

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
September 19, 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
Stephan McMahon, Selectman
Patricia Fuller, Selectman
Arnold P. Shibley, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator
Kenneth Roberts, Highway Agent

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

Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Sherwood moved to approve the agenda, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Sherwood read the Notice of Public Hearing as advertised and posted. And that this hearing is to review acceptance and authorization to expend donation funds to the Downtown Revitalization Committee for the B&M Park Project. This is authorized under RSA31:95b. Present: Judith Fry Chairman of the Downtown Revitalization Committee and Martin Cornelissen, Member. They provided a brief explanation about the total donations which are now at approximately \$14,500.

The Chairman asked for Public Input there being none the A. Sherwood closed Public Input. The Board discussed whether a Public Hearing would be necessary each time a request to expend donations was received. R. Bailey advised this is the present procedure. P. Fuller made a motion to accept and authorize the expenditure of these funds, seconded by P. Shibley and passed with all in Favor. J. Fry and M. Cornelison presented photos for the Board to review and updated the Board about the ongoing work being done at the Park.

Appointment

1. Kenneth Roberts, Highway Agent – K. Roberts presented documents for the Board to review concerning Driveway and Highway Policy procedures. He also noted vehicles are being parked on right of ways obstructing traffic and emergency equipment. He advised a policy should be written to restrict this type of parking. Other issues include joint driveways. and common access. A. Sherwood motioned that a waiver policy be established for situations where the joint driveway is better for public safety and road maintenance and that the Highway Agent authorize the waiver during the driveway permitting process, seconded by P. Shibley and passed, with all in favor.

The Board and Highway Agent continued their discussion with review of the Highway Policy to include road standards. Matters of concern were width of roads and shoulders, sidewalks and costs of granite curbing, open ditchlines, catch basins and volume of traffic, highway equipment, road maintenance, plowing issues and sub-divisions.. It was agreed to review the draft policy and this matter would be placed on a future agenda.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

S. McMahon - No report at this time

P. Fuller - No report at this time

P. Shibley - Noted the members of the B& M R.R. Park had provided the Board with an update and he also noted the permit had been received from the State with regards to re-building the Town Beach.

A. Sherwood – Stated that the Land Use Committee had met and a final draft would be ready soon. He continued that the Planning Board is scheduled to hear 17 cases this month.

Town Administrator Report and Verbal Updates

R. Bailey advised the members that the two computers in the Finance Office need to be replaced as soon as possible based on the recommendation of the Computer Maintenance Technicians. He stated that these units are \$1100 each, funding would come from the contract services line item. A. Sherwood motioned v. to authorize the purchase of two computers for a total of \$2200 all charged to the Computer Line but partially offset by unexpended funds in the Contract Services line, plus the set-up expense, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor. R. Bailey noted an e-mail he had received with regards to mileage rates being increased to \$.48 per IRS for the remainder of the year. In a discussion it was noted Town Hall employees use their own vehicles to attend conferences and meetings, the two vehicles currently assigned to the Town Hall are used by the Code Official and Town Assessor. S. McMahon questioned why personal vehicles are used when there are so many Town vehicles that could be available. R. Bailey presented the members with a list of Town department vehicles as requested by the Board.

Public Input

The Chairman recognized John Brooks, President of the Alton Seniors Association. J. Brooks described conditions at the Senior Center that need to be addressed including insulating the second floor, improvements to the grading outside the building, repairs to the kitchen door and the need for gutters. When it rains the door water seeps into the building. R. Bailey advised he and K. Troendle and K. Roberts have a meeting scheduled Tuesday to review the site and resolve the issues of concern. R. Bailey noted the Selectmen would need to approve the work, he would have a proposal to the Board in October.

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes

P. Fuller motion to approve the minutes of September 6, 2005 for Public Session I and II, the sealed minutes of September 6, 2005 and Selectmen's Workshop Minutes of September 12, 2005 as written, seconded by P. Shibley and passed with one abstention (SM).

Old Business

1. Request of Boy Scout, Andrew Nagle – A. Sherwood agreed to accompany A. Nagle with regards to perambulation of Alton/Gilmanton Town Boundary Lines. This event will take place on October 22nd with a rain date of October 29th.
2. Wetlands Permit – R. Bailey advised the wetlands permit had been received for the wall and steps at the beach. Bid proposals would be prepared, and the work could begin this fall on the first phase of the project. He will be attending a meeting of the Beach Committee on September 20, 2005.
3. Monitoring Well - R. Bailey explained the drillers had started to drill for the new well on September 13th, 2005. If the well tests clean, the ground water permit could be finalized upon completion of the survey noting all of the test wells. R. Bailey also stated the Landfill is currently being surveyed by George Cristenson to verify property lines.

New Business

1. Prospect Mountain High School Conservation Easement - R. Bailey stated it was his understanding that this easement has been approved by the Conservation Commission and Attorney Sessler. A. Sherwood made a motion v. to approve and sign this conservation easement deed subject to obtaining written signoff by both the Conservation Commission and Town Attorney, seconded by P. Fuller in a discussion it was noted this was part of the current site, the motion passed with all in favor.
2. Recommendations of the Land Use and Property Records – Following a discussion and review, A. Sherwood motioned to approve and sign 2 intents to cut for Map 9 lot 60 and Map 6 Lot 16-10 and the abatement request for 2003 at this time, seconded by P. Fuller and passed 3-1(PS)

4. Review of Letter from United Way – R. Bailey stated in the past employees would receive information in their paychecks, but it is not feasible for a representative to conduct a presentation meeting for the staff R. Bailey recommended the information could be made available to employees but not to set up a meeting. In a consensus the Board agreed.
5. Letter from Keith Jordan, Director - Big Lake Half Marathon – Following a review and noting that there have been no past problems with this event, P. Fuller made a motion to grant permission for Keith Jordan to conduct the 5th Annual Big Lake Half Marathon, seconded by S. McMahon and passed provided Keith Jordan meets all the requirements and the motion passed with all in favor.
6. Public Hearing Option for Water Withdrawal Project – R. Bailey noted the engineers for Chamberlain Springs have completed their final well tests and report to NHDES. The Board now has the option of requesting a final public hearing before a final review by the State. He also advised their final report is available for the Board's review. P. Fuller motioned to exercise the option to have an informational/testimonial session and Public Hearing, seconded by P. Shibley and passed with all in favor.

Public Input II

G. Fuller asked for a copy of the Town Vehicle list as a private citizen and as a member of the Budget Committee. G. Fuller asked about supplying information to employees. R. Bailey noted the Board had denied company representatives meeting with the staff, but information from this particular non-profit group would be inserted with paychecks. R. Bailey stated no meetings would be allowed. G. Fuller stated his concerns were something to think about. If one company was denied, it should be for all.

There was no further Public Input

Non-Public Session

At 7:35pm, A. Sherwood made a motion to enter into Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA91-A:3,II (a) (b) (c) after a five-minute recess, seconded by P. Fuller. A. Sherwood polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Executive Secretary