

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
April 17, 2023
6:00 PM
(Approved - May 23, 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

B. Mitchell stated he would like to amend the agenda to add restructuring discussion and to change the meeting dates and P. LaRochelle 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.

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

None

Appointments

None

New Business

B. Mitchell stated that he has reasons to make a motion to make P. LaRochelle the Chairman and he would be the Vice Chair.

B. Mitchell made a motion to restructure the Board with P. LaRochelle as Chair and B. Mitchell as Vice Chair and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

1. DPW- G & M Vehicle Replacement

S. Kinmond approached the table. He stated that the Grounds & Maintenance Department under Public Works has been under staffed. Now they are currently fully staffed and that includes Cemetery as well. There was a vehicle that had been used by Grounds & Maintenance. The 2008 rack body pickup truck had been sidelined because they didn't have anyone to operate it. It came up for inspection last year and failed. It is too far gone body wise as well. He reached out to one of the State bidders which is Grappone Ford. The new vehicles would be allocated to Highway and one or three years would be handed down to the other divisions. The truck that was purchase a year ago would go to Grounds & Maintenance. There are funds in the Grounds & Maintenance budget that would cover the purchase of the vehicle. Discussion ensued as to what vehicles that will need to be replaced.

R. Shea made a motion to allow the Public Works Director to place a purchase order with Grappone Ford for a 2022 Ford F350 Pick-Up using funds from the Grounds & Maintenance Vehicle/ Equipment Capital Reserve and additionally to use \$18,000.00 from the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund to outfit the truck with a plow, sander, and other equipment and to dispose of the existing older truck by direct sale or trade in and N. Buonopane seconded with all in favor.

Old Business

1. Condemnation - Torelli Terrace Map 33 Lot 26B

R. Heath stated that this building has been a hazard to the area for a while. It is on one lot with about four or five residents. There is no Home Owners Association. This property within 15 feet of residents nearby. The Town had taken action years back and started working towards the court process. The homeowners had come in and applied for a building permit. The only thing that was done was they took down a tree. Since then the floor has collapsed. The roof in the middle has collapsed. The first time it was pursued there was a noticing issue. The owners of this property are out of state residents. They can't just be served the regular certified letter. It has to go through the Secretary of State's office. The Code Official has revived the process with new counsel. The letter presented is what approval is being sought. It will then be served properly and then if the home owners do not take action then the Town will take this property down and demolish the house and lien it.

N. Buonopane made a motion to serve the people with the letter put forth by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Selectmen Reports

R. Shea had nothing to report.

N. Buonopane had nothing to report.

A. Morse had nothing to report.

B. Mitchell stated that he would like to entertain a motion to change the meetings to Tuesday nights.

B. Mitchell made a motion to move the Selectmen's meeting to Tuesday's at 6:00 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

B. Mitchell asked S. Kinmond to approach the table and give an update of the sidewalks in the bay. S. Kinmond stated that all of the curb is in and finished up late today. They have graded everything up to the boat ramp. He explained some of the work that has been done to the sidewalks. Discussion ensued about some of the things that still need to be done.

P. LaRochelle had nothing to report.

Town Administrator Report

R. Heath stated that the first thing to report is scheduling a work session on the Short Term Rental discussion. He stated that the next available day is May 2. It was discussed that would be the date of their next regular meeting. P. LaRochelle asked if May 3 would be good. T. Bamford is available on May 2. Discussion ensued about other dates that would be good. He will get back to the Board with a date that will work everyone.

R. Heath stated that there are a few Zoning Regulation concerns in the area of Main Street that the Building Department have been dealing with. There was concerns with a road put in across from the hardware store with some rentals on it and equipment going up over sidewalks. The Code Official has been dealing with both concerns.

R. Heath stated that he was contacted by a resident off of Route 11 towards the Owl's Nest. The resident would like to spear head a conversation with NH DOT about reducing the speed limit in the straight away by the Owl's Nest going to the Town line. He asked the Board if they would like him to draft a letter. It was the consensus of the Board to write a letter.

R. Heath state that all three of the EMPG Grants have been signed and executed.

R. Heath stated that there was a proposal put out on the table. He had a meeting with Two-Way Communications with the Fire Chief, Deputy Public Works Director, Public Works Director, and Police Chief. They discussed the Warrant Article that was voted in in reference to Local Radio Communications. The meeting was to discuss an entire overhaul of the Town network system. The proposal included a backup on Jude Hill Road which does not have a tower. The proposal was for \$159,343.00. It is almost \$60,000.00 over what was approved through the Warrant Article. He went back to the company and told them there wasn't funding for that now but do need some improvements to get there. A phased plan was discussed. Without the second back up the proposal comes to about \$107,000.00. \$7,000.00 over what was approved. The Police Department had money in one of his lines to cover that.

N. Buonopane made a motion to appropriate the Motorola quote of \$27,897.83 and the Phase I of \$78,813.46 the remaining overage coming from the Police Department and Emergency Management and B. Mitchell seconded with all in favor of the motion.

R. Heath stated that the last thing that he had was the signage that was previously discussed for Old Wolfeboro Road. He gave a brief synopsis for the new members. B. Mitchell stated that you could restrict by weight limit. Discussion ensued about the weights of different trucks. R. Heath stated that his recommendation would be to leave it alone for now. It was the consensus of the Board to follow the Town Administrator's recommendation.

Approval of Minutes

None

Consent Agenda Approval

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for April 17, 2023 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

1. **Land Use Items - approval**

2022 Administrative Abatements

Beaulieu; Map 33 Lot 77-25; 25 Viewland Court; \$141
Beaulieu; Map 33 Lot 77-44; 44 Viewland Court; \$116.16
Pinkham; Map 3 Lot 29; 232 Africa Road; \$470
Fairwinds Realty Trust; Map 44 Lots 55, 52-2 & 52-3; \$2,289

Elderly Exemption Application

Fitzgerald; Map 9 Lot 57-1; 50 New Durham Road; 80+ Elderly Exemption

Current Use Application

Ludwig; Map 14 Lot 5-1 & 5-2; 105 Jesus Valley Road; Current Use Assessment

Timber Tax

NH Dept. of Fish & Game; Map 12 Lot 95; Powder Mill Road; \$4,175.31

Land Use Change Tax

Buck; Map 3 Lot 4-5; L/O Prospect Mountain Road; \$380

2023 Whitney Consulting Assessing Services Contract

2. **Fire Department**

Riley Gavett, New Hire, Firefighter, Part Time, \$18.32/hr

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 asked if the plan was still to have the large table on the stage. He asked the Board to try it out as a temporary thing.

Non-Public Session

None

Adjournment

B. Mitchell moved at 7:44 pm to adjourn and N. Buonopane seconded. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy L. Bailey
Recording Secretary