

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2008
ALTON TOWN HALL

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

Alan Sherwood, Chairman
William Curtin, Vice-Chairman
Patricia Fuller, Selectman
Stephan McMahan, Selectman
Peter Bolster, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

Chairman Sherwood led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence.

Approval of the Agenda – P. Fuller motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

Public Hearing

A. Sherwood opened the Public Hearing to consider the acceptance of FEMA and Forest Fire reimbursements pursuant to the guidelines of RSA31:95b.

There was no Public Input. Chairman Sherwood closed the Public Hearing. Following a discussion the Board voted unanimously to accept the FEMA reimbursements totaling \$129,224.81 and \$6,180.98 from the State to be distributed accordingly and that the Town Administrator sign the necessary documents. The Board extended their thanks to staff members Sheri Emerson and Francine Bonfanti for their efforts towards receiving these funds. The Board also approved reimbursement of Forest Fire Expenses totaling \$11,153.98

Selectmen's Committee Reports

S. McMahan reported the Budget Committee will meet on December 4th with the CIP Committee, no decisions have been made yet.

P. Bolster reported that community response to fundraising mailing from Alton Community Services Program has exceeded expectations, and the food pantry is well stocked, he continued Alton is fortunate in comparison to other communities. He expressed his appreciation to Hannaford's for their contributions. The School Building & Grounds Committee is working on issues and should have a warrant article ready soon. The Downtown Revitalization Committee will meet tomorrow. They are moving forward on plans for the Loon Cove Station, paving and the memorial flagpole.

W. Curtin stated the Planning board has workshops to be scheduled, legal issues will be addressed on December 8th with the Town Attorney present.

P. Fuller stated she was glad to be back following a recent accident involving her family members. She expressed her appreciation to the Rochester EMS team members. P. Fuller continued the Zoning Board is still short of Members, she noted if citizens want to become a member on the Board to contact Sharon Penny. She provided a brief update on the legislature and education funding and the court. At this time, the court will let the legislature do its work. She advised the B.C.E.D.C. is pursuing county funding. She expressed her appreciation to A. Sherwood for his tenure.

P. Bolster noted the county commissioners will organize next week, budgets for various agencies will be reviewed.

A. Sherwood provided an update on Household Hazardous Waste, and noted their plans for 2009 should remain the same with the exception of the medicine collection with the cost to be based on Households in each town. Mr. Sherwood added that he had enjoyed his tenure as Selectman and serving on several Town Boards, and that he will continue to be involved with the Belknap Range Conservation Commission.

Appointment – CIP Committee

The Board met with Marcella Perry, Thomas Hoopes and Thaddeus Gulbranson and reviewed capital improvement recommendations (see attached). It was noted their recommendations included items over \$10,000 as noted on their report. Discussion included the Town Hall Generator. The proposal for the school's land purchase was not presented in time to be included in the report.

Board of Health

A. Sherwood motioned to Recess as Board of Selectmen and Convene as Board of Health seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor. The Board met with Thomas Varney, P.E. and reviewed the septic design waiver for Tax Map 51, lot 32 for a new system, also they took into consideration that the Health Officer, Brian Boyers had recommended granting the waiver. Following a discussion, P. Bolster motioned to approve the request seconded by S. McMahan and passed with all in favor. A. Sherwood motioned to adjourn as Board of Health and reconvene as Board of Selectmen.

R. Bailey noted the bid for work on the recycling building located in the Solid Waste Center had been opened, only one bid was received and he recommended that it be awarded to Three Brooks Builders for the entire roof, at a total cost of \$4,210. P. Fuller motioned to award the bid as recommended to Three Brooks Builders, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor. R. Bailey advised if work is not completed this year, the funds would be encumbered.

R. Bailey advised septic work at the Gilman Museum will be performed "in house". The Board authorized Alan Sherwood to sign the appropriate documents.

A. Sherwood reviewed the letter from Fire Chief, Alan Johnson announcing his retirement to be effective January 5, 2009. On Behalf of the Board, Alan Sherwood extended their best wishes and commended the Chief for his service to the Town.

R. Bailey advised he has spoken to State engineers with regards to the Alton Traffic Circle. He will have details at a later date but was advised they will pursue additional sidewalks to the bridge and they will conduct a public hearing. He will have more information by the first of the year. It was noted Lakes Region Planning Commission is working on an updated hazard mitigation plan, grants have been received and Alton is one of the beneficiaries.

Public Input I

None

Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes of November 3, 2008, Public Session I & II and (sealed) Non-Public Session. It was noted In Public Session I , 11/3/08, to add the word "*design*" to para. 8 , line one in New Business, and to add the name of the Town Administrator to page 1 of the Work-Shop Session of November 10, 2008 minutes. W. Curtin motioned to accept the minutes as amended seconded by S. McMahon and passed with one abstention (PF).

Old Business

1. 2009 Budget - R. Bailey noted in his budget review presented to the Board that the fuel and benefits will be reviewed with the Budget Committee on December 4, 2008. The Warrant articles will need to be reviewed and approved for presentation to the Budget Committee and should be ready within the next week.

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2. Telecommunication Proposal Status – R. Bailey advised 4 proposals have been received which need to be reviewed, followed by an interview process with selected firms. A committee needs to be established to review the proposals and to conduct interviews, they would in turn make recommendations to the Selectmen. P. Fuller offered to be on the committee and S. McMahan agreed to act as an alternate.

3. Town Report – R. Bailey noted that the Board had awarded T-Pine the bid for printing the annual town report in 2007 and since their cost will continue through 2009 and 2010 He recommended that we continue with T-Pine. P. Fuller motioned to continued with T-Pine Printing as noted, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

4. Loon Cove R.R. Station Status – R. Bailey noted work has begun in preparation of removing the building from its current site, the State has granted an extension to remove it by May 2009. Attorney Sessler will have a deed ready within a week.

New Business

1. Approval of Land Use Items as submitted by the Town Assessor - A. Sherwood noted that there are 9 abatements, 2 Administrative Abatements, 3 Veteran's Credit and the Equalization Study, he then moved to sign the items as recommended, accordingly, seconded by W. Curtin and passed with all in favor.

2. Lakes Region Planning Commission – Route 28 Safety Study Representative – The Board was in agreement that goals need to be finalized, R. Bailey advised he will contact them before the next meeting.

Public Input

G. Fuller suggested adding an additional member with expertise, to the Telecommunications Review Committee

Non-Public Session - A. Sherwood motioned to enter into Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA91-A;3,II (a) (c) and (e), seconded by W. Curtin. The Chairman polled the members who each responded in the affirmative and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary
Minutes Approved 1-5-09

