

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2009
ALTON TOWN HALL

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

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

Approval of the Agenda - P. Fuller motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING

S. McMahon noted the hearing was in reference to acceptance of FEMA funds pursuant to RSA31:95b. R. Bailey explained this was relative to the Alton Shores Culvert and extension to carry to the year 2010. Also discussed was a grant of \$4000 for enforcement of underage drinking. There was no Public Input. S. McMahon closed the Public Hearing. D. Hussey motioned to approve acceptance of \$5800 and the law enforcement grant as presented, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

Announcements – S. McMahon announced that the Hazardous Waste Collection date, to include prescription medicines would be held on September 12, 2009 at the Alton Transfer Station from 8:30 to 12:00 noon.

P. Bolster noted the Alton Business Association in conjunction with the Rotary is sponsoring a “Night on the Mount” on October 17th, for residents of Alton, and he will have more details at a future meeting.

Selectmen’s Committee Reports

L. Carr reported the Budget Committee has not met yet, but that the Committee had asked for a joint meeting in September. R. Bailey will contact the Chairman of the Budget Committee to schedule time and date.

P. Fuller noted the ZBA had met this month, they still need a regular member and two alternates and to contact the Town Administrator or Town Planner. She continued the Fire Department had met last week, they have been working on the preparation of their budget. She had no report on the Coalition. Also that “The Baysider” will put a complete Press Release in this week’s edition of the paper.

D. Hussey stated the Planning Board had met and reviewed several applications which have been continued. He clarified that Planning Board evaluates every site plan when needed that do not "rubber stamp". Before a decision is made they will review both sides if there are any issues of concern on the application.

P. Bolster reported that the Milfoil committee is reviewing prime locations of milfoil, including the Merry Meeting River. They are anticipating additional funds from the State. The Downtown Revitalization Committee is in the process of adding decking and steps and a ramp to the freight building at the B&M. R.R. Park. Bids will be submitted for restoration to the station, including roof, and joists. And the interior work. The Committee is also seeking additional grants. Also discussions are ongoing about extension of the Park. The Gazebo at the Town Beach is just about completed, and the Rotary Club plan a dedication at that time. The Shelter was given by David Countway in memory of his father. P. Bolster stated the School Building and Grounds Committee will be making an announcement soon. He advised the Russian Bench will be in Alton on September 15th

BOARD OF HEALTH

A motion was made, seconded and passed to recess as Board of Selectmen and to convene as Board of Health. Present Jim Rines, President of the White Mountain Survey Co. J. Rines and the Board reviewed each waiver as noted on the design for Tax Map 44, Lot 50, Youngblood Realty Trust. Following a discussion, D. Hussey motioned to approve the septic waivers as requested, seconded by P. Fuller. P. Fuller added to accept the 4 waivers as requested, 50' away from the water, 50' setback and leach field, 25' from catch basin, 35' from open drainage on Black Point Road and road ditch. Questions were raised about footage from an abutter's foundation and if a notification had been sent. J. Rines advised his firm does not post, he assumed it had been done, and that DES requires a leaching area of 10' the Town is more restrictive. The motion as amended passed on a 4-1 vote(LC abstained) P. Bolster motioned to adjourn as Board of Health, and to reconvene as Board of Selectmen, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

Town Administrator Update and Verbal Reports

R. Bailey noted the Selectmen's Workshops are scheduled for Thursday on September 10th to review policies and the following Tuesday the Board will conduct a workshop to review the road reconstruction and maintenance plans. Both workshops will begin at 5:00pm.

R. Bailey reminded members that as of January 1, 2010, Pittsfield will no longer accept septage. And that by law an agreement has to be made regarding disposal, and that the Town of Allenstown is willing to enter into an agreement. R. Bailey advised that haulers have the option to dispose of septage where they want, but we still need an agreement. L. Carr motioned to enter into an agreement with Allenstown for septic disposal, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor. R. Bailey will prepare an agreement.

Public Input

None

Vote to Approve Selectmen's Minutes for Public Session I and II and (Sealed) Non-Public Session minutes of August 17, 2009 – P. Fuller motioned to amend page 3 of Public Session I, to clarify that her motion should read: *give the Town Hall firecall box to Mrs. Rockwood*. L. Carr amended page 2, para 1 after the word "they" to read: *were discussing the softball program and slash bunting*. Also on Page 4, Item 8, Line 8, change the words "L. Carr" to *Russell Bailey*. D. Hussey amended his statement on Page 3, in New Business, Item 2: that after the word "study" the motion should read: *to tell us what height is necessary to get the best wind velocity*. R. Bailey advised he has spoken to Scott Simonds on this matter. L. Carr motioned to approve the minutes as corrected for Public Session I and II and the (sealed) Non-Public Session minutes of August 17, 2009, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with 1 abstention (SM)

Old Business

1. Review Emergency Management and TE DOT Transportation Trails/Sidewalk Grant - R. Bailey advised he has the applications for the two grants. The Emergency Management Grant is to implement the Emergency Operation Center materials needed for the shelter and generator at the alternate/day care center in the Senior Center. Following a review, a motion and second was made and passed to proceed with filing for a grant, and to find funding from this year's budget, or partly in the 2010 budget. L. Carr motioned funds for the emergency are to come from the Town budget and next year's budget, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey advised the TE-DOT Grant was to restore an historical building at the B & M RR Park and costs involved with a bike trail if it happens, future sidewalks, Lakes Region Planning Commission and the DOT. The Town Planner is working on this. He should have something for the Board within a few days, this will be an 80-20 grant (20% coming from the Town)

2. Review of Special Event-Draft Policy – R. Bailey noted copies of this draft had been forwarded to both school superintendents. He would recommend adopting the policy,

and if any items need to be changed, the policy would come back before the Board. After a discussion, regarding insurance certificates and costs, parking issues, issuing permits, providing waivers, private gatherings, private property, permits for beer and liquor, public auctions, commercial events, limiting numbers (or how to know the numbers of individuals) at an event either public or private, enforcement and how to take action on an special event policy that would serve the best interest of the Town, it was agreed that R. Bailey come back with more information to be presented at a future meeting.

3. Budget Status – R. Bailey advised Department Heads have been notified of policy and goals, no COLA, 0 salary increase, and that 10 employees are qualified for Step Increase. He continued that he has met with some department heads in reference to their budgets. He noted that beginning Wednesday, September 23rd the Department Budgets would be ready for review by the Selectmen, he expects reviews will be completed by October and the budget books will be ready for the Budget Committee.

4. COPS Grant - The Board and R. Bailey reviewed a letter concerning the COPS Hiring Recovery Program and the grant award of \$250,627 to be awarded in federal funds over a three-year grant period. D. Hussey motioned to accept grant for 3 years, and in the 4th year the Town will pay, seconded by P. Bolster and passed on a 3-2 vote (PF) (SM).

5. Assessing Agreement - P. Fuller motioned to approve an assessing agreement with Robert Camp to provide measure and list services for commercial properties, at a cost between \$1000 and \$1500, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

New Business

1. Recognition Letter – R. Bailey advised this was to acknowledge the achievements of the Town Mechanic. In a consensus it was agreed to have a letter or certificate prepared thanking Jeff Roberts for his efforts. R. Bailey advised he would prepare a draft for the Board's consideration. And perhaps to recognize all Town employees on a regular basis.

2. Map-State Flyover Review – The Board discussed the benefits of aerial mapping the entire and associated costs. R. Bailey advised the Assessor will have more information on the pros and cons. D. Hussey suggested using a government web-site for this purpose and will research the information before the Board makes a decision.

3. Engineering Proposals - Budget Replacement – R. Bailey reported there have been nine (9) responses, and noted a review committee will be made up by the Highway Agent, Town Administrator, Town Planner and a Selectmen to sit on the committee and choose the finalists for an interview and bring their recommendations to the Selectmen. P. Fuller agreed to be the Selectmen's representative.

Public Input II

A resident asked that the Board should not duplicate services for emergency aid and not spend excess money on a COPS grant, now is the time to be frugal and there is mutual aid. She stated there are too many rumors concerning Police Department, more investigation and information was needed and residents are left "in the dark".

There was no further public input.

Chairman McMahon read a letter received today from Chief Smith advising that he would retire from the Police Force effective September 20, 2009. The Board accepted the Chief's retirement with regrets.

Non-Public Session

At 8:00pm, the Chairman McMahon motioned to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A; 3, II (a) (c) and (e), the motioned was seconded, the Chairman polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary

Minutes Approved: September 30, 2009
Alton Board of Selectmen