

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
February 21, 2023
(Approved - March 6, 2023)

Vice-Chairman P. LaRochelle convened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

P. LaRochelle led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence.

The following staff members were present:

Brock Mitchell, Chairman, Excused
Paul LaRochelle, Vice-Chairman
Reuben Wentworth, Selectman
Bob Holt, Selectman
Andrew Morse, Selectmen
Ryan Heath, Town Administrator

Agenda Approval

B. Holt made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and R. Wentworth seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Announcements

- The Public Participation Policy applies to all Selectmen meetings. A copy of it is on the back of each agenda, posted in this meeting room, and on our website.
- The Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office will be closed on Tuesday, March 14th, 2023 for the Town/School Elections held at St. Katharine Drexel Church (Lower Level) Hidden Springs Road from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Public Input I (limited to 3 minutes per person on agenda items only)

None

Appointments

None

New Business

1. Water Department - Grundomat Purchase Request

R. Heath stated that the Water Superintendent, C. Mitchell, was unable to attend the meeting tonight. There is a memo from her in the packet. The Water Department is looking to purchase this tool. There are services right now on Route 11 and Route 140 that they need to saw cut the asphalt and then trench in order to get the services across the road. Purchasing this tool would allow them to horizontally bore underneath the roadway without disturbing the asphalt. Right now, when needed they have to call someone to come it to do it and the price is \$4,800.00 per call. To buy the tool would be \$6,609.80. It would pay for itself in a couple of uses. B. Holt asked if the Town had an air compressor. S. Kinmond stated that they do not own a portable one. P. LaRochelle asked if there will be any training involved with this tool. S. Kinmond stated that they have gone to a demonstration at one time and the company will come out and do actual training. C. Mitchell is familiar with the operation of this tool as she has used them with a previous employer.

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the Water Department to purchase a Grundomat as listed on Item #1, 2, 3, and 4 for \$6,609.80 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

2. Fire Department - Ambulance Purchase Request

Fire Chief J. Beaudoin, and Captain P. O'Brien approached the table. P. O'Brien stated that the ambulance is up for replacement in 2025. They are 2+ years out for a build. R. Wentworth asked what the year is of the one the will be replaced. P. O'Brien stated that with this purchase they would like to move to a 15-year replacement cycle on the ambulances. It will allow them to own and maintain 3 ambulances. One mainly as a reserve truck but could go out as needed. They are going with a higher quality truck so that potentially they could get two to three life spans out of the body and just replace the chassis.

B. Holt made a motion to accept the bid from Autotronics for the new ambulance of \$434,350.00 and 50% be paid this year and the other 50% upon delivery in 2025 and allow the Town Administrator can sign the documents on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and R. Wentworth seconded with all in favor of the motion.

3. Police Prosecutor - Agreement Renewal

R. Heath stated that this is the updated Prosecutor's Agreement. The only difference is that there is a 2% increase in the wages based on the contractual agreement based on the CPI with a max of 2%.

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the agreement for the Police Prosecutor and B. Holt seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Old Business

1. Public Works - Sidewalk Replacement Bid Award

S. Kinmond approached the table. He stated that the sidewalk bid was mailed out. The results from the bids were only one bidder. We are totally unfamiliar with. They come from Connecticut. He did research in regards to it. There was one other bidder who indicated that put a proposal in but we did not receive it. We did ask him to provide it to us after the fact. R. Heath stated that legal counsel suggests denying the bid and putting it back out to bid. S. Kinmond stated that he would reach out to the companies again. R. Wentworth asked if the Highway Department would be doing the demolition. S. Kinmond stated that they would be doing it.

R. Wentworth made a motion to reject all RFP packages on the November 9, 2022 Alton Bay Railroad Park Waterfront Replacement Bids for sidewalks and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

R. Wentworth to allow the Public Works Director to go out and request proposals for the Alton Bay Waterfront Sidewalk Replacement and allow the Public Works Director to establish a timeframe and curbing and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

2. Solid Waste - Recycling Building Replacement RFP Specs

S. Kinmond remained at the table. He worked with the Solid Waste Superintendent to put together a package to replace the recycling building that came down in the storm on the 23rd of December. There are some modifications that were made for structural issues. It is a design build. It is an open uninsulated building. P. LaRochelle asked questions about the specs for the building. S. Kinmond stated that they would be working with the Code Officer on this.

R. Wentworth made a motion to allow the Public Works Director to put the RFP package together with an acceptance date of March 17, 2023 and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Selectmen Reports

B. Holt stated that this will be his last meeting. He will be heading to Florida. He would like to thank his fellow Board members for the last three years. He has enjoyed it.

A. Morse had nothing to report.

R. Wentworth had nothing to report.

P. LaRochelle had nothing to report.

Town Administrator Report

R. Heath stated that there is a formal letter from the Code Inspector. He has a retirement date of June 30, 2023. R. Heath is requesting to start the search now. It is the consensus of the Board to move forward.

R. Heath stated that there is a Permit Renewal application on the table. It is from Hydro-Geochemical Solutions LLC. This is the reporting for the closed cap at the Solid Waste Center. This is an updated proposal. We can apply for lower reporting requirements.

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the award for the water monitoring at the Solid Waste Center for all our wells and the neighboring wells to Hydro-Geochemical for reporting for 2023 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

R. Heath stated that there is an antique safe and the old jail cell in the basement. He would like to check with the Historical Society to see if they are interested in them. If they are not, he would like to dispose of them.

R. Heath stated that the last thing tonight is in reference to the demolition in the basement. He would like to save money. The contractor's hourly rate is high. He asked the Board if they would like to hire his son who works for his company. It would be at a laborer's rate. His rate is almost \$70.00/hr cheaper. If they feel that there is too much of a conflict, he completely understands. R. Wentworth asked what the rate per hour would be. R. Heath stated that it would be \$35.00/hr. B. Holt asked who would be getting paid. R. Heath stated that it would be his company, Ryan L. Heath LLC. R. Wentworth stated that he would have no problem as long as a waiver is signed.

R. Wentworth made a motion to allow Ryan L. Heath LLC company for labor for demotion in the Town Hall basement and the Town would be held harmless and that it does not interfere with R. Heath's work here at \$35.00/hr and B. Holt seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Approval of Minutes

- January 19, 2023 Public Session

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the minutes of January 19, 2023 Public Session and B. Holt seconded with all in favor of the motion.

- February 1, 2023 Public Session

B. Holt made a motion to approve the minutes of February 1, 2023 Public Session and R. Wentworth seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Consent Agenda Approval

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for February 21, 2023 as presented and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

1. **Town Clerk/ Tax Collectors Department**

Repurchase, Map 11 Lot 13-8, 185 Alton Shores Road, Duquette, Cheryl, \$20,423.70

2. **Public Works Department**

New Hire, Caissie, Arthur, Laborer, 17.34/ hr, Start date 2/22/2023

Discretionary Action on Requests for Appointments (No discussion, majority vote required to allow/not allow appointment)

None

Public Input II (limited to 5 minutes per person on any Governmental/Town Business)

None

Non-Public Session

None

Adjournment

B. Holt made a motion to adjourn at 7:04 pm and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Bailey
Recording Secretary