

**Alton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2007
Alton Town Hall**

PUBLIC SESSION I

At 5:00pm, Chairman Sherwood convened the meeting of the Board of Selectmen, those present included the following members of the Board and staff:

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

The Chairman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence.

Approval of the Agenda

P. Fuller motioned to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by A. Sherwood and passed with all in favor.

Announcements

- A. Sherwood noted a Public Hearing would be held at the Selectmen's meeting on August 6th with regards to a donation of funds from the Mt. Major Association and pursuant to RSA31:95 (b)

- A. Sherwood continued that on July 20th, Alton will conduct a Household Hazardous Collection day at the Solid Waste Center. This will be a trial run, brochures are available at the SWC and Town Hall and information is posted on the Town web-site.

- A. Sherwood advised the Board will conduct an informational meeting with residents concerning Town Owned property at Echo Point and listen to ideas and suggestions.

- A. Sherwood also commented on the Touch a Truck event at the Bay, and noted how much children and adults enjoyed the activities.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

P. Fuller announced the ZBA meets on schedule, although their case load is down, they are still busy. She continued that the State legislature is now in recess and had no report at this time.

W. Curtin advised the Planning Board will meet on July 24th and are in the process of reviewing out-dated chapters from the Master Plan that may be removed. He noted the Planning Board is also busy and they are looking for committee members.

A. Sherwood advised the new planner, Sharon Penney began working today. He continued that the H.H.H.W. Committee would meet prior to opening the SWC collection center on July 20th. The meeting will begin at 7:00am. Sarah Silk will be present and will stay throughout the day. He also stated he would be attending a meeting of the Belmont Range Conservation Coalition later this evening at 7:00pm in the museum.

Town Administrator Report

R. Bailey and the Board members discussed scheduling a Selectmen's workshop in preparation for the 2008 budget, and agreed to a tentative date of July 26th or July 30th beginning at 3:00pm. R. Bailey will confirm the date with the other Selectmen. Also it was noted the meeting with Department Heads needs to be re-scheduled. R. Bailey will advise on meeting dates.

R. Bailey continued the County Tax Bill for \$1,904,353 dollars was just received and is up by \$148,531 from last year. It was noted v. there would be a future increase in valuation because the legislature has tied the nursing home care to the county bill, but it's a year or two down the road, that's not accounting for this year's bill.

Selectman Bolster Arrived –

Peter Bolster – P. Bolster reported that the Downtown Revitalization Committee continues to meet, equipment is being built at the playground, ducks are still available for sale for the Old Home Days "Ducky Race" on August 11th. The DRC has been discussing other projects in the near future, there are very dedicated and he commended them for their efforts.

P. Bolster advised that within the next few weeks, a new beach shade area will be constructed, courtesy of the Rotary Club and funding has been donated in memory of a person in Town. He was hopeful the State would resolve the drainage problems as the Town complied with all the conditions imposed by the State for the work at the Beach site. He continued that he could not be at the meeting concerning Echo Point but was hopeful a reasonable solution could be reached for utilizing the area in an appropriate manner and to establish a precedent in terms of finding ways to use it within restrictions of deeds.

Public Input I

The Chairman recognized Robert Longabaugh who stated he was much chagrined about the sorry state of affairs between the School Board and the Selectmen, noting that they only communicate with each other through the newspapers, also as just stated, the community facilities part of master plan is 17 years out-of-date. He suggested that now is the time to revisit the state of the Alton Central School. He suggested the Selectmen appoint a liaison to the School Board.

P. Fuller advised the Selectmen already have a liaison to the School Board.

R. Longabaugh continued that in a broadcast of the last meeting, it was noted the Police Station will remain where it is. He advised that in some states, the Planning Board decides about the location of their schools. He would like to see an open line of communication.

A. Sherwood noted that he and P. Fuller had spoken to the School Board Chair and he was of the understanding that the School Board may have a discussion about asking the Selectmen, Town Planner or Planning Board for assistance and this will be considered if such a request is made. He added that everyone is favor of cooperation.

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes

Vote to Approve the Minutes of June 27, 2007, Public Session I and II and the Sealed Non-Public Session

P. Fuller referred to page 4, Item #3 in the Public Session Minutes, and that she had stated v. Mr. Curtin made the motion, I seconded his motion I amended it, to dispose of the other three vehicles to a charitable organization and then be sold to a junk yard which Mr. Curtin then agreed to and then I continued my second, so he agreed to my amendment and I continued on my second to his motion. P. Fuller also noted Mr. McMahon's name was not recorded on the last page of the minutes. W. Curtin motioned to approve the public session I & II as amended and sealed non-public minutes of 6/27/2007 and to add Mr. McMahon's name as being present, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

Old Business

1. Vote to Award Bid – R. Bailey advised this item was for work on Jesus Valley Road, he noted five bids had been received, DBU Construction was the low bidder at \$127,000. A. Sherwood moved to award the bid to DBU Construction for \$127,000, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

2. Vote to Approve Improvements at Beach Facilities – R. Bailey advised a new roof is scheduled for construction on the Harmony Park Picnic Shelter. Cost for this improvement is for \$1250.88 this expense has to be approved by the Selectmen. W. Curtin made a motion to approve the \$1250.88 expense, this amount to be paid to Alton Home and Lumber, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

a. West Side Bathrooms – R. Bailey noted the concerns of the staff with regards to vandalism at the West Side Bathroom. Securing the building and closing hours were discussed, including use of the bathrooms during special events at the Bay. R. Bailey will review this matter with the Police Department and Recreation Department and he will come back to the Board with recommendations.

3. Energy Committee – R. Bailey recommended that the committee be made up of seven members to be appointed by the Selectmen for two year terms. R. Bailey will advertise for interested persons .

4. FEMA Status – R. Bailey advised the request for reimbursement is approximately \$880,000(this figure is not finalized) and the application is ready for submission. The Federal government would cover 75% and the State 12.5% with the balance from the Town budget. He did not expect to receive the State share in the 2007 budget cycle. Emergency funding will be necessary, but before proceeding with that matter, it will be necessary to wait for the final review from FEMA. He noted that the 2007 budget cannot cover emergency costs and the emergency request could potentially be \$125,000 - \$150,000.

New Business

1. Vote on the Recommendations of the Town Assessor – A. Sherwood read the memo from the Town Assessor concerning 1 (one) abatement and 2 (two) Notices of Intent to Cut. A. Sherwood motioned to sign the documents as applicable, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

2. Request of the NH Boat Museum – It was noted this request is to ask permission to utilize the Alton Town Docks for an Annual Boat Show on August 11th. Also this event is co-ordinated with the Parks & Recreation Director. P. Fuller motioned to grant approval for the Boat Show as requested, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

3. Annual Assessment Update - R. Bailey noted the assessor is working to keep the Town evaluations at 100% of current market values. He would need confirmation from the Selectmen that the Assessor should prepare his 2007 MS-1 as close as possible to the market value. P. Fuller motioned to approve, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

Public Input II

The Chairman recognized Robert Bystrack. A. Sherwood made a statement concerning the rangeway extending from Lot Line Road and noted v. the Board would not discuss any issues in public relating to the rangeway at this meeting. R. Bystrack stated he had additional information for the Board. A. Sherwood advised R. Bystrack that if he wants to submit items for the Board's consideration they may first be given to Mr. Bailey. R. Bystrack left a document on the table and returned to his seat.

The Chairman recognized Greg Fuller. G. Fuller stated that approximately four years ago the Safety Committee Group submitted their recommendations to the Board and at the time the report was presented, it was noted there was enough land to build a second school at the high school site, he asked the members to keep this in mind.

Non-Public Session – At 5:50pm, A. Sherwood motioned to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A:3,II (a) (c) and (e) following a five—minute recess, motion was seconded by P. Fuller. The Chairman polled the members who each responded in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Minutes Approved: July 23, 2007