

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
August 22, 2005
ALTON TOWN HALL

At 6:00pm, Chairman Sherwood convened the meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Present were the following members
of the Board and staff:

Alan Sherwood, Chairman
Cris Blackstone, Vice Chairman
Stephan McMahon, Selectman
Patricia Fuller, Selectman
A. A. Pete Shibley, Selectman

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

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was amended to add Mutual Fire Aid Agreement as Item #5 in New Business. P. Fuller motioned to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by P. Shibley and passed with all in favor.

Announcements

Chairman Sherwood noted the next Selectmen's Meeting would take place on Tuesday, September 6th, the day after Labor Day. He continued a Public Hearing on the proposed driveway policy would take place at their meeting on the 6th beginning at 6:00pm. He also commended the Town Assessor and staff for completing a town wide revaluation this year without the use of an outside consultant and that letters will be mailed to property owners this week. The Town evaluation is now at 100% evaluation. Chairman Sherwood advised that the Highway Agent was an appointed position as of this date.

Appointments

1. The Board met with Peter Lachapelle and Steve Cates from Waste Management to discuss services and performance. Waste Management is taking steps to meet with customers and gain input. In a discussion it was noted the contract states the pick-up should take place on Mondays before noon between the period of Memorial Day – Labor Day. S. Cates stated this would be adhered to and P. Lachapelle stated this would be properly addressed, other than that the daily operations are working fine. P. Shibley asked about pick-up at the Bay.

2. Marilyn Pierce – Railroad Avenue Easement – The Board met with M. Pierce who requested an easement for additional parking and a future septic system replacement at her property. She introduced Michael Bemis from Steven Smith & Associates, Inc. Following a review of the property and a discussion, the Board agreed the situation may be settled without going before Town Meeting noting in that case easements would need approval by the voters, but if the request was to repair an existing retaining wall, and with the recommendation of the Highway Agent this work could be accomplished with Selectmen approval. But an easement would be something Mrs. Pierce would own. The Chairman asked that Mrs. Pierce give the matter some thought and to come back before the Board, she agreed.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

Cris Blackstone noted a vacancy exists on the Gilman Museum Committee. She expressed her thanks and appreciation to the Town Administrator for the Town Hall "Open House" and to the Department Heads who were in attendance.

Stephan McMchon stated he had nothing to report at this time.

Patricia Fuller advised she would be attending a meeting this week in Meredith with regards to the letter from the Town of Sunapee concerning the county budget. The ZBA meeting will be held this coming Thursday which she will attend. Selectman Fuller continued that as expected the southern tier communities have gone to court over the education funding law, they want definitions of what an adequate education is and wants State money to pay for it. She noted Alton has paid for its own education expenses without receiving any funding.

Pete Shibley noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission will be meeting on the 25th. He provided a description of the work made so far at the B& M Railroad Park and donations made. He expressed his appreciation of the volunteer work performed by Marty Cornellisen, and by Paul Bonin and also to the Alton Fire Department for pressure-washing the interior of the building. He continued that the 38-ton caboos will be moved within a few weeks to its new site by the Hadley-Moore Crane Company from Dover who have volunteered their services for this purpose.

Alan Sherwood reported the Planning Board had met twice due to the number of cases last week. He continued a Land Use Master Plan Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday which he will attend and that the Household Hazardous Waste Committee is meeting Thursday morning at 7:30am.

Town Administrator Reports

R. Bailey noted with reference to driveways, the Public Hearing is scheduled for September 6th but also on September 19th the Highway Agent would like to come in and discuss proposed driveway permit modifications to the existing policy. He presented a proposal to the Board members. This would give the Board the opportunity to discuss with the Highway Agent the highway and road standards policies, etc., with reference to the direction the Board wants him to take on these modifications. C. Blackstone asked about a time-line. R. Bailey explained there should be no problem with the Public Hearing or the meeting with the Highway Agent, these are two separate issues. A. Sherwood stated he was hopeful the driveway policy would be approved September 6th and effective immediately. R. Bailey stated the Highway Agent's proposal would reflect more on the process and enforcement of the policy. A. Shibley asked about a profile sheet pertaining to driveway entrances. R. Bailey advised a copy would be made available. The Board then agreed to meet with the Highway Agent on September 19th.

R. Bailey continued that 3-4 months ago, the Solid Waste Facility suffered some damage, funds are available from the insurance company to make repairs in the amount of \$4814. R. Bailey recommended Sikes Construction to make repairs. He also recommended that the Board approve an additional \$1300 to replace the entire roof with new shingles, he advised there is money available in the SWC budget which could be used for this purpose. Following further review, the Board had no objections.

R. Bailey advised drilling for the new monitoring well begins next week.

Public Input I

The Chairman recognized Ray Carbone who asked for clarification regarding the Town 100% assessment. A. Sherwood confirmed that the Town is now at 100% compared to a ratio equalization of 62% a year ago, with regards to the Tax Rate those figures would not be available until November. He added that business evaluation went up less than the average amount. The last assessment was four years ago.

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes

P. Shibley made a correction on page 4, Item 3 in new business changing the names as follows: change A. Sherwood to A. *Shibley* and P. Shibley to P. *Fuller*. A. Sherwood motioned to approve the minutes of Public Session I,II and Non Public (sealed) Session of August 8, 2005 as amended, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

Alan Sherwood made a motion to approve public and non-public (sealed) workshop session minutes of August 9th 2005 and the public and non public (sealed) workshop session minutes of August 15th 2005, seconded by C. Blackstone and passed with all in favor.

Old Business

1. 911 Emergency Preparedness – R. Bailey advised the Board there had been an incident when the Town phone systems were out of operation. He noted the phone company does have a default system in place, but at the time of the incident, they were testing their equipment. R. Bailey noted the system could default to a local number for re-routing, but the call would go to the sheriff's department. He will be discussing the situation with both the Police and Fire Chief about calls being re-routed directly to them in the event the Town is isolated. He will come back to the Board with their recommendations.
2. Coalition Budget Request. - P. Fuller noted the Town made a \$5000 payment in 2000. She suggested the Town send the coalition \$2000. S. McMahon and C. Blackstone noted our legislators are working on our behalf. P. Shibley would like an accounting of what has been paid previously. A. Sherwood would support \$1000. P. Fuller motioned to send \$1000 to the Coalition Communities for their next year's budget, seconded by A. Sherwood.
The motion failed on a 2-3 vote. (CB), (SM), (PS)
3. Assignment of Fire Rescue Vehicle – R. Bailey advised the American Red Cross no longer has a need for the Rescue Vehicle. He continued the Highway Department would like Board approval for the Town Mechanic to utilize this vehicle. R. Bailey added the older model Parks & Recreation pick-up was not

feasible. S. McMahon asked about the \$3000 previously authorized by the Board to make repairs to the older model pick-up for the mechanic. R. Bailey will come back to the Board about this. P. Shibley asked about the Animal Rescue Vehicle. P. Fuller asked for a list of vehicles from every department, whether these vehicles are running or not and if there are any future plans for auctioning off these vehicles.

New Business

1. NH Electric Co-Op – Pole Petition for Bay Hill Road – P. Shibley moved to approve the pole petition as presented, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.
2. Approval of Recommendations from Land Use and Property Records Department – The Board approved the recommendations from the Town Assessor with one abstention (SM)
3. Vote to Sign Agreement with Vision Appraisal Technology – P. Fuller motioned to grant the Town Administrator authority to sign the agreement, seconded by A. Sherwood and passed with all in favor. A. Sherwood noted within a few weeks time the information on Town assessments will be listed on the Town web site.
4. Hussey Conservation Easement – R. Bailey noted this would need the Board's approval and would need to be signed before it is sent to the registry. P. Shibley moved to approve the Conservation Deed as presented, and as recommended by the Conservation Commission, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.
5. Mutual Aid Agreement – R. Bailey noted with Board approval he would ask the Fire Chief to be present at the September 6th meeting with regards to an expanded mutual aid force. It was agreed to meet with the Chief if he was available that evening.

Public Input II

Attorney Fredric Moeckel introduced himself and Arthur Bussey from Cameo Investment and stated for the record that he had attended the meeting.

Non-Public Session

At Approximately 7:15pm, A. Sherwood made a motion to enter into non-public session, pursuant to RSA91-A:3,II (a) (b) (c), seconded by P. Fuller and passed. The Chairman polled the members who all voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary