

**Alton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes – Public Session I
March 20, 2006
Alton Town Hall**

6:00pm Chairman Sherwood performed the swearing-in ceremony for Selectman Stephan McMahon, recently voted to a third term.

Present were the following members of the Board and staff:

Alan Sherwood, Chairman
Cris Blackstone, Vice-Chair
Stephan McMahon, Selectman
Patricia Fuller, Selectman
A. Pete Shibley, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

A. Sherwood led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence

Approval of the Agenda

P. Fuller motioned to approve the Agenda, seconded by C. Blackstone and passed.

Re-Organization of the Board is as follows:

Chairman, Cris Blackstone
Vice- Chair, Stephan McMahon

C. Blackstone and Board members agreed that A. Sherwood continue as chairman for this meeting.

Selectmen Assignments-

The Board made the following assignments:

Planning Board –	Cris Blackstone
	Stephan McMahon (Alternate)
ZBA Liaison -	Patricia Fuller
Recreation Commission	A. Pete Shibley
Downtown Revitalization Committee –	A. Pete Shibley
Conservation Commission -	Alan Sherwood
Household Hazardous Waste -	Alan Sherwood
Budget Committee –	Stephan McMahon
	A. Pete Shibley (Alternate)
Coalition State Education Tax-	Patricia Fuller
Lakes Region Planning Commission-	Alan Sherwood
School Liaison -	Patricia Fuller

Note: Assignment to the Gilman Museum will be “on hold” until a future meeting

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Announcements

- A. Sherwood announced a Rabies Clinic would be held in Alton on April 22nd at the Central Fire Station beginning at 12:30pm, there is a \$10.00 fee.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

C. Blackstone reported that a Planning Board site inspection had been rescheduled

P. Fuller reported that a Judge has determined that the 2005 law is not constitutional with regards to education funding. The State legislature will be voting on this again this week with regards to a constitutional amendment. P. Shibley suggested sending a letter to our senators to support the present amendment, rather than having this matter go before the court. By unanimous vote it was agreed to send the letter to the Senator President and Senator Boyce and have it signed by the new Board Chairman.

P. Shibley reported that the Downtown Revitalization Committee had a successful fundraiser event at the elections. An Afghan and quilt will be raffled this coming August. They are requesting permission for other items to be raffled, to be discussed at this meeting in New Business. P. Shibley continued deck work is ongoing at the B&M R.R. Park.

A. Sherwood stated he had attended a Household Hazardous Meeting last Thursday. He also presented a yearly report for the members to review.

Town Administrator Report and Verbal Updates

R. Bailey noted the grant application has been prepared for Jesus Valley Road, A. Sherwood motioned to have the Town Administrator sign the application for grant assistance, seconded by P. Shibley and passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey continued the Police Department has two vehicles that are not longer in service and these could go out to bid, they include a 1981 Ford 150 Pickup and a 1997 Ford sedan. The Board agreed to go out to bid on these vehicles. R. Bailey will check on the value. A. Sherwood motioned to have the Town Administrator advertise these vehicles for bid in conjunction with the Police Chief and to set the minimum value, seconded by P. Shibley and passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey noted the no parking signs at the Bay do not designate "no parking" for snowmobile trailers. The Board discussed available parking options including utilizing the westerly unpaved area across from the parking lot, more signs cluttering the bay, parallel parking paring on Route 11, etc. R. Bailey advised he will continue to review this matter and report back to the Board.

R. Bailey and the Board discussed the status of the Gilman Museum. R. Bailey advised he had received a legal opinion from the Town Attorney. At this time the Board would need to take a confirmatory vote on the status of the operation of the museum for the public record and future plans for the facility. It was agreed to utilize the museum as a Town facility and it will be under Town jurisdiction as used as a Town building for Town purposes as well as a museum. A. Sherwood voted to confirm the decision of the Board is to take direct operational control of the Gilman Museum and to disband the committee, seconded by P. Fuller for discussion. S. McMahon asked about the volunteers currently. R. Bailey advised there are two volunteers. S. McMahon was in agreement the Museum should be utilized. The motion passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey advised he will contact NH Dot about the deteriorating guardrails on Route 11.

RECESS AS BOARD OF SELECTMEN, CONVENE AS BOARD OF HEALTH

A. Sherwood motioned to recess as Board of Selectmen, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor.

Present: Thomas Varney, P.E.

The Board reviewed plans for a septic waiver for Map 22, Lot 31. T. Varney explained this was an upgrade to a seasonal cottage at Half-Moon Lake. The Board also reviewed the letter from the Health Officer. P. Shibley motioned to accept the waiver as proposed, seconded by P. Fuller, In a discussion it was noted the Health Officer had advised this was the best location for the septic system on this particular site. The motion passed with all in favor.

ADJOURN AS BOARD OF HEALTH, RECONVENE AS BOARD OF SELECTMEN

A. Sherwood motioned to adjourn as Board of Health and reconvene as Board of Selectmen, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

Public Input I

Daniel LaCroix asked when the Selectmen would be awarding the bid for the excavator. The Chairman advised this item would be discussed later on the agenda and noted the award will be conditional because of the recount petition.

Ruth Messier congratulated Stephan McMahon on his reelection and wished the Board members good luck in 2006. She suggested the Selectmen appoint a Town Historian. R. Messier asked about printing costs for the Ballot inserts, the Legal opinion on the Gilman Museum, the Noise Ordinance, and to consider businesses in Town with 24-hour ongoing traffic) and sending notices relating to all Boards and Committees and advise them about laws for posting meetings and filing minutes.

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Robert Longabaugh suggested waiting to purchase a camcorder and perhaps wait for the Christmas sales and he will bring this matter back before the Board in November. He provided an update on the sales of the DVDs and VCRs relative to the Deliberative Session. He continued that Candidate's Night was successful with an overflow audience, and stated the ballot inserts were very successful many voters used them when they came to the polls. He noted insert costs should be considered in the budget.

P. Shibley motioned to send a letter to *The Baysider* thanking them for the free advertisement, seconded by C. Blackstone.

At this point, the agenda was amended to discuss Item 4 in New Business with the Highway Agent. The Board reviewed the Ken Roberts' recommendation for a pick-up truck. Following their discussion, P. Shibley motioned to approve the bid of \$35,143.07 for the Dodge Ram pick-up according to the printout provided by the Highway Agent, seconded by C. Blackstone and passed.

K. Roberts presented his recommendation to award the bid to Milton Cat for the excavator, following a lengthy discussion and noting that the other bidders did not meet the specification requirements, and based upon the Board's discussion with the Highway Agent, P. Shibley made a motion to approve the \$162,181 pending a yes vote in the recount, and that the Highway Agent negotiate for the "thumb". S. McMahon seconded for discussion. C. Blackstone stated she would support the recommendation of the Highway Agent and the working relationship with the bidder. P. Fuller asked about bidders not putting in the information. S. McMahon noted the bids had certain specifications and were previously reviewed by the Board before the bids were sent out, and shouldn't have to go back out to bid. C. Blackstone stated she would support the Highway Agent, pending the outcome of the recount. The members also discussed reserve funds. K. Roberts advised he would report to the Board on the cost of the "thumb". The motion passed with all in favor.

R. Bailey noted that the Solid Waste Director would present his recommendation on the Loader bid at the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes

A. Sherwood noted there would be a correction on Page 2, para 1, the surplus amount should be \$2,029, 000.00 and on page 3, para 1, line 4, correct the word *violitile* to volatile. S. McMahon made a motion to approve the minutes of Public and Sealed Non-Public Session minutes of 3/6/06, seconded by A. Sherwood and passed with 1 abstention (PF)

Old Business

1. Transfer Station – R. Bailey reported he and Scott had met with the engineer and reviewed the status of the report that was filed with NH DES on future testing. He will discuss this matter further in non-public session. He continued that with the closing of Rines Road, the public will be allowed to bring brush to the cleared area at the Transfer Station., larger brush will be allowed, but no stumps. He will have more information on this and demolition materials for a future meeting of the Board. There is 20,000 in the capital reserve for the facility and the revolving fund has been approved. At the next meeting he will propose a permanent long term plan for the facility as it expands its operation, including the separation of demolition materials. He noted revenues could be received from some of these materials.

R. Bailey continued a dead bolt had been installed on the door and a new cabinet ordered. The security system would exceed 1400 for two buildings. He will bring this issue up at the next meeting. It was noted that the Rines Rd. Brush Pit Sign is still on Rte 28. R. Bailey advised this would be removed.

2. Elections – R. Bailey noted there is a request for a recount on the excavator which passed by 4 votes. On Article 38, he requested the Board's authorization to canvass voters of the community to request a recount. P. Fuller moved to approve this request, seconded by A. Sherwood and passed with all in favor. R. Bailey noted the school may be looking for a recount. The Board discussed dates for the recount and following this, all agreed it was best for Thursday at 4:30. R. Bailey expressed his appreciation to the voters. In reference to the General government budget, A. Sherwood discussed the Selectmen's salaries, noting in the fall the majority of the Selectman voted more than a 3 % increase. He then moved that the Board receive a 3% increase as part of the operating budget that was approved at Town Meeting, seconded by C. Blackstone for discussion, and passed with all in favor.
3. Noise Ordinance – R. Bailey asked if the Board favored a generic ordinance or one in more detail, and if the Board needed more information. K. Iwans stated he would appreciate a more generic ordinance, the Board agreed. R. Bailey noted a Public hearing would be necessary, and that he would present a draft ordinance for the next meeting.

4. Review of Business Roundtable Discussions – A. Sherwood suggested a small ad-hoc committee be organized. C. Blackstone agreed this would be to set goals and logistics. The Board reviewed times, and noted this meeting may take place after school vacation in April, S. McMahon stated he would sit on an ad-hoc committee to include the Moderator, town Administrator and perhaps Reuben Wentworth. P. Shibley noted the Lakes Region Association would send a representative. Everyone agreed with this concept and R. Bailey stated he would do a follow-up with S. McMahon. R. Bailey suggested using the Gilman Museum for meetings. The Board also discussed the “Welcome Wagon” idea package and to include Town Reports.

New Business

1. Cable TV Franchise Fee – R. Bailey noted Metro Cast Cablevision had submitted a check in the amount of \$33,012.30 to the Town and they sent a separate check in the amount of \$6,917.76 to the Lakes Region Public Access TV, Channel 26.

2. Downtown Revitalization Committee Raffle – R. Bailey noted the Committee is requesting permission to sell medallions at the Town Clerk's office, and to conduct raffles on July 3rd, Barbershoppers Weekend and in August for Old Home Days.

R. Bailey also noted the Historical Society would like permission to sell raffle Tickets on July 3rd. The Board unanimously granted permission as requested by the Downtown Revitalization Committee and the Alton Historical Society.

3. Vote on the recommendations of the Land use and Property Records Department
A. Sherwood read the recommendations of the Assessor as presented and motioned to sign the items accordingly, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

Public Input II

None

Non-Public Session –

At 8:00pm, A. Sherwood motioned to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A:3,11 (a) (b) (c), seconded by P. Fuller, the chairman polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed.

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Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary

Minutes Approved: April 3, 2006