices and itemized accounting of expenses referenced in any way for a new school or land acquisition. Looking for all bills and statements due to conflicting numbers, potential huge bond issue. Familiarize himself with the costs involved so when the school board presents their CIP and current expenditures, including architectural rendering for a future building that has not been OK'd would like the information before hand.

T. Noyes stated that the concerns from School Board were that it is a lot of secretarial work, time of copying minutes that are already available on line. S. Miller stated he will get minutes on-line, but is requesting copies of bills, invoices, itemized accounting of expenses referenced in any way to a new school. T. Noyes stated no new expenditures have been created. B. Howard brought up the point that there is \$7,000 carried over from last year. T. Noyes stated these were the remaining funds from last year's expenditure of \$30,000.00 for architectural work.

S. Miller made the request in September for the cost of a new school; school board said no numbers were available. S. Miller stated that numbers were recently printed in the paper. Discussion continued.

Discussion on filling D. Kirkpatrick's position. R. Bailey will place ad in the paper and on website. Letter of intent on why they want to be a member of the board. Deadline for applications by October 31, 2011.

8. Public Input - No public input seen or heard
Public input closed.

M. DeCoff was asked when the budget books would be ready? They are still being worked on. M. DeCoff would like them at least a week a head of time.

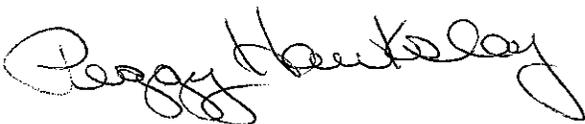
S. Miller noted that at least 3 charities have not yet picked up their checks.

8. Adjournment

L. Carr accepts, M. DeCoff seconds, all in favor.

Approximate adjournment 7:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Hawksley



RECEIVED