

Budget Committee
Public Hearing
APPROVED MINUTES (October 22, 2020)
January 15, 2020 @ 6:30 PM
Snow Date: January 16, 2020 @ 6:30 PM
Alton Town Hall
1 Monument Square, Alton, NH 03809

1. Call to order by Chairman P. O'Brien at 6:30 pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Patrick O'Brien, Chairman
Beth Varney, Member
John Markland, Member
Bob Holt, Member
Peter Leavitt, School Board Representative

Others Present:

Laura Parker, Town Financial Administrator
Liz Dione, Town Administrator

Absent:

David Hershey, Member
Reuben Wentworth, Selectmen

4. Approval of Agenda

Change #5 to Town Public Hearing at 6:30 and Alton Central Public Hearing at 7 pm
MOTION by J. Markland to approve the Agenda as amended. Second by B. Holt. No discussion.
Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).

5. Public Hearing on Warrant Articles. Open.

Article 12 Read. No public input seen or heard.

Article 13 Read. Public input. Loring Carr. Asked about various department increases on wages. L. Dione explained increases.

Article 14 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 15 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 16 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 17 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 18 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 19 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 20 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 21 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 22 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 23 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 24 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 25 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 26 Read aloud. Public input. L. Carr Inquired as to the fund balance and with a significant balance why are we putting money in it. Asked the Budget Committee to reconsider this Warrant Article.

Article 28 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Recessed Town Public Hearing at 7 pm.

MOTION to P. O'Brien recess the Town Public Hearing and to hear the Alton School Warrant Articles scheduled to be heard at 7 p.m. and resume following Alton School Board Warrant Articles. Second by P. Leavitt. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).

6. Public Hearing for Alton School District Warrant Articles (7:02 pm)

Article 2 Read aloud. Loring Carr, asked for clarification on totals. P. Stiles explained. L. Carr questioned multi-year contract figures.

Article 3 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 4 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 5 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 6 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 7 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 8 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 9 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

MOTION by B. Holt to close the Alton School Board public hearing at 7:19 pm. Second by J. Markland. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).

Town Public session reopened public hearing at 7:19 pm.

Article 29 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 30 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 31 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 32 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 35 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 36 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 37 Read aloud. L. Carr asking the Budget Committee to reconsider wording that the town taking over part ownership and maintaining the new dock, also feels this will be an added liability.

L. Dione noted the restaurant is taxed on the entire dock. Lease and ownership is currently "gray" area and is being worked on. Lease to be re-written once the Warrant Article passes. P. Leavitt feels this is a win for the Town of Alton. More public boat parking.

Richard Shea, Roberts Cove Road. New resident. General question asking about multi-year funding. L. Dione noted a state law, Non-lapsing appropriation. Allows for maximum of 5 years to finish projects and have money set aside.

L. Carr - referring to red-lettering asked if town is working on the wall. L. Dione stated yes the town will be working this project.

Article 38 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 40 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 41 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 42 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 43 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 44 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 45 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 46 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 47 Rear aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 48 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

Article 49 Read aloud. No public input seen or heard.

P. O'Brien asked for any other input from the public

MOTION by J. Markland to close public hearing. Second by B. Holt. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).

7. Approval of Minutes

January 9, 2020

MOTION by J. Markland to approve the minutes of January 9, 2020 as corrected. (Correct the Second of the motion on Article B. to P. Leavitt.) No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).

8. New Business

A. Additional Warrant Articles (if necessary) None received. Deadline was 1/14/2020.

9. Old Business - All have been approved and P. O'Brien asked if any members would like to comment. None seen or heard.

A. Approval Town Operating Budget

B. Approval Town Warrant Articles

C. Approval School Operating Budget

D. Approval School Warrant Articles

J. Markland comment on WA on town hall lift. Noted he reviewed a selectmen mtg from October and the unexpected funds from the State of NH were going to the Clough Fund and there are sufficient funds for this project.

10. Public Input - Loring Carr. Would like to encourage the Budget Committee to reconsider Article 37. General discussion by the Budget Committee.

11. Other Business (if necessary)

Deliberative Session next meeting, 2/4/2020 at 6 p.m. held at Prospect Mountain High School

12. Adjournment Motion by J. Markland to adjourn at 7:53 pm. Second by B. Holt. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Schaeffner, Recording Secretary