

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2010
Public Session I
ALTON TOWN HALL

At 6:00pm Chairman Hussey convened the meeting and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence, Board members and staff present included:

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

Approval of the Agenda – The motion was amended to remove item # 3 In Old Business to Non-Public and add an additional item to New Business with reference to a Car Wash Fundraiser, also to delete the Selectmen’s Committee Reports, a motion was made by D. Hussey to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

Announcements – D. Hussey announced the date and time for the Special School Elections and Deliberative Sessions and Primary Day election and the date for Household Hazardous Waste Day.

Public Hearing

Old Wolfeboro Road Reconstruction – The Board discussed traffic flow on Old Wolfeboro Road and the proposed changes at the intersection with Route 11/Main Street. They reviewed visibility and issues concerning parking and turning, one way traffic , and size of lanes, removing parking spaces and appropriate signs. It was agreed more Information and site review were necessary and D. Hussey volunteered to drive his construction equipment on site and invited members to join him. This matter will be continued at another scheduled Public Hearing on this road. The Board agreed to take Public Input on this issue.

Raymond Howard – R. Howard asked if traffic would cross by the gas station and if a berm would be considered. He was advised that more information would be available after the site review as discussed.

There being no further input, the Chairman closed the Public Hearing at 6:15pm.

Town Administrator's Report & Verbal Updates –R. Bailey advised on Loon Cove Road and the elimination of the name Tuft's Terrace, following a discussion, D. Hussey motioned to approve that Tuft's Terrace be incorporated as all Loon Cove Road and to install new signs on the Loon Cove Roadway, seconded by L. Carr. It was noted Bell Road in that area would remain and not be incorporated into Loon Cove Road.

Department Head Report – The Board met with Thomas Sargent, Town Assessor. T. Sargent explained that letters, including a second mailing for certain properties had been sent to property owners with the appraisal updates, and the overall sales ratio is within acceptable limits. He advised sales are coming up in some areas, especially on the islands. The Data Collecting phase was completed by the end of December, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Town is done, as a result money has been added to the tax base. He is hopeful that the data collector will be able to do 800 parcels a year for five years. In the past some permits had not "filtered" to his office for review, that has changed. He advised that digital mapping would benefit the Town and affect every department, Cartographic is coming to the Town Hall on the 16th of September to discuss this mapping and he invited all departments and the Selectman to attend. He continues to meet with DRA and the Board of Land and Tax Appeal when needed. Included in the discussion T. Sargent reported on ratios, digitizing our maps, deadline for appeal, and creating equity for property owners.

Public Input I

Raymond Howard – R. Howard asked for an update on an incident that occurred with DES and using tax payer money.(Ref. to use of Town Fire Boat)

P. Bolster responded that a property owner had brought up an issue over his neighbor on an island which may have been a violation., he and Rene Pelletier of DES had talked about this issue and agreed to view the site in the spring of 2010. He and R. Pelletier were on the Town Boat with the Code Official the intent was to try and help a tax payer, this matter had been checked into beforehand with the Town Administrator and Code Official. Other Board members expressed their concerns that they were not notified beforehand that a DES official and P. Bolster would be aboard the boat, that he should have probably notified the other Board members. P. Bolster explained he had not done this on his own and the Code Official was not allowed to pilot a boat at that time.

R. Bailey also responded that the Town works with State agencies "all the time" this was not an unusual occurrence except in this instance a boat was used. There was no problem with John being there to view a possible violation as the Town does work with many State personnel and agencies.

P. Keen - asked who keeps Captain's Log. R. Bailey will look into this.

Old Business

Budget Schedule – 2011 – R. Bailey presented a worksheet to the members including building issues and recommendations. L. Carr gave a brief update on building upgrades and needed improvements and funding and costs that could be expected in the near future for the Town Hall, Police Station, Central Fire Station and possibly the W. Alton Fire Station, Senior Center, Recreation and Highway Departments.

Review Legislative Policy Recommendations – P. Fuller and members reviewed the issues including the Coalition, gambling, excavation tax, state wide property tax and her vote this month in the legislative session.

New Business

Vote to Approve the Recommendations of the Town Assessor – D. Hussey noted this was for a timber tax item, L. Carr motioned to approve the timber tax recommendation as presented, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

Car Wash Request – R. Bailey noted he had received this request from the Music honor Society at Prospect Mountain HS to conduct a fundraiser car wash at the Town Hall on September 18th. P. Fuller motioned to approve the request, conditional that bio-degradable detergent be used and to co-ordinate the event with K. Troendle, seconded by L. Carr and passed with all in favor.

Public Input II

Peter Bolster corrected a media article with regards to a Scenic Drive along the Lake, noting it was for a motorized route not a bike route.

Steve Parker – noted that the wall at Harmony Park is deteriorating and needs possible footing work., R. Bailey will check into this as permits will be required. S. Parker also requested that boat owners should know that their registrations can be paid in Alton rather than at State.

Raymond Howard - Asked if the Selectmen have some "veto" power over the Police Chief, D. Hussey replied that the Selectmen may oversee the department, and control the budget. R. Bailey noted any detail expenses are 100% reimbursed. R. Howard asked why a tax isn't placed on extracting water as it would be a resource taken off property.

Selectmen's Minutes
September 7, 2010
Page 4

Non-Public Session – At 7:15pm, Chairman Hussey moved to enter into Non-Public Session Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II, (a) (c) and (e), seconded by P. Fuller. The Chairman polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary

Minutes Approved: September 20, 2010