

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2010
Public Session I
ALTON TOWN HALL

At approximately 6:00pm, Chairman McMahon convened the meeting of the Board, present were the following members of the Board and staff:

Stephan McMahon, Chairman
Patricia Fuller, Vice-Chair
Peter Bolster, Selectman
R. Loring Carr, Selectman
David Hussey, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

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

Approval of the Agenda

R. Bailey advised that Mr. Dame would not be in attendance at this meeting. Also to add three items to the Agenda; 2010 Fireworks Schedule, Signage, and E. Alton Fire Station Roof . S. McMahon motioned to approve the agenda, it was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Re-Organization of the Board

The following changes of the Board were made by unanimous vote:

David Hussey, Chairman
Patricia Fuller, Vice-Chair
Peter Bolster, Selectman
Stephan McMahon, Selectman
R. Loring Carr, Selectman

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Including the Committee Appointments as follows:

Planning Board – D. Hussey

Alternate: Peter Bolster

Budget Committee – P. Fuller

Alternate: Loring Carr

Parks & Recreation Commission –Peter Bolster

Alternate:

Conservation Commission

Peter Bolster

NH Coalition

Patricia Fuller

ZBA Liaison

Loring Carr

Lakes Region Planning Commission

David Hussey

Household Hazardous Waste

Stephan McMahon

Downtown Revitalization Committee

Peter Bolster

B.C.E.D.C.

Patricia Fuller

Fire Department - Loring Carr

Alternate: Stephan McMahon

School Liaison – Stephan McMahon

Milfoil Committee – Peter Bolster

Energy Committee – Loring Carr

Next, Chairman McMahon turned the remainder of the meeting over to David Hussey.

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Appointment: The Board met with Robert Longabaugh concerning video issues, he explained the potential additional audio/video equipment setup.(see information attached). Following a review of options and installation costs, L. Carr motioned to approve the expansion option in the total amount of \$542 (\$109 for wide angle, \$248 for a 4-channel Mixer and \$185 for one mike/cable), seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

BOARD OF HEALTH

D. Hussey motioned to recess as Board of Selectmen and to reconvene as Board of Health, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor. Present John Dever, III, Health Officer. The Board reviewed the septic waiver request for Molleur, Map 54, Lot 23. After their review, S. McMahon motioned to approve the recommendation of the Health Officer and to grant the waiver, seconded by D. Hussey.

In a discussion, L. Carr asked if local regulations are stricter than the State and how is this supported and the role of the Planning Board and Conservation. It was noted these are in the Health Regulations, and that our Health Officer will be reviewing these regulations and will prepare a draft revision for the Board at a future meeting. The motion passed with all in favor.

P. Fuller motioned to adjourn as Board of Health and to Reconvene as Board of Selectmen, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

Loring Carr- L. Carr stated he had no report at this time.

Patricia Fuller – P. Fuller provided updates on Education Funding, that Alton is still safe from being a donor Town, committees are still working on a constitutional amendment to the house bill to eliminate the State Property Tax. She continued that the Zoning Board is up to full membership, and that the Fire Chief has returned from his vacation.

Stephan McMahon – S. McMahon reported that the House Hold Hazardous Waste Committee is planning for HH.H.W. Collections in May.

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David Hussey – D. Hussey stated he had no report at this time.

Peter Bolster – P. Bolster reported that the School Building & Grounds Committee will reorganize this week and noted that the voters had turned down a feasibility study. He continued that financial commitments had been received for Millfoil removal and that voters had passed the \$7500 Capital Reserve Fund. The Committee is hopeful that more private donations will be coming in year after year, as this will be a continuing process. P. Bolster also reported the voters had passed the Walkway Path, and a decision will have to be made as to tying in the project with the State, when their work begins on the circle and sidewalk. He stated the need to work with the abutters, and their concerns, and to be flexible and fair. He noted work on the circle will begin later this summer according to the Highway Agent.

Town Administrator Report

R. Bailey provided an upon concerning the windstorm that recently occurred, noted that damages in Alton were minimal, most costs were in overtime at approximately \$6000, and this has been filed with the state. Next FEMA will review the report and make a decision if the State will qualify, however most damages were to the South not in Belknap county. It was noted how fire departments mutual aid respond to each other during emergencies whether they occur in Alton or elsewhere such as the recent fire at Hampton Beach.

R. Bailey continued engineers are working on a tentative schedule for the Places Mill Bridge. Also that the project will need a public hearing within the next 30 days, the design if approved will then go out to bid, construction is expected to begin in August and the Board will need to consider road closure. The Board may want to view the site beforehand.

L. Carr asked about the purchase of gravel for the Cemetery, and motioned that the Town Administrator bring back a report verifying the facts, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

Public Input I

Barbara Howard expressed her thanks to the Board and employees with "holding a line on the Budget." She continued that Police should submit a police log report in the newspapers, (such as Barnstead and New Durham) to keep the community informed. With regards to video taping meetings, she would like to see citizens attending a meeting, rather than spending money on video equipment. She commented on recent remarks made by Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter.

Vote to Approve Minutes

L. Carr motioned to accept the minutes of January 20, 2010 – Public Session II and Sealed minutes, seconded by P. Fuller and passed.

L. Carr motioned to accept the public and sealed minutes of January 25, 2010 and January 29, 2010, as presented, seconded by P. Bolster, and passed. (P. Fuller abstained on a vote of the January 25th minutes and positive on the 29th)

L. Carr motioned to accept the minutes of February 19, 2010, as presented seconded by S. McMahon and passed with one abstention (PF)

Old Business

1. Election Results - Members noted all the money articles passed, with thanks to the voters.

Article 11 - R. Bailey advised on issues with the purchase and equipping 3 new cruisers, and distribution of old vehicles. The Board reviewed a memo from the Police Chief, he recommended Irvin rather than Hillsboro. (see attached). Equipping these would be \$20,000 to \$22,000 for the three vehicles. R. Bailey noted these should be sent out to bid otherwise Town policy would have to be waived. The other issue is in reference to the distribution of the old vehicles, the Chief recommends that a vehicle be put aside for officers to use for attending court cases and not tying up a cruiser. R. Bailey noted the Board may want the Chief to come in and expand on his memo.

A discussion ensued on the purchase of new police vehicles and condition of the older cruisers, advertising costs and length of time for purchase if the purchase goes out to bid.

L. Carr motioned to put the purchase of Police Vehicles out to bid, no second and the motion failed. P. Fuller motioned to purchase the vehicles from Irvin, seconded by P. Bolster. The motion passed on a vote of 4-1

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L. Carr motioned to put the equipping of new vehicles out to bid, P. Bolster seconded for discussion. S. McMahon asked why not utilize the existing equipment. R. Bailey advised wiring and lighting cannot be reused. The motion passed with one opposed (SM)

P. Fuller moved no changes from the vehicle plan, seconded by P. Bolster. P. Fuller noted the Board should stick with the plan and not hold back a vehicle. The motion passed on a vote of 4-1 (SM)

RUSS HELP

Article 17 – Sidewalk Machine – R. Bailey advised the need to finalize the purchase and sales agreement with St. Joseph Equipment in the amount of \$34,675. They will ship the machine to Alton and upon inspection the final payment to be made.. P. Fuller motioned to have the Town Administrator sign off on the agreement, seconded by P. Bolster for the amount of **\$34,675**, and passed with all in favor.

Article 22 - Fire Boat – With regards to the \$28,000 for Eastern Boat to perform work on two engines, P. Fuller motioned that this work go out to bid, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all favor.

Article 24 - Highway Equipment – The Board reviewed the \$50,000 for highway equipment, in a discussion P. Fuller suggested sending the Chairman out to look at used back hoe equipment and a 1-ton truck. P. Bolster asked about the mechanics recommendation. L. Carr suggested a review of the whole equipment issue to see what exactly was needed. D. Hussey agreed on the need for more “hands on” inspection, talk to the mechanic, have a fact finding session, and take a site walk. It was suggested that the Board schedule a walk through for all the Town buildings. The Board agreed and beginning at 8:00 o'clock on the 23rd the Board will meet at the Town Hall.

Milfoil Committee – R. Bailey noted approval has been given to move forward with a grant, and he would need the Board's permission to sign the agreement, for the payment of the contractor and to file with the State. Donations have been made by the Downings, A.B.C.C.C. and East Alton Marina and he would need a motion to accept them, L. Carr so moved, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor. P. Fuller motioned to approve and that the Town Administrator sign the necessary documents, seconded by L. Carr and passed with all in favor. L. Carr asked if any money for the milfoil project could be taken out of Conservation Current Use Funds. R. Bailey will follow up on this with the Town Counsel and report back to the Board.

Hawkers & Vendors and Farmers Market Policy - Following a discussion which included a better definition of a farmers market, examples of what they sell, the number of days allowed on a site, locations, state statutes, insurance, competition, and regulations, it was agreed to establish a new separate Farmer's Market Policy.

Russ will draft a policy, contact the Town Attorney, and check on competition issues and it was agreed to table this matter until a future meeting.

Special Event Policy – R. Bailey advised this policy was discussed last fall and redrafted from the Local Government Center policy. It is not intended to keep persons from having events on their personal property, this is for Town owned land.. Each application should be on a case by case basis. RB advised he will have guidelines drafted of when a policy will have to be used with an application.

New Business

1. Vote on Recommendations of Town Assessor - L. Carr motioned to accept recommendations of the Town Assessor for abatements, gravel tax and intent to excavate, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with one abstention (DH)

2. 2010 Fireworks Displays – R. Bailey advised Atlas Pyrotechnics is maintaining the 2009 price and the schedule for fireworks is July 3rd, with a rain date of July 10th and for Old Home Day on August 14th with a rain date of August 15th. P. Fuller motioned to approve Atlas Pyrotechnics, seconded by P. Bolster and passed on a vote of 4-1(LC).

3. Road Signs –

1. Steep Grade Sign R. Bailey advised this sign would be for Bay Hill Road which has a 20% grade. L. Carr motioned to have two grade signs installed at either end of Bay Hill Road seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

2. Dead End Street Sign - R. Bailey noted this would be for a road sign at McDonalds/Homestead Place. P. Fuller motioned not to approve installation of the sign, seconded by P. Bolster and following a brief discussion about safety issues, the motion passed with all in favor.

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Fire Station Roof – E. Alton Fire Station – In a discussion, P. Bolster stated he had read that a white roof is not appropriate for cold climates, the fire department wants a red roof. P. Fuller motioned that we have a red metal roof installed on the E. Alton Fire Station as requested by the Fire Department, seconded by P. Bolster, in further discussion, L. Carr stated this was less energy efficient. P. Fuller stated a red roof is more efficient. P. Bolster stated a study from Canada shows the white roof is not appropriate, in any season. Any savings would equal \$6.00, we are spending too much time in micro-managing the fire department, they want a red roof. L. Carr disagreed, a red roof costs more. The motion passed on a vote of 4-1(LC) P. Fuller then motioned that the Board not bring up the color of this roof again, there was no second to her motion. D. Hussey declared an end to further discussion of this matter.

Amendment to Agenda -

R. Bailey asked the Board to amend the agenda for an additional item as follows: Bids for Sale of Equipment - P. Fuller motioned to add this request to the agenda, seconded by Peter Bolster and passed with all in favor. R. Bailey explained bids had been received for all but the old Police Boat. The highest bid for the compressor and generator was from Donald LeMay and David Hussey was the highest bidder on the air tanks. R. Bailey advised he needs authorization to transact the sale, Peter Bolster so moved, seconded by P. Fuller and the motion passed on a 3-2 vote (LC) (DH) abstained.

Public Input II

Raymond Howard – R. Howard stated with regards to issuing permits for the Special Event Policy, this should not be for events to be held on private property. He suggested there are too many parking issues to conduct a Farmer's Market at the B & M R.R. Park. He asked if cruisers are rotting out so quickly, if another vendor should be considered.

Non-Public Session

At 8:30pm, the Chairman motioned to enter into Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA91-A;3,II (a) (c) and (e) following a five minute recess, seconded by L. Carr, 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

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ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

David Hussey, Chairman

Patricia Fuller, Vice-Chair

Stephan McMahon, Selectman

Peter Bolster, Selectman

R. Loring Carr, Selectman

Minutes Approved: April 5, 2010