

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2005 – Public Session- Alton Town Hall

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

Patricia Fuller, Chairman
Alan Sherwood, Vice-Chairman
Stephan McMahan, Selectman
Cris Blackstone, Selectman

P. Fuller led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence.

Public Hearing

P. Fuller read the announcement for the Public Hearing with regards to a discretionary preservation easement application.

Present for the hearing were the property owners, Eugene and Carolyn (Rollins) Young. It was noted much of the property is in a conservation easement, to include 128-129 acres, excluding the house and barn and that the barn is in excellent condition and well maintained. The Young's agreed as part of this application the public will be allowed to come and look at the barn, when reasonable. The property owners also agreed to the terms of the easement and their obligation to maintain the barn. There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the Public Hearing.

The Board then deliberated on the easement. It was agreed the property is an excellent example of what the process was meant to preserve. Discussion also included whether these types of properties could be put on the website, map or listing for scenic purposes, have the assessor work with the applicants about provisions for public access and to agree with the 75% easement. A. Sherwood noted the Assessor had explained there would be a small amount of land around the barn that would include 8' all around the Barn. A. Sherwood moved to approve the request for a discretionary easement for the Youngs on Meaderboro Road, subject to the condition that reasonable terms for public access be agreed upon and that it include the land under the barn and 8' out all around the barn. as part of the easement and terms will be worked out with the Town Assessor, seconded by S. McMahan and passed with all in favor.

The Chairman opened the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Approval of the Agenda - P. Fuller noted an amendment to New Business that Item #3 will be removed relative to an appointment to the ZBA and to add February 16th minutes of a Selectmen's Workshop and Public Hearing on SB2. A. Sherwood moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by S. McMahan and passed with all in favor.

Selectmen's Committee Report

P. Fuller advised the Coalition of Donor towns HB684 was heard before the house education committee on the 22nd, she had not heard if it was favorable hearing or not.

A. Sherwood reported the Planning Board had a Public Forum on the 17th. Discussion involved goals and objectives for updating the Master Plan. A second Public Forum will also be held March 2nd at the Community Center in the Bay. He continued Household Hazardous Waste District will meet at the Town Hall on the 24th.

C. Blackstone noted the meeting she planned to attend on behalf of Mr. McMahon had been cancelled.

Town Administrator Updates and Verbal Reports -

R. Bailey advised the Selectmen had received copies of an e-mail from the AFSCME representative. Legislature is pending to amend RSA264:33, which covers police and fire men in an accident, these accidents would not go against their personal insurance. Presently the Highway Department is not part of this. He asked that the Board support the legislation and that a letter be drafted to State Representatives. It was agreed that a letter be drafted for the Chairman's signature.

High School Emergency Grant – R. Bailey advised there are some things to be finished and the school is going out for quotes to finish the electrical work. He will keep the Board informed.

DRA Audit – R. Bailey noted the DRA would like to have a meeting in March or first part of April. The Board agreed on two dates, either March 29th. Or April 5th and will advise the Board.

Public Input I

There was no Public Input

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes – The Board reviewed their minutes of February 7, 2005, Public and Non-Public Session, and the minutes of February 16th and changes were made as follows: February 7th Public Session, page 1, para. 8; the sentence should read *House Bill #684 has been assigned to the House Education Committee* and on the February 16th Public Hearing; remove the name of *Cris Blackstone*. A. Sherwood moved to approve the minutes of February 7, 2005, Public Session as amended and the non-public session and the minutes of February 16th Workshop Meeting as presented and the February 16th Public Hearing on SB2, as corrected, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with C. Blackstone abstaining from the vote to approve the minutes of February 16th.

Adjourn as Board of Health and Convene as Board of Health

P. Fuller moved to recess as Board of Selectmen and to convene as Board of Health, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

1. The Board met with design engineer John Berry with regards to a septic waiver for Tax Map 39, Lot 22. After a discussion and review, P. Fuller moved to grant the waiver for the proposed septic tank to be within 25' of edge the lake and also that we grant the waiver for the leach field to be within 75' radius of the well, seconded by A. Sherwood for discussion. S. McMahon asked about disturbance to the property. J. Berry advised the old tank would be crushed. P. Fuller questioned providing a design without actually knowing what is there. J. Berry advised the house could have been build prior to 1969, there is no really way of knowing what was there. A. Sherwood noted this discussion was for setbacks. The motion passed with a 3 –1 vote(SM).
2. The Board met with Thomas Varney, P.E. and reviewed the septic design with regards to Tax Map 51, Lot 13. S. McMahon made a motion to grant the waiver as presented, seconded by C. Blackstone and passed with all in favor.
3. The Board and Mr. Varney also reviewed a waiver request for Tax Map 19, Lot Following their review, T. Varney and the Board agreed to make revisions to the septic design to allow 40' from the well and Mr. Varney will meet with the Health Officer. A. Sherwood made a motion to continue the consideration of this septic tank setback waiver plan for Stephen McQuirk, Map 19, Lot 47, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

P. Fuller moved to recess as Board of Health and reconvene as Board of Selectmen, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

Old Business

1. 2005Warrant/Budget/Elections. R. Bailey advised the warrant and budget has been posted in required locations. R. Bailey continued he had consulted with the Town Clerk and Town Moderator concerning election day and Town Meeting as well as school officials and all were in agreement that the school auditorium at the new high school would be a sufficient place for elections and to conduct Town Meeting and would not interfere with students. R. Bailey noted they have been working on the details for the elections and Town meeting. Following this discussion. P. Fuller motioned that the Town Elections on March 8th and the Town Meeting on March 9th be held in the auditorium at the Prospect Mountain High School, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

2. Review Policy – Re: Fund Raising events by Town Committees –
 - (a) Gilman Museum - Fundraising would be for maintenance of the building and its artifacts, funds to be under control of the Town Treasurer and expenditures would be approved by the Selectmen. This would allow persons who donate funds a tax deduction as noted. on their 1040 form. R. Bailey advised the Town qualifies as a 50% charity donation R. Bailey advised he would have more on this later and it would involve more record keeping. Charitable Trusts could be set up. R. Bailey will put together a draft policy for the Selectmen's approval and he has a call into the auditors. Public Hearings may be necessary to accept and spend these particular funds.

P. Fuller noted this would also apply to the Downtown Revitalization Committee.

3. Surplus Auction Status – R. Bailey noted Selectman Blackstone had assisted in the Bid Openings. There are more items that have not been sold. The Auction raised 910.32. Fire Department items were not included. A., Sherwood made a motion to except the offers as enumerated in the spread sheet as presented, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor. R. Bailey made a recommendation to accept the \$50 bid for computer items. P. Fuller made a motion to award the computer items to the \$50 bidder, seconded by C. Blackstone and passed with all in favor. R. Bailey will also submit a list of any remaining surplus items that were not sold at auction and he advised he would meet with the Fire Chief concerning Fire Department surplus equipment.

New Business

1. Vote to approve Cemetery Deed – P. Fuller motioned to approve the Cemetery Deed for Row N lot 32,37 as presented, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.
2. Vote to approve items as recommended by the Land Use and property Department - A. Sherwood motioned to approve the items from Land Use and Property Department as presented, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.
3. Review Alarm Policy Ordinance – R. Bailey advised Chief Johnson was unable to attend tonight's meeting, and he will be on the next agenda to discuss this ordinance.
4. Review Fire Safety Policy/Fire Suppression Water Supplies – R. Bailey stated the Planning Board has had to address this issue this past year and a policy needs to be in place in order that applicants should know about the Town policy relative to cisterns. This matter will also be on the next agenda.

Public Input II

There was no public input

Non-Public Session

At 7:30pm, P. Fuller motioned to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A:3,II (a) (c) (e), following a five minute recess, seconded by A. Sherwood. Chairman Fuller polled the members who each voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Patricia Fuller, Selectman_____

Alan Sherwood, Vice-Sherwood_____

Stephan McMahon, Selectman_____

Cris Blackstone, Selectman_____

