

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2009
Public Session I
ALTON TOWN HALL

The Selectmen's Meeting convened at 6:00pm with Chairman McMahon presiding. Those present included the following members of the Board and staff:

Stephan McMahon, Selectman
Peter Bolster, Vice-Chair
Patricia Fuller, Selectman
R. Loring Carr, Selectman
David Hussey, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey

S. McMahon led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was amended in New Business, that Item #1 be split with some appointments to be reviewed in Non-Public Session, to add Map 12, Lot 95 to Item #2., and to also add #6 - Annual Cleanup for Discussion, and Item #7 – Alarm Ordinance. P. Fuller motioned to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.

Appointment

Attorney Melissa Gulbrandsen met with the Board regarding a Conservation Easement and presented them a map of the area in proximity of Gilman's Pond and the tax map. M. Gulbrandsen and the Board discussed a proposed subdivision, but she noted that she wanted to bring this matter to the Selectmen's attention, the Conservation Commission will also be reviewing the matter. Also discussed was how the proposal would affect Town owned land, land and forest management, crossing wetlands, logging impact, development rights, permits etc. No decision was made.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

David Hussey – D. Hussey reported that the Planning Board is working on various "housekeeping items" and they will have more on their agenda this week.

Peter Bolster – P. Bolster noted the Downtown Revitalization Committee will meet this week, and they are working on the final details to move the station. The School Buildings and Grounds Committee are pressing forward with the mandate concerning reconstruction issues at the Alton Central School. He was not able to attend the Conservation Commission meeting. He continued the legislators are continuing to work on the state budget.

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Patricia Fuller – P. Fuller noted the Homestead Act came up before the House, action was tabled but this could come back to them before the end of the term. She advised the ZBA had met and she is planning to attend the Fire Department meeting in the coming week.

P. Bolster added if the Homestead Act had passed there could have been some exemptions and raising of taxes. P. Fuller noted she would not want Alton to be a donor Town.

Loring Carr – L. Carr advised he had attended the Parks and Recreation Commission. They discussed various programs to include football. Other matters brought up were, vandalism, renting New Durham athletic fields, touch-a truck, and fundraisers including the NH Fisher Cats. He reported the Budget Committee is reviewing legal costs, and asking about a contract for the Attorney, and an employee manual and looking into petition articles concerning the default budget.

Stephan McMahon – S. McMahon noted when persons want to speak they need to be recognized by the Chairman otherwise it is too confusing with conversations overlapping each other. He continued that he had attended the Household Hazardous Waste meeting. Discussion included collections for 2009, including disposal of medicines. He would provide more information on the collection dates at a future meeting.

L. Carr asked about keeping Town committee's draft minutes in the Selectmen's Office for members to review either in a box or folder. It was noted draft minutes are also available in the Town Clerk's office, but the Board agreed that draft minutes could also be kept on the Selectmen's desk. R. Bailey will notify the various boards, committees, trustees, and commissions.

Town Administrator Report and Updates

R. Bailey and the Board briefly discussed the 2010 census and the assistance necessary from the Town and staff. In a discussion it was noted they try to sign up local people, but no action on assignments or advertising was needed yet. He will come back with more information for the Board. He noted the Alton Central School has requested permission to display and art exhibit from May 8th – June 5th. The Board approved the request for this annual event. R. Bailey continued that the Fire Department wants to auction off equipment, but that it would be up to the Board to establish a beginning bid price. S. McMahon motioned to have a first time starting bid of \$1000 for the fire pumper truck and the other equipment would have a \$500 starting bid, and only to lower the beginning bids if there was no interest, seconded by P. Fuller, in a discussion it asked why the pumper truck will be auctioned R. Bailey will review this with the Chief. It was also noted the engines in this particular equipment alone, could be worth \$500. The motion passed with all in favor.

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R. Bailey noted the sidewalks need work in the downtown area, there are funds available, he will meet with Ken Roberts and Kellie Troendle and come back to the Board with a proposal on their recommendations and the costs. He is hoping to get any work completed prior to Memorial Day.

R. Bailey advised the Board that the Loon Cove R.R. Station will be moved on Sunday, April 26th and that Route 11 will be closed for two hours. He will present details at the Board's next meeting.

Public Input I

The Chairman recognized Kenneth Demillas and Charles Phillips residents of Locke Corner Road. They asked for changes in road maintenance, noting that their road is in deplorable condition. The Board asked R. Bailey to view the road and meet with the Highway Agent and report back to them.

Approval of the Minutes

Public Session I and II and (sealed) Minutes of 3-16-09. L. Carr motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.

Old Business

1. Old Bay Fire Station Bid - The Board voted unanimously to award the bid to the lowest bidder as recommended; Englewood Construction of Manchester NH in the amount of \$16,900.
2. FEMA Funds – Ice Storm – R. Bailey noted the Town has received a check in the amount of \$37,584.89 to be deposited in the general fund. P. Fuller moved to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the documentation certifying that the project is complete and will be audited, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.
3. Twombly Property - L. Carr asked if the Board will make a commitment to the Twombly Property, or not and perhaps have experienced persons come in to examine the property. Following a discussion, P. Bolster motioned that the Town not continue with this matter until after the 2010 March Town Meeting, seconded by D. Hussey and give the school one more year. After further discussion, P. Bolster amended his motion to state that the “Town Back out” seconded by D. Hussey and the motion passed 4-1(LC)

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1. Committee Appointments – R. Bailey noted the Board will need representation to the Lakes Region Planning Commission. S. McMahon stated he would volunteer as the Board's representative. P. Fuller motioned to appoint S. McMahon as their representative to L.R.P.C. L. Carr asked about his representation to the Parks & Recreation Commission. P. Bolster asked if he should have resigned. P. Fuller motioned to make Loring Carr a member as well as liaison of the Parks & Recreation Commission, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.
2. Vote to Approve Recommendations of Land Use Items – S. McMahon noted this included Map 12, Lot 95, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.

At this point, R. Bailey presented the Board with a memo from Thomas Sargent, the Town Assessor, asking that he be granted permission to approve the Notices of Intent once they are signed off by the Town Forester, prior to coming to the Board for signatures. Following a discussion, D. Hussey moved to give the Town Assessor permission to inspect and sign the notices and then bring them to the Board, seconded by P. Fuller and passed.

3. Farmers Market Request – R. Bailey noted this request was to set up a farmer's market next to Pop's Clam Shell from June – October 2009. P. Bolster motioned to approve the request, seconded by P. Fuller in a discussion it was noted the vegetables and fruits would be from his farm and the corn though not his, is New Hampshire grown. The motion passed with all in favor.
4. Highway Safety Enforcement Grant - Present, Philip Smith, Police Chief – The Board members and Chief Smith reviewed the grant. Following a discussion, the Board voted unanimously that the Town Administrator and Stephan McMahon sign the document as written.
5. Preservation Easement - The Board reviewed the preservation relative to the amendment on the Chamberlain property. P. Bolster mover to sign the easement but that it would not be released until the owner also signed, seconded by P. Fuller and passed with all in favor.
6. Knox Box Ordinance and Lighting – The Board reviewed the documents as submitted by the Fire Chief. P. Fuller moved to approve amending the ordinance to allow white strobe lights as proposed, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.

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6. Town Clean-up – The Board discussed the possibility of a Town Wide Clean-up date. Following a discussion that included when this event could take place, perhaps involving local business men, the costs, if this was something that should be outsourced or using Town staff and equipment, and how this would be a benefit to citizens. The consensus was to move forward with this suggestion. R. Bailey advised he would pursue this matter and come back to the Board with a plan and costs involved.

Public Input II

P. Bolster advised he had a citation from the House acknowledging Claire Fitzgerald's tenure as a Site Manager at the Senior Center and Levey Park.

Non-Public Session

At 8:30pm S. McMahon motioned to enter non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A;3, II (a) (c) and (e), the motion was seconded and the Chairman polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood

Minutes Approved: _April 23, 2009
Alton Board of Selectmen