

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
December 10, 2024
(Approved - December 23, 2024)

Chairman P. LaRochelle convened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

P. LaRochelle led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence. The following staff members were present:

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Paul LaRochelle, Chairman
N. Buonopane, Vice-Chairman, Excused
Andrew Morse, Selectman
Richard Shea, Selectman
Drew Carter, Selectmen
Ryan Heath, Town Administrator

Agenda Approval

R. Heath stated that there is one thing to change on the agenda. New Business #1 has been postponed. P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Announcements

- The Public Participation Policy applies to all Selectmen meetings. A copy of it is on the back of each agenda, posted outside this meeting room, and on our website.

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

None

Appointments

None

New Business

1. Water Department - Tighe and Bond - Water Asset Management Presentation

Postponed

2. DPW - Proposed Solid Waste 2025 Schedule

S. Garland, DPW Director approached the table. In an effort to avoid a prolong closure of the Solid Waste Center for holidays that are observed Tuesdays through Thursdays he looked at the schedule. It is his recommendation that instead of giving the holidays to everyone in the Department and closing the facility to give the employees of the Transfer Station four vacation days to use at their leisure to compensate for those holidays in lieu of closing the facility. It would have the same rules as a normal vacation day.

D. Carter made a motion to approve the Solid Waste Facilities 2025 Holiday Schedule reflecting Holiday Compensation for the four days as noted and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

L. Parker, Finance Manager, asked if the four days will be given at the beginning of the year or just after the listed holidays happen. D. Carter stated that what makes sense is the week that holiday occurs you would get it. It was the consensus of the Board to give the holidays as they occur not up front at the beginning of the year.

3. Temporary Treasurer Appointment until March

R. Heath stated that with the current Treasurer retiring at the end of the year, there needs to be someone appointed to fill the gap until voting in March because there is no Deputy Treasure at this time. His recommendation to the Board is to temporarily appoint L. Parker, Finance Manager to the position. She currently already has access to the bank accounts. Someone new would have to go through the process of getting them assigned to all of the numerous bank accounts and get them familiar with all of our processes.

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve a temporary Treasurer appointment to our Finance Manager, L. Parker, as interim until a new Treasurer is elected at the March election date and D. Carter seconded with all in favor of the motion.

P. LaRochelle stated that he does have another announcement. The Hazardous Waste Director passed away suddenly last week, Sarah Silk. She has been a member of the Hazardous Waste for the Towns of Alton and Wolfeboro for more than 20 years. Our hearts go out the family of Sarah Silk.

Old Business

1. Finance Department - Financial Software

L. Parker, Finance Manager, approached the table. She stated that the Town of Alton has been using a program called BMSI for years. It is an old dox system. It is not cloud based. They were sold to G-Works two years ago. They were supposed to upgrade to a cloud system but have been having a lot of difficulty getting the data to transfer. When they produced a quote for us it was almost double what the cost of the regular program was for the same service. They started shopping around. They were told that the current system would no longer be supported as of 12-31. They have been looking for a year. They were referred to a company called MRI. They were able to convert all of the BMSI software. They have been successful. The quote is a little on the higher side to set it up but the annual subscription is not. Discussion ensued about some of the differences between the companies.

R. Shea made a motion to authorize the Finance Manager and Town Administrator to proceed with the software proposal for the budgeting system as listed in the proposed outline presented to the Board this evening and D. Carter seconded with all in favor of the motion.

2. Police Department - Vehicle Update

T. MacDougall, Police Chief, approached the table. The last time he was before the Board he mentioned that they had a vehicle with an engine issue. The dealership stated that the motor needs to be replaced. The recommendation from N. Buonopane would be to do the motor replacement through Key Auto.

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the Chief to go into a replacement engine for Unit 6 Police Vehicle for Key Auto for \$10,100.00 coming out of the Operating Budget with any residual coming out of the Revolving Account and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

3. Warrant Articles

R. Heath stated that the Warrant Articles on the table tonight have been to legal and have had the tax impact added to them. When he met with the Budget Committee last week they stated they have an opposition to the grouping of the Warrant Articles. Discussion ensued about the feedback last year. He would suggest approving them at the next meeting because they are one member short tonight.

Selectmen Reports

D. Carter had nothing to report.

R. Shea had nothing to report.

A.Morse had nothing to report.

P. LaRochelle stated that ZBA did not meet last week. He asked the Board if they would like to entertain a discussion from the Swap Shop Committee and putting together something about rules.

Town Administrator Report

R. Heath stated that there is a copy of the County Budget on the table. There is an increase. Discussion ensued as to how they are going to try and reduce the increase.

R. Heath stated that he has a packet of photos just as an fyi. There is another roof leak in the meeting room. He does have some Roofing Companies coming out to look at the roof for quotes.

Approval of Minutes

November 26, 2024 - Public Session

R. Shea made a motion to approve the minutes of November 26, 2024 Public Session and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

November 26, 2024 - Non-Public Session

D. Carter made a motion to approve the minutes of November 26, 2024 Non-Public Session releasing none and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Consent Agenda Approval

None

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

None

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

D. Richardson approached the table. She stated that she has two questions this evening. She wants to know who is responsible that buildings have appropriate 911 address. R. Heath stated that is handled by the Building Department. D. Richardson asked who is going to be responsible for replacing the water line for the culvert replacement. R. Heath stated that it is already done. The Water Department would have more details.

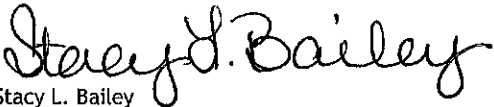
Non-Public Session

None

Adjournment

D. Carter made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,


Stacy L. Bailey
Recording Secretary