

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2013
Public Session
ALTON TOWN HALL

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

David Hussey, Chairman
R. Loring Carr, Vice Chair
Peter Bolster, Member
Cydney Johnson, Member
Marc DeCoff, Member
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

Approval of the Agenda – The Board approved the Agenda unanimously

Announcements – D. Hussey announced the Deliberative Session will take place at the High School on February 6, 2013 at 7:00pm

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board voted to recess as Board of Selectmen and to convene as Board of Health and met with John Dever, III, Health Officer and Varney Engineering Staff, and the property owners with regards to a Waiver and Right of Way easement.

J. Dever explained this was a request for easements on 66 and 68 Spring Street in order to replace old tanks and to utilize a Town ROW. There are no septic plans on record, this is for a 2 BR in one house and 4BR in the other and the homes are very small. The Board voted to add the ROW easement to the warrant. Also that if any trees die, they would have to be taken down by the homeowner. With regards to the septic easement, it was noted the tank would not be a clean water system. T. Varney explained the houses have had limited summer use. D. Hussey noted that it would be up to the State to grant a 6BR system on the application. L. Carr motioned to grant a waiver from the leach field to the well 73". Tank and pump chamber to the well 28' and tank to existing houses, 2', pump chamber to house 1 ½' from leach field to the property line which is because of the right of way, seconded by C. Johnson and passed, with all in favor.

D. Hussey motioned to adjourn as Board of Health, and to reconvene as Board of Selectmen, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.

Appointments:

1. Russell Wilder – Woodlands Drive. R. Wilder presented the members with a letter from the association concerning the condition of the road. He described the condition of the road, and their concerns, that the last repairs have been made several years ago. The road needs some reconstruction and asked about when that could happen. D. Hussey advised the road would be put on a list. The Board members would take this under advisement, and stated some trees may have to be removed and the road brought up to "specs". R. Bailey will contact them once a schedule is available.
2. Dorothee Wentworth – D. Wentworth was not present and the Board agreed to continue the meeting with Selectmen's Committee Reports.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

D. Hussey – D. Hussey addressed a situation with the W. Alton Fire Station and advised that the Board of Selectmen have not made any vote or decision towards shutting down the W. Alton Fire Station. It had been suggested by the Fire Chief that we do so, but since then we have discussed the pros and cons, and viewed the building we spoke to several insurance companies who stated that if the station was closed it would cost an additional \$500 to \$1000 for residents on their insurance. To date, upgrades have been made, new roof and stairway, front doors are to be fixed and at this point, speaking for himself, he is not willing to make any changes; keep things as they are. L. Carr stated 3 years ago the building was in pretty rough shape but some of the firemen cleaned it up and he congratulated them for their efforts and hopefully it can be restored as it was originally and become a thriving fire department in the vicinity. A few problems need to be addressed, perhaps calling in an engineer, etc. it helps the whole community to have volunteers and he hopes citizens appreciate the efforts. P. Bolster stated in his opinion it is not feasible to abandon this facility. A station is needed there. In reality precedence is needed in W. Alton, it offers protection to the people in that area. D. Hussey reiterated his statement that this Board has never made a decision to close the Station.

Marc DeCoff – Read Warrant Article 11 as increased to add a video system, the Budget committee did not go along with the increase which would be for an video system in a police vehicle. D. Hussey stated this would help with lawsuits, P. Bolster stated it would also protect the citizen and the officer. C. Johnson noted all new vehicles should have this system. L. Carr asked if the budget Committee was against the camera, M. DeCoff stated "Yes", they would not support this warrant article as written. These cameras would be for the newer front line vehicles. M. DeCoff noted this would be for a suburban. It was agreed not to change the article.

Town Administrator Report and Updates

R. Bailey noted a request from the Mt. Major Snowmobile Club. The club is asking for approval to use part of a ROW along Rand Hill Road due to a loss of the use of property. The Road Agent and police Chief have no problems. This area would encompass the equivalent of the size of Lakewood Drive. They need Board approval. They would meet any sign requirements of the State or Town. The Board met with representatives of the club. It was noted permission to use Avery Hill was granted 20 or so years ago from the Town, formerly they could use ½ mile of trail but it has been lost. The property has been sold. This area would be established to the right of the road. D. Hussey stated riders should not actually use the road. The Board reviewed a map as provided. This request would be for this winter season. Trails are opened to non-motorized use only, no ATV's, and perhaps shelving the slopes at the telephone power lines were items also discussed. The Board granted approval for the request to use the ROW as proposed, by unanimous vote.

6:45pm - Dorothea Wentworth arrived, but asked for the Board to delay a discussion until two other board members from Alton community Services Program arrived.

The Board agreed that R. Bailey could continue with his report.

R. Bailey noted that with regards to the land fill report, it has been accepted by the state and will issue a new ground water monitoring permit. There are concerns with the report and doesn't have the details yet. Arsenic and terpidity is being questioned with several test wells. He will discuss this with the engineer and come back to the Board with reference to the State's concerns.

He continued the Federal Gov't has made changes to Social Security, effective in January the rate is changing from 4.2% back to 6.2% thus reducing net payroll. Nothing the Town can do, this is for Social Security. The most recent paychecks were dated 2013 even though it was the last week in December, the next checks will have to be recalculated for this Social Security deduction.

R. Bailey submitted a Draft Selectmen's Annual Report.

R. Bailey noted funds have been received from the state filing for bridge work \$213,038.95, state reimbursement. The Board voted unanimously to accept the check and it will be reimbursed into the bridge fund.

R. Bailey noted that trees in Abendego Circle are dying. They have been affected by a spruce bug worm, and they are in rough shape. The Town owns the trees in the circle, it was agreed to contact the forester for his opinion. M. Decoff motioned to contact the Town forester to check this out, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey discussed updates and plans on the Senior Center for the addition at the back of the building. He submitted an existing plan.

Appointment - D. Hussey noted Dorothye Wentworth was ready and R. Bailey agreed to finish his conversation after her appointment.

D. Wentworth presented a letter to the Board requesting space for the food pantry (Alton community Services) and asked for consideration to have space at the Senior Center as of now their current space is too small. This would include a donation room for storage, plus the total space would be for an office and a waiting room. The total area would be 500 (+/0) SF. D. Wentworth noted there is a place for rent on Main Street, but she would rather not move everything there. P. Bolster asked if this request has ever come to the Building & Grounds Committee, he noted that ACSP could have sent a representative; D. Wentworth noted the hallway could be a common area, but otherwise the rooms needed would be locked. C. Johnson asked about storage in the lower area, in the basement. D. Wentworth noted carrying items up stairs may be too difficult, utilizing a bulkhead was discussed.

In a further review the Board discussed the request for an additional 500 SF it would have to be dedicated and added to the present building at an estimated cost of \$50,000. D. Hussey stated this request would be taken under advisement. And will look to see what can be done, and will get back to R. Bailey. C. Johnson asked about an increase in a number of families.

Town Administrator (continued)

R. Bailey continued with his discussion on the Senior Center and advised approval is needed on the "Kingswood Project" designated for completion in the spring at the Senior Center bathroom, laundry and utility rooms. Discussion on the need for shower, laundry and utility room was reviewed and clarified. The board reviewed the removal of a shed roof addition at the back of the building a pitched roof is being suggested in the plan. A 36x36 addition will be built and sealed and painted with siding and windows on the exterior. R. Bailey stated Kingswood needs authorization to begin building the pre-fab addition to the senior center. A motion was made and seconded to authorize Kingswood Vocation Tech. to start the prefab work, and passed with all in favor. It was agreed to schedule a workshop to discuss the Senior Center issues, and invite the Planner and than others to future workshop meetings to review this project and requests by Alton Community Services.

Public Input I

None

Approval of Selectmen's Meetings

- 1) December 4, 2012 – L. Carr motioned to approve the Public Sessions I & II and Sealed, Non-Public Session and to release Items 2,3, and 4, seconded and passed with all in favor.
- 2) December 3, 2012 - L. Carr motioned to approve the Public Session I & II and Non-Public Session and releasing 1,2,3,4 and 6, the motion was seconded and passed with two abstentions (DH) (CJ)
- 3) November 28, 2012 – L Carr motioned to approve the Public Work Session, seconded and passed with all in favor.
- 4) November 26, 2012 - L. Carr motioned to approve the Public Workshop Session, seconded and passed with all in favor.

Old Business

- 1) Town Hall Status – R. Bailey advised work is progressing on the windows; some have been installed waiting on contractor who has not yet received the round framed windows from the manufacturer.
- 2) Solid Waste Center – R. Bailey explained the structure has met the engineering inspection, and has received our letter of concern over the netting to be installed and snow clips for the roof, some touch up painting is left to finish this project.
- 3) Sunset Shores Paving Request – It was agreed to have the Highway Agent come back with his recommendations, to have a paving company provide a price, and to evaluate this matter in the spring.
- 4) 2013 Draft Warrant - The Board reviewed Draft Warrant Article 39; R. Bailey stated he had discussed this with Mr. Sessler. Also discussed was the noise ordinance article and an easement article for Collins/Norris. The Board reviewed Article 22 and article 43. It was agreed to keep Article 11 as written.
- 5) With regards to Bay Hill Road drainage work, it was motioned and passed unanimously to accept the closure of this project and release the retainage of \$2,004.88.

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New Business

Land Use Items – L. Carr motioned to approve the recommendations of the Town Assessor as submitted, the motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Special Event Application - The Board voted unanimously to approve the special event application regarding the Big Lake Half Marathon as scheduled.

Gravel Pit Regulations – it was agreed to table this matter until a workshop for more discussion and a review by the Town Attorney.

Generator Bids – R. Bailey explained this was for maintenance on the 5 Town generators. Three bids were received, *F.M. Generator, Generator Connection and Power Up Generator*. Once reviewed, D. Hussey motioned to grant the maintenance bid to Generator Connection, seconded by C. Johnson and passed with all in favor.

Elderly Housing/Payment in Lieu of Taxes – The Board approved \$4730.64 as payment in lieu of taxes.

Hazardous Mitigation Grant Review - The Board reviewed the letter of intent with regards to applying for funds in the event of an emergency and granted approval to establish interest in the Hazard mitigation Grant Program and identifying projects that are a priority to reduce any future emergency of disaster costs such as emergency bypass if Route 11 Bay Bridge is unusable.

ABA Special Event Policy – The Board granted approval for the Alton business Association application for Winter Carnival to be held February 17th.

Public Input II

None

Non-Public Session – at 8:00pm, Chairman Hussey motioned to enter in Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA91-A;3,II (a) personnel) (c) character/reputation and (e) claims/litigation, the motion was seconded and the Chairman then polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Rockwood, Secretary

Minutes Approved: January 21, 2013

