

**Alton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Public Session I
October 15, 2007
Alton Town Hall**

At 6:30pm, 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-Chairman
Stephan McMahan, Selectman
William Curtin, Selectman
Peter Bolster, Selectman (delayed)
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

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

Approval of the Agenda

R. Bailey amended the agenda to include Item 5 in New Business – Approval of the Amended MS-1. P. Fuller motioned to approve the Agenda, seconded by W. Curtin.

Appointment

Alton Police Chief Swearing in Ceremony – Present: Philip A. Smith, Jr. A. Sherwood introduced Philip Smith who will be taking over his duties this week as the new Police Chief in Alton. He cited P. Smith's educational accomplishments and his 23 years of law enforcement service as well as his community involvement. A. Sherwood read P. Smith the Oath of Office. Kimberly Smith then pinned her husband with his badge of office. P. Smith introduced his family and thanked all those who were present for his swearing in ceremony. Chairman Sherwood called for a short recess in order for those in attendance to have the opportunity to greet the new Chief and his family.

A 7:00pm, A. Sherwood reconvened the meeting of the Selectmen.

Public Hearing

- A. Sherwood read the notice of the Public Hearing pursuant to RSA95-b, to accept FEMA funds, noting these funds are FEMA reimbursement for damages that occurred during the Spring 2007 flood. He asked for Public Input, there being no comments, A. Sherwood closed the Public Hearing. Following a review with the Town Administrator, P. Fuller moved to accept \$673,229.25 to reimburse the highway line, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor. A. Sherwood moved to request authorization from NHDRA to be able to use \$150,000 fund surplus to cover a portion of expenses, seconded by P. Bolster. It was also discussed about the need to go to the Budget Committee prior to the State. The motion passed with all in favor.

Board of Health

A. Sherwood motioned to recess as Board of Selectmen and reconvene as Board of Health, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

Present: Thomas Varney, P.E.

T. Varney explained he had two septic waiver requests.

1. Map 35, Lot 55 – The Board reviewed the design as presented and the letter of recommendation from the Health Officer. Following a discussion, A. Sherwood motioned to approve the design as the most practical solution, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

2. Map 39, Lots 30,31,36 & 38 – Following their review of the proposed design, and based on the recommendation of the Health Officer, it was agreed to grant a waiver for Lot 30 at this time. A. Sherwood moved to grant the waiver for Map39, Lot 30 to be at a distance of at least 50' from the lake, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

A. Sherwood motioned to adjourn as Board of Health and reconvene as Board of Selectmen, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

S. McMahon – no report at this time

P. Bolster – P. Bolster reported there was a good turnout at the new park open house event. With regards to the school, deliberations are still on going. Information may be posted on the web-site. The school is also planning an Open House for Town Officials. He continued that he had attended a DOT hearing and discussion had included issues with Rte 28S and the 10-year plan.

P. Fuller – No report at this time

W. Curtin – Reported that the Planning Board is catching up on their work, and the Planning Department staff has been working out well.

A. Sherwood – Noted that at the October H.H.H.W. the collection was successful, there were 89 households recorded as bringing items to the site. The last date will be October 20th in Wolfeboro.

Town Administrator's Report

R. Bailey noted his memo to the Board concerning an Open House for the Town Planner and Police Chief. It was agreed to have the Open House at the Museum, between the hours of 4:30 and 6:30pm prior to Thanksgiving. R. Bailey advised he would make arrangements once he confirmed the dates chosen with the Planner and Police Chief.

R. Bailey presented a draft Bid request for the annual Town Report, and at a future meeting he should have a draft bid prepared for the Fireworks displays. It was noted that the Annual Report bid should contain a reference to color print on the front and back covers.

R. Bailey advised that the conversion at the Town Clerk's office is delayed and the State is not ready with their circuitry. The goal now is to begin the work in November, the offices may have to be shut down, as physical changes to the room need to be made before the State begins their work. He will keep the Board apprised.

R. Bailey reported that a survey will be needed with regards to the Town beach and the area will have to be dredged and there are drainage problems. Letters have been sent to the State and approvals to do the work will be necessary. He is hopeful that dredged sand from the abutters property may be put back on the Town Beach.

Public Input I

Ray Howard – Mr. Howard asked if the Police Chief has a contract. The Chairman advised there is no contract, the Chief is considered a Department Head.

Steve Miller – S. Miller suggested including the School Superintendents in the Open House

Angela Bystrack – A. Bystrack asked about seniors receiving consideration in paying property taxes – A. Sherwood advised there is an elderly tax abatement program in place for seniors with three income level options.

As far as the Police Boat and Fire Department SUV, A. Bystrack stated her intent was not to place an added burden on tax payers but to find alternate ways, such as through donations for these items and she did not want their actions to be considered as deceptive.

Loring Carr – L. Carr asked the Board to consider winter access at the Beach, that this issue should be addressed. Access had been there for many years for persons with Bob Houses and snow machines.

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes

1. September 24, 2007 – W. Curtin motioned to approve the minutes of Public and Non-Public Session (sealed), as submitted seconded by A. Sherwood and passed with one abstention (PF)
2. October 1, 2007 – Public Session I & II (Sealed) Non-Public Session – W. Curtin motioned to approve the minutes as presented noting a change in spelling from “curtain” to *Curtin*, seconded by A. Sherwood, and the motion passed as amended with one abstention (PF)
3. October 8, 2007 – Budget Workshop Session - W. Curtin motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by A. Sherwood and passed with two abstentions (PF) (SM)

Old Business

1. Rock Wall Repairs –Alton Bay Retaining Walls– The Board reviewed the bids as submitted by the Parks & Recreation Director. P. Fuller motioned to award the bid to Turf Pro of Gilmanton NH in the amount of \$6825.00, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

New Business

1. Vote on Recommendations of the Town Assessor – Timber Tax (2)- A. Sherwood moved to approve the recommendations of the Town Assessor and to sign the documents accordingly, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.
2. Alton Fire Department – Notice of Mutual Aid Drill - It was noted there would be no boot drive and a Police Officer should be in attendance. W. Curtin motioned to accept that the drill would take place on October 28th from 7-10:00am, longer if necessary, there would be no boot drive and a Police Officer would be in attendance, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.
3. Cartographics Tax Map Maintenance Agreement – P. Fuller motioned to have the Town Administrator sign the agreement as submitted, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.
4. Vote to Sign Amended MS-1 – A. Sherwood motioned to sign the Amended MS-1, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

Public Input II

Greg Fuller – G. Fuller clarified his statements made at a previous meeting, that he may have inferred Union Communication was at fault with regards to PUC . He apologized to

Union Communication as he did not have the proper information. He suggested the Selectmen should push Metrocast, and the PUC as more competition is needed.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood

Minutes Approved: November 5, 2007