

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2006
ALTON TOWN HALL

Convene

The Chairman convened the Public Session of the Selectmen at 6:00pm, present were the following members of the Board and staff:

Alan Sherwood, Chairman
Cris Blackstone, Vice-Chair
Stephan McMahon, Selectman
A. Pete Shibley, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

The Chairman led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

Approval of the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda and it was unanimously approved.

Announcements

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- (1) The Deliberative Session would be held on February 8, 2006 at the Prospect Mountain High School with a snow date on the 9th.
- (2) The next Selectmen's Meeting will be the 13th rather than the 20th,
- (3) The Board will conduct a Public Hearing on February 13th to review the pending Warrant article to establish a property assessment exemption for the disabled as allowed pursuant to RSA72:37 (b) and (c) This will be voted on at the March 14, 2006 elections.

Appointments

1. The Board met with Richard Salunier who read a letter addressed to the Board signed by him and Harvey Cataldo who are property owners (see attached) in the former Hunter building and reviewed plans for retail businesses in the Bay and the use of public parking spaces for employees and customers. Following a brief discussion P. Shibley motioned to state that our parking policy in the Bay is there are public spaces to support businesses and customers for all those businesses, seconded by C. Blackstone and passed with all in favor.

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Selectmen's Committee Reports

C. Blackstone noted she had attended a Planning Board meeting recently as an alternate.

P. Shibley reported the Budget Committee is prepared for the deliberative session. He continued that the Downtown Revitalization Committee will meet Tuesday, and that these meetings are open to the public. He will report back to the Board about grants and fundraising and the need to raise money.

A. Sherwood stated he had attended the Household Hazardous Waste meeting in January. He noted two Representatives will be sponsoring a HB to reduce the Town's liability if a Town is transporting Household Hazardous Waste, this will make it easier for other Towns as well when a transport of hazardous materials is necessary.

Town Administrator Report and Updates

R. Bailey advised that based on approval of the Board's last meeting, the approved minutes will be used for the return of layout for Linwood Road. He will prepare a document for the Board's signatures.

With regards to the Beach restoration, he will have information for the Selectmen on the 13th.

R. Bailey advised he has a deed prepared for the Board's signatures relative to property located on Route 11D for Mikel Myers. He noted the Board had given their approval on January 16, 2006 to grant this conveyance.

R. Bailey notified the Selectmen the holding tank is leaking at the Highway Garage. It is being tested and results should be known with 10 days and he will advise the Board of recommendations.

He continued he had received a letter from the State confirming that based on the sales within the Town our ratio is now 96%. He will invite the Town Assessor to meet with the Board at a future meeting

R. Bailey advised he has three road indemnification documents for the Board members signatures, as previously approved for people to build on class 6 roads. He presented two for Chamberlain Road and one for Davis Road.

He also presented two letters for the Board's signatures with regards to supporting the Laconia Airport Improvement Plan and for an Alton student enrolled in the School Ambassador Program.

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Candidates Night – It was agreed to discuss this matter with Robert Longabaugh. R. Longabaugh explained the date for candidates night would be March 8th at the Town Hall. He asked that letters be sent to the candidates. The Board expressed their appreciation to the Longabaughs for organizing this event.

Public Input I

Reuben Wentworth – R. Wentworth asked that the Board give consideration to dropping their case against R. Bahr. He advised he is opposed to any cell towers erected in the vicinity of Alton Bay, and asked that the Selectmen send their representative to the ZBA. A discussion ensued about special exceptions, tower farms, state and federal laws about having coverage, and issues of tall vs. low towers, and involving our State representatives in this issue.

Stephen Bell – S. Bell advised he is the owner of “Precious Gardens” and is concerned about the treatment he has received from the Planning Board. He stated he has been “pushed around for over 6 months” S. Bell continued he has expended an excessive amount of money for what is intended to be an addition on a building. The Board advised Mr. Bailey would look into this matter and report back to the Board and Mr. Bell would have a written response.

R. Messier – R. Messier asked about her letter to the Selectmen concerning the Highway Agent. R. Bailey advised the information she requested would be available in the morning (2-7-06).

R. Longabaugh – R. Longabaugh advised the video camera used for taping the meetings has lost the audio and asked that a new camera be included in next year's budget. Repair costs for the current camera could be approximately \$300 and since the camera is over 13 years old there is no guarantee that parts are available. He will keep the Board advised.

R. Longabaugh expressed his disappointment that videos on the pros and cons of the warrant articles was not approved. The Selectmen were agreeable to a condensed version of the Deliberative Session which could be sold from the Town Clerk's office.

R. Longabaugh noted that the cameraman will be taping the Deliberative Session. It was agreed that he should receive payment at 30.00 per hour not to exceed 7 hours.

R. Longabaugh asked the Board to consider taking out a full page ad in *The Baysider* for the ballot and the rate for that would be over \$700 but it would keep the voters informed.

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A. Sherwood noted the ballot and warrant articles will be on the Town web site.

R. Wentworth – R. Wentworth stated businesses in Town feel alienated. The Board discussed Town businesses and the best way for them and the Town Boards to work together. Topics reviewed were, lack of a local chamber of commerce, competition, how to support local business, parking issues, sit plan regulations, Town support of local businesses, and forming a committee or roundtable discussion group, to review ideas and the best way ways to bring the Town and businesses together. .

C. Blackstone asked if other businesses would support such a committee and that she would be supportive of this.

M. Longabaugh – M. Longabaugh stated she would reinforce Reuben's comments on the ZBA. Serving on the ZBA is not easy and you have to abide by rules and regulations and make decisions. The Selectmen appoint the ZBA members, now there is a lack of faith. She advised the Selectmen should think on this matter further with regards to "Alton vs. Alton.

Stephen Bell – S. Bell suggested that inserts on the Ballot and Warrant items be placed in *The Baysider* to keep the voters informed. The paper reaches 3000 households and Inserts would be less costly than placing an ad.

R. Messier - R. Messier suggested leaving copies in Business locations, and this would be much less expensive.

R. Wentworth – R. Wentworth advised he would print the inserts at no charge.

Timothy Kinnon – T. Kinnon asked about links to the Alton Web site and putting in agendas and minutes of the Town boards and committees. He asked about a contact for the web.

Approval of the Selectmen's Minutes

Chairman Sherwood moved to approve the minutes of January 16, 2006, Public Session I, II and III, and Non Public Session I & II sealed minutes of 1/16/06, seconded by P. Shibley and passed with all in favor.

P. Shibley motioned to approve the Selectmen's Workshop Pubic Session Minutes I and II and the (sealed) Non-Public Session Workshop minutes of 1/26/06, seconded by S. McMahan and passed with all in favor.

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Old Business

1. 2006 Fireworks – R. Bailey advised the Fireworks display would be held on July 3rd with July 8th as the raindate and on August 12th with a raindate of August 13th. R. Bailey recommended that the same company be used who did the display in 2005. In a consensus the Board agreed with this recommendation. R. Bailey will contact Atlas Fireworks Company and the owners of the barges.
2. Depot Street Lot – R. Bailey advised that after researching this property it does belong to the Town and it could be land that the Town could utilize. A question arose if this was wetlands. R. Bailey will investigate this further.
3. 2006 Elections and Meeting – February 8, 2006 – R. Bailey advised that if any of the warrant articles are adjusted or amended, the warrant will have to be re-posted. The Selectmen will conduct a meeting directly after the Deliberative Session.

New Business

1. Castleberry Fairs Application – The Board and Town Administrator reviewed the application. Following a review, P. Shibley motioned to approve the application for 2006 with the standard conditions including no exclusivity, seconded by C. Blackstone and passed with all in favor.
2. Appointment to Conservation Commission – C. Blackstone motioned to approve Eugene Young to a two year term effective until March 31, 2008, seconded by P. Shibley and passed with all in favor. Mr. Bailey will send a thank you letter to Mr. Young.
3. State of NH – Letter Re: Arbovirus Illness Surveillance Program - R. Bailey advised he and Brian Boyers will review the full plan and how it pertains to the community and then recommend an appropriate program to the Board. P. Shibley asked if the State would allow homeowners to spray their property. R. Bailey advised he would check into this as well.
4. Bid Approval – Miscellaneous – The Board and Town Administrator reviewed the bids as received. R. Bailey advised he had a one bid for stereo equipment in the amount of \$21.01 and two bids for the pickup truck. The highest being \$250.00. R. Bailey noted that the Solid Waste Center Director had advised him the bid was too low for the truck. It was agreed not to take action on the Truck bid until R. Bailey would review the wording on the advertisement. P. Shibley made a motion to sell the stereo for \$21.01 and take action on the truck bid at the next meeting, seconded by C. Blackstone and passed with all in favor.

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5. Vote – Approval of Recommendations from Land Use and Property Records Department – A. Sherwood moved to approve the recommendations of the Assessor as presented and sign accordingly, seconded by C. Blackstone and passed with all in favor.

6. Well Tests – East Alton – R. Bailey advised he had spoken with a representative at NHDES concerning well testing on Old Wolfeboro Road. Residents will be notified that testing will take place. Residents have been advised to contact Mr. Bailey if any questions need to be answered.

Public Input II

R. Messier asked about handouts being available prior to the Deliberative Session and if Minutes of last year's meeting would be available. R. Bailey advised all this information will be ready.

G. Fuller noted the Budget Committee could also have a meeting after the Deliberative Session to discuss articles they recommend or not recommend.

C. Blackstone stated she would be in favor of Reuben Wentworth's idea to have a forum to facilitate ideas between the business community, the Selectmen and Planning Board. Ideas were discussed by the Board and it was agreed that hopefully this meeting would take place before April. P. Shibley will contact the Lakes Region Association for their input. This matter will also be placed on the next agenda.

Non-Public Session

At 7:30pm, A. Sherwood made a motion to enter into Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA91-A:3,II (a) (b) and (c), seconded by P. Shibley. 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

Approved: **March 6, 2006**