

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
Public Session I
October 20, 2008
ALTON TOWN HALL

At 6:00pm, Chairman Sherwood convened the meeting of the Board of Selectmen, those present included the following members of the Board and staff:

Alan Sherwood, Chairman
William Curtin, Vice-Chair
Stephan McMahon, Selectman
Peter Bolster, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

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

Approval of the Agenda

W. Curtin motioned to approve the Selectmen's Agenda, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

Announcements

The Chairman announced that the polls would be open on November 4th for the elections, from 7:00am-7:00pm at Prospect Mountain High School. He also noted that Halloween "Trick or Treat" hours would be from 5:00pm until 7:00pm, on Friday, October 31st.

Public Hearing

Chairman Sherwood read the notice of the Public Hearing pertaining to acceptance of Property per RSA31:95-e. He noted this was relative to relocation of a train station to the B&M R.R. Park. He recognized Judith Fry, Chairman of the Downtown Revitalization Committee. J. Fry presented a brief history of the building and a display board for review with pictures of the station (Loon Cove R.R. Station) and stated one of the goals of the committee was to have a station on the park site and this is one of the original R.R buildings. The Committee would like to go forward with this project once approval has been granted by the Selectmen. M. Cornellison a member of the Committee explained the process of moving the building, that some demolition work may be necessary, but volunteers will prep the building before and after the move. He has been working with the utilities and the building will be trailered to the park at no cost.

In Public Input Nancy Thomas president of the Historical Society stated she would look forward to seeing a station in the park. At this point, A. Sherwood closed Public Input.

P. Bolster motioned to accept the offer of the station and help in any way to make the project a success, seconded by S. McMahon who commended all of the individuals who put the park together, and solicited funds, at no cost to taxpayers, and how the area has had been made much more attractive. The Board agreed and congratulated the Committee for their efforts. P. Bolster thanked Irving Roberts for his help and machinery and thanked him for his contributions to the community over the years. R. Bailey recommended adding additional verbage to the motion to include, acknowledging the request, preparing legal documents for the deed transfer and acknowledging the accessed value in the a letter to the Moore family, P. Bolster amended his motion which was seconded by S. McMahon and the motion with amendments passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey advised he would send a letter to the DOT, Right of Way Agent and the Historical Society for their archival records. It was noted the committee may need until the end of May to move the station.

At 6:30, the Chairman closed the Public Hearing

Selectmen's Committee Reports

S. McMahon reported that the Budget Committee will meet this week on the 21st and 23rd, he plans to be at both of these meetings.

P. Bolster stated he had met with the School Buildings and Grounds Committee, they continued to work on articles to be presented on the Town Warrant. He continued an Alternate has been appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission and another individual has come forward who has presented an application for consideration by the Selectmen.

W. Curtin advised the Planning Board will meet tomorrow, he noted there will be a 42 lot subdivision before the Board, off 28A. The Water Department will meet this week as well.

A. Sherwood advised the Conservation Committee had met last Thursday and were asked to comment on the sub-division, there was a fair amount of discussion on this topic. He noted The Society for the Protection of NH Forests has been working on the Morris Greenwood Conservation Trust which encompasses property on both sides of Alton Mountain Road, and borders Avery Hill Road and the Town Forest. The Society is working on management issues, removal of old tires and debris, etc. Surveying costs were approximately \$60,000. A. Sherwood stated the Household Hazardous Committee will have their meeting at 7:00AM, the last collection of the year was this past Saturday and he will have a report for the Board at their next meeting.

Town Administrator's Report

R. Bailey noted the Transfer Station needs roofing work on the recycling building before winter. He asked permission to put together a bid for firm prices and to look at the budget and perhaps this year to complete the roof on one side of the building. Also that a new line item would be needed in the budget for metal disposal to cover costs of \$3360.

W. Curtin motioned to send out quotes for repairs and to add a new line item to the Solid Waste Center for the amount of \$3360, seconded by P. Bolster and passed.

R. Bailey and Board reviewed the telecommunication information as provided. R. Bailey advised he would like to out to bid for the telephone system at the Town Hall, Police Station, Highway and Fire Station. This would reduce costs for voice mail and other features. W. Curtin motioned to go out to bid and then conduct an interview process, seconded by S. McMahan and passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey explained the grant for the emergency management radio and that a temporary radio has been installed at the Fire Station, it will be moved to the Town Hall on a permanent basis, for the emergency operations center.

Public Input I

None

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes

1. Workshop Minutes of September 17, 2008 – W. Curtin motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by S. McMahan and passed with all in favor.
2. Workshop Minutes of October 1, 2008, Public Session I & II and Non-Public (sealed) – It was noted in item "A" to change the word "ton" to *into*. P. Bolster motioned to approve the minutes of October 1, 2008 including the amendment, as presented, seconded by S. McMahan and passed with all in favor.

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3. Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2008, Public Session I & II and (sealed) Non-Public Session – R. Bailey noted an amendment in New Business, Item I relative to Road Policy Waiver, the correction has been made to the original copy. W. Curtin motioned to approve the minutes of October 6, 2008 for Public Session I and II and (sealed) Non-public Session, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor. P. Bolster noted the Selectmen had approved Cathy Burke as an alternate member on the Parks and Recreation Commission.

4. Workshop Minutes of October 7, 2008 - A. Sherwood motioned to accept the minutes of the Workshop Session of October 7, 2008 as presented, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

Old Business

1. 2008 Budget Status – R. Bailey and the Board reviewed the Budget and anticipated FEMA reimbursement.

2. 2008 Tax Rate – R. Bailey advised the tax rate has been set at \$11.30n per \$1000. The warrant has been signed and tax bills are being prepared. P. Bolster noted Alton is not a donor town at present.

3. 2009 Budget Status – R. Bailey advised the budget books have been prepared. He anticipates a savings in Health Insurance costs.

4. Fuel Bids – R. Bailey and the Board reviewed bids as received from Stafford, Irving and Eastern. Following their review and after a discussion, W. Curtin motioned to award the bid to Eastern Propane and Oil for the Town's municipal fuel supplies to include #2 oil, kerosene and propane for one year, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

New Business

1. Vote on Recommendations of the Town Assessor – A. Sherwood motioned to approve the recommendations as presented for Notices of Intent to Cut and, Land Use Tax Change and to table Item 3., and to sign each accordingly, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

2. Approval of Pole Petition – Public Service of NH and Union Telephone Company- S. McMahon motioned to approve the petition, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

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Public Input II

Gregory Fuller asked if FEMA funds would come this year. R. Bailey advised he would be asking for it prior to the next meeting of the Board. These are emergency funds and will not require a public hearing for acceptance.

Non-Public Session

At 7:15pm, The Chairman motioned to enter into Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA91-A:3,II (a) (c) and (e), seconded by S. McMahon. The Chairman polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary

Minutes Approved: November 3, 2008