

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
April 3, 2023
(Approved - May 9, 2023)

Chairman B. Mitchell convened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

B. Mitchell led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence. The following staff members were present:

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Brock Mitchell, Chairman
 Paul LaRochelle, Vice-Chairman
 Andrew Morse, Selectman
 Nicholas Buonopane, Selectman, Selectman
 Richard Shea, Selectmen
 Ryan Heath, Town Administrator

Agenda Approval

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and A. Morse 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 Alton Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office will be closed on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023 and Wednesday, April 19th, 2023 for a tax software update and staff training.

Reorganization of the Board

R. Shea made a motion to appoint B. Mitchell as Chairman and N. Buonopane seconded with all in favor of the motion.

B. Mitchell made a motion to appoint P. LaRochelle as Vice-Chairman and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

	2022	2023
Board of Selectmen, Chairman	Brock Mitchell	Brock Mitchell
Board of Selectmen, Vice Chairman	Paul LaRochelle	Paul LaRochelle
Budget Committee (Must vote the wishes of the Selectmen)	Reuben Wentworth Andrew Morse, Alternate	Richard Shea Andrew Morse, Alternate
Capital Improvement Program (CIP)	Andrew Morse	Andrew Morse
Conservation Commission	Reuben Wentworth	Brock Mitchell
Cyanobacteria Mitigation Steering Committee (CMSC)	Reuben Wentworth	Paul LaRochelle
Facility Committee	Brock Mitchell Paul LaRochelle, Alternate	Brock Mitchell Paul LaRochelle, Alternate
Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)	Bob Holt	Richard Shea
Master Plan Committee	Paul LaRochelle Brock Mitchell, Alternate	Paul LaRochelle Nick Buonopane

Milfoil Committee	Bob Holt	Brock Mitchell
Old Home Week Committee	Bob Holt	Nick Buonopane
Parks & Recreation Commission	Brock Mitchell	Andrew Morse
Planning Board	Brock Mitchell Bob Holt, Alternate	Nick Buonopane Andrew Morse, Alternate
Water Bandstand Committee	Reuben Wentworth	Paul LaRochelle
Zoning & Ordinance Committee (ZAC)	Paul LaRochelle Bob Holt, Alternate	Nick Buonopane Richard Shea, Alternate
Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA)	Paul LaRochelle	Paul LaRochelle

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

None

Appointments

John Delsignore - Standard Power of America

John Delsignore and Ryan Polson from Standard Power of America approached the table. R. Polson explained that they have been an energy consultant in Nashua since 2010. He explained that Eversource introduced a kill bill to do away with this program. It gives the residents of a community to be given a variety of options to lower or increase the amount of renewable power in their electric bill. R. Polson explained how the program works. R. Heath interrupted and explained that there is a full agenda tonight and this needs to be wrapped up.

New Business

1. Water Department - NHDES-2023 Grant

C. Mitchell, Water Superintendent approached the table. She explained that the Water Department is looking into a 100% match grant for the Asset Management Program. It will be 100% funded. The total grant would be for \$88,800.00. The Water Department should not need to put any of their funds into it. Dana from Tighe and Bond explained that the Water Department would get complete mapping, all digitized, and that information on tablets. It also puts it on GIS. N. Buonopane asked if there is going to be a monthly or yearly fee. Dana stated not for this particular program.

P. LaRochelle made a motion to accept the terms of the 2023 Asset Management planning grant as presented in the amount of \$88,800.00 furthermore the Board acknowledges that the total cost of this project will be \$88,800.00 in which the Town will be responsible for 0% match and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign all documents related to the grant and N. Buonopane seconded with all in favor of the motion.

2. Alton Youth League - Jones Field Dugouts

K. Senter from Alton Youth League approached the table. She stated that AYL is seeking permission to build two 6x18 dug out buildings in replica of those found in Little Fenway. The approval has already been given by the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Public Works Department, and Building Inspector. The material that has not already been purchased will be paid for by AYL. The construction of the buildings will be completed through volunteer work. They will be utilized by youth but will belong to the Town of Alton.

N. Buonopane made a motion to allow them to build the dug outs that they want to build in Jones Field as presented and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

3. Road Acceptance - Ridge Road

R. Heath stated that this is before the Board tonight to get the consensus of the Board to schedule a Public Hearing for the acceptance of Ridge Road. This has gone out for legal review. The petitioners have met all the obligations so far.

It is the consensus of the Board to hold a public hearing.

4. IT Department - Capital Reserve Purchase

R. Heath stated that J. Monaco could not be here tonight. He explained that this proposal is for upgrades to older units. Currently there is approximately \$49,500.00 in the Capital Reserve.

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the IT Director to spend \$26,543.26 from the Capital Reserve for the CRF equipment expense and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

5. Fire Department - Forestry Truck Upgrade

P. O'Brien and J. Beaudoin, Fire Chief approached the table. P. O'Brien explained that the proposal in front of them is to replace the pump on the Forestry Truck. He explained all of the upgrades made to the truck in 2018. The pump was not replaced. It is 22 years old and they are unable to secure parts for it.

N. Buonopane made a motion to appropriate the funds of \$9,666.00 to get the pump needed for the truck and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

6. Fire Department - Aerial Ladder Truck Purchase

P. O'Brien and J. Beaudoin remained at the table. P. LaRochelle asked how the current ladder truck is doing. P. O'Brien stated that it is doing okay. Discussion ensued about some of the issues with the current ladder truck. P. LaRochelle asked if they were here tonight to ask for the beginning of a build. P. O'Brien stated yes. J. Beaudoin stated that it would be about a three-year build. P. LaRochelle stated that he is concerned with the possibility is saving money for a new facility for the Fire Department. He asked if there was any way that it can be extended out another year. J. Beaudoin stated that this is probably not the truck to extend out. There are other vehicles that would make more sense to extend out. The price is increasing incredibly fast. R. Shea asked what the payment schedule would be. J. Beaudoin stated that it is payment on delivery. P. O'Brien stated that if this is not approved tonight that there is a good chance that the price will go up with quarter 2.

N. Buonopane made a motion to allow the Town Administrator to sign the contract in the amount of \$1,518,060.00 for the purchase of a new ladder truck with an estimated arrival date in three years and R. Shea seconded. N. Buonopane stated that he does like the idea that it is paid on delivery and can be cancelled at any time. The vote was called with 2 in favor and 3 nays (BM, AM, PL) and the motion failed.

P. O'Brien asked what year the Board would like this moved to. It was the consensus of the Board to look at it next year.

Old Business

1. Fire Department - Ambulance Price Increase

P. O'Brien and J. Beaudoin remained at the table. P. O'Brien stated that when the purchase documents were ready to be signed that there was an increase in the price. They went back to their spec and eliminated a sum of money for what are items they could potentially do without. They came to an agreement and no additional funding is needed.

2. Public Works Department - Waterfront Sidewalk Update

S. Kinmond, Public Works Director approached the table. He stated that he has been working with the crew. He feels very confident with the current contractors. He stated that they will be closing the sidewalks at the bay. He stated that this is part of a big project.

3. Public Works Department - Solid Waste Center Recycling Building Award

S. Kinmond remained at the table. He stated that the project was put out for RFP and only one came back. The money would come from the Recycling Revolving Account. He explained that the amount of \$122,637.94 will be reimbursed from the insurance company.

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve Triple Construction LLC of Hudson, NH to construct the Solid Waste Facility Recycling Building for the sum of \$149,828.00 with \$122,190.06 coming from insurance reimbursement and the remaining balance of \$27,637.94 coming from the Recycling Revolving Account and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

4. Short Term Rental Draft Permit Discussion

J. Call, Town Planner, approached the table. R. Heath stated that what is in the binder is here for the new Board members to look at. A workshop needs to be schedule to go over all of the details. J. Call stated that they have been working on an ordinance for approximately two years. It was determined to set up a one-night workshop.

5. Completed Master Plan

J. Call remained at the table. She handed out a copy of the completed Master Plan to each Board member.

Selectmen Reports

R. Shea had nothing to report.

N. Buonopane had nothing to report.

A. Morse had nothing to report.

P. LaRochelle had nothing to report.

B. Mitchell stated that he would like to formally welcome both of the new Selectmen and thank Bob Holt and Reuben Wentworth for the years of service. Everyone appreciates them.

Town Administrator Report

R. Heath stated that there is a court decision from the Board of Tax and Land Appeals. This just came down and is an official court order regarding the resolution of a case brought on the Town by DRA. He gave the Board a brief explanation of the suit. B. Mitchell stated that this is a conflict of interest for him and he is formally recusing himself.

R. Heath stated that he provided the Board with breakdown of the Tax Rate Process. He explained why there were so many questions this year.

R. Heath stated that he wanted to bring up to the Board was the procurement policy. Last year there were issues with bids. He would like to change the single purchases and bulk purchase to \$30,000.00 for bids.

B. Mitchell made a motion to change the procurement policy to \$30,000.00 any single or bulk purchase to go out to bid for \$30,000.00 or more anything under \$30,000.00 solicitation of quotes would be accepted and N. Buonopane seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Approval of Minute

- March 6, 2023 Public Session

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the minutes of March 6, 2023 Public Session and B. Mitchell seconded with 3 in favor and 2 abstentions (RS, NB)

- March 6, 2023 Non-Public Session

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes of March 6, 2023 Non-Public Session releasing #1 and A. Morse seconded with 3 in favor and 2 abstentions (RS, NB)

Consent Agenda Approval

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for April 3, 2023 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Land Use Items - approval

2021 BTLA Appeal Settlements

Stannard; Map 75 Lots 52/53/54; 34 & L/O Rattlesnake Island; \$2,133.95
Liebel/Thornton; Map 44 Lot 35; L/O Black Point Road; \$352.63

Military Credit Applications

Conrad; Map 28 Lot 11; 7 Church Street; Total Military Exemption
Machione; Map 9 Lot 62; 103 New Durham Road; \$750

2023 Charitable Property Tax Exemption Acknowledgement(s)

American Legion Post 72; Map 8 Lot 46 & Map 29 Lot 82; 164 Wolfeboro Hwy & Monument Square; Continuing Exemption

Timber Tax

Kania; Map 9 Lot 32; New Durham Road; \$72.61

MS-232 Appropriations - Approval

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*)

L. Carr approached the table. He went through several pages of the Town Report. He asked if anyone looked at the report. He would like to see the report that the Public Works Director referenced. He asked why there is no Selectmen's Report. He is concerned how the Fire Truck was presented.

B. Holt approached the table. He understands about the bid process. It is a safety valve. The sound system isn't good.

P. O'Brien approached the table. He stated that the general public doesn't get the same information that the Board does. He explained some of the items discussed.

C. Mitchell approached the table. She asked everyone to look around the room and see the amount of people who volunteer their time. The numbers are dwindling. The goal is to do what is right for the Town of Alton.

Non-Public Session

None

Adjournment

P. LaRochelle moved at 8:58 pm to adjourn. B. Mitchell seconded. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy L. Bailey
Recording Secretary