

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
June 15, 2020
Approved – June 29, 2020

Convene: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence

R. Wentworth announced:

Until further notice: To keep our members and staff safe, and to comply with RSA 91-A, the State of Emergency, and Governor's Orders, restrictions on public gatherings, The Town of Alton is moving from "in-person" meetings to "remote audio participation meetings". To remotely attend the meeting (audio only) visit our website: www.alton.nh.gov for telephone access and remote access instructions listed under News and Announcements on the home page or telephone the Selectmen's Office 603-875-2113 or 603-875-0229 between 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM for the Dial-in Code and Meeting ID for each Selectmen's Meeting. There continues to be no Public Input at this time. If you wish to have something read into the record, please call the Selectmen's Office at 603-875-2113 or 603-875-0229 or email the Selectmen at selectmen@alton.nh.gov, or mail a letter to the Board of Selectmen at PO Box 659, Alton, NH 03809. Your comments, questions or concerns will be read at the next available meeting and answered at that meeting or the next available meeting.

Agenda Approval

P. LaRochelle requested to amend the agenda adding Town Beach as #8 under New Business and V. MacDonald motion to approve the agenda as amended and P. Wittmann seconded. Roll call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes	R. Wentworth, yes	

Announcements

Submission of Public Comments - Questions - Concerns

1. Email - Conrad and Anne Newton - Seasonal Water Bill

R. Wentworth stated that there are three emails, one arriving today, that he would like to go for legal opinion before they respond next week. V. MacDonald asked if one was in reference to the water bills. R. Wentworth stated that they all are in reference to the water bills with one threatening a lawsuit. V. MacDonald asked if it could be a written response from the Town Attorney. B. Holt stated that he would like the attorney to get a copy of the bill that the residents received. R. Wentworth polled the board for a consensus and all were in favor.

Appointments:

None

New Business:

1. Special Event Application - East Alton Fire Association

V. MacDonald stated that it is just a parade down in Roberts Cove. B. Holt stated that the Emergency Team didn't seem to have a problem with it.

V. MacDonald made a motion to approve the Special Event Application for the East Alton Fire Association and B. Holt seconded. Roll Call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes	R. Wentworth, yes	

2. Fire Department - Security Window Installation - Central Fire Station

R. Wentworth stated that the Fire Chief would like to install a security window so that they would not need to let the public into the building. J. Beaudoin, Fire Chief, joined the meeting remotely by telephone. He stated that during the pandemic they had to close the door to the fire station in order to stop the foot traffic from coming in. He explained how they would like to install the security window. P. LaRochelle asked if it was just cutting in the window and not doing any reconstructing of anything. J. Beaudoin stated that it would just be removing some bricks and installing the window. V. MacDonald asked if this would be built with emergency funds. J. Beaudoin stated that they are hoping to have FEMA funds reimburse for it. B. Holt asked if he was going to go out for quotes. J. Beaudoin stated that he believes that it would be under \$5,000.00 but over \$2,500.00 so it wouldn't have to go out to bid just get quotes.

V. MacDonald made a motion to approve the Chief to get quotes to install a security window at the Central Fire Station and P. LaRochelle seconded. Roll call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes	R. Wentworth, yes	

3. Grounds and Maintenance Department - Deck Extension for HVAC Units

K. Troendle, Parks and Recreation Director, joined the meeting remotely by telephone. R. Wentworth went through the list of things that need to be done to the outside air conditioning unit deck. K. Troendle stated that she was given a work order to complete several items at Town Hall and one of the items was installing lattice around the outside HVAC units. The directions were that it needed to be several feet out for air circulation and a door for access. The Grounds and Maintenance staff came up with an estimate and plan extending the current deck out. V. MacDonald asked if it would be worth putting tubes in front of the existing structure. K. Troendle stated that the plan did include three cinder blocks. V. MacDonald stated that the blocks will move with the frost. K. Troendle that is why the plan went before the board so that they could look it over and let her know what they think. P. LaRochelle stated that the plan has enough material for two decks. R. Wentworth asked if it was going to block the window to the Town Clerks office. K. Troendle stated that there was concern that it would be blocking the windows at least half way if not all the way. R. Wentworth made a suggestion that P. LaRochelle look at it and come back in two weeks with a material list and meet with the Grounds & Maintenance people if he has time. K. Troendle stated that would be fine. Several suggestions were made. It was decided to table this matter for two weeks until everyone involved could look into it.

4. Highway Department - 2009 International 10-Wheel Dump Truck Rebuild

K. Roberts, Highway Manager, joined the meeting remotely by telephone. He explained that they looked at a couple of case scenarios when it comes to the repair. Hopefully it is just the lower case bearings. Without looking at it the mechanic just doesn't know. He stated that it could possibly come out of the emergency maintenance account. R. Wentworth asked if this is the truck with the weak frame. K. Roberts stated it does when it was first bought it was rolled. R. Wentworth asked how the body of the truck was. K. Roberts stated it is good it is all fiberglass. There is some rust. R. Wentworth asked if it was to be traded in what the worth would be before the engine went. K. Roberts stated it would have been about \$20,000.00 for trade in. R. Wentworth asked if the board were to say no is there still two other trucks. K. Roberts stated there is. K. Roberts stated that they still have the old #6 for trade in that could cover a portion not completely. R. Wentworth asked if it would be better investment for the taxpayers to take the loses keep the trade in truck to get us through the winter and wait until next year and buy a new 10-wheeler next year. V. MacDonald asked if the \$40,000.00 were put into the truck can we get 5 years out of it. K. Roberts stated that there was no guarantee. He stated the mechanic said 3-5 years. He stated that with the other things on the agenda tonight there should be about \$180,000.00 left in the Equipment Capital Reserve. His suggestion would be to order the chassis at this time. It may come in early. Then the truck would be back on the road in the middle of next summer rather than waiting until next fall. P. LaRochelle asked how much older truck #6 is. K. Roberts stated that it is the last Mac that he has. Discussion ensued about truck #6. B. Holt stated that without seeing a condition report on that truck there may be a lot more wrong with it. He can't see spending that kind of money for 1 year or 3 years. P. LaRochelle stated that the repairs should not be done as it is too much of a gamble.

R. Wentworth made a motion to deny the 2009 International 10-Wheel Dump Truck Rebuild and seconded by B. Holt. Roll Call vote:

B. Holt, yes P. LaRochelle, yes P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes R. Wentworth, yes

R. Wentworth stated that he would like K. Roberts to put together the specs for the cab and chassis only for a new 10-Wheel Truck. Hopefully outfit it in the spring.

B. Holt made a motion to have K. Roberts bring the specs for the cab and chassis only back to the board for approval and R. Wentworth seconded. Roll Call vote:

B. Holt, yes P. LaRochelle, yes P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes R. Wentworth, yes

5. Highway Department - Recommended Tree Bid Specifications - Road Reconstruction

K. Roberts remained on the line. He stated that this road will be done very shortly. He gave the board an update of the Road Reconstruction. R. Wentworth asked how the Road Reconstruction was holding out so far. K. Roberts said he did not have a breakdown but could have it for the next meeting. B. Holt stated that the bid list looks pretty good. He asked for a time completion. K. Roberts stated that they cannot set those.

P. Wittmann made a motion to approve the bids specifications for Tree Removal on Range Road and seconded by R. Wentworth. Roll Call vote:

B. Holt, yes P. LaRochelle, yes P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes R. Wentworth, yes

6. Highway Department - Recommended One-Ton Truck Bid Specifications

K. Roberts remained on the line. He explained that this is the One-Ton that was approved at Town Meeting. He stated that they are trying to get under the Fleet Program under Dodge. It would be a considerable discount. He is hoping to be in the Fleet Program. B. Holt said that the specs don't have any specs for the dump body. K. Roberts stated that they are pretty standard. He stated that the old truck should be sold outright and not traded in. The value is higher and it will go back to the general fund and the taxpayers will benefit.

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the bid specs for the One-Ton Truck and seconded by P. LaRochelle. Roll Call vote:

B. Holt, yes P. LaRochelle, yes P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes R. Wentworth, yes

7. Highway Department - Recommended One-Ton Truck, Plow Package Bid Specifications

K. Roberts remained on the line. R. Wentworth asked the board if they had any questions on the plow package. B. Holt asked if the town has all Fisher plows. K. Roberts stated that now they do.

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the bid specs for the One-Ton Truck Plow Package and seconded by P. Wittmann.

B. Holt, yes P. LaRochelle, yes P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes R. Wentworth, yes

R. Wentworth brought up the change order for GMI. K. Roberts stated that it has already been done and explained what was done. V. MacDonald asked what size stone was put in. K. Roberts stated that he believes it is 6-12. He stated that this is work that is already 90% complete.

Internet connection was lost at this point and meeting was recessed at 6:50 pm.

Meeting was reconvened at 6:58 pm.

K. Roberts was back on the line. He answered questions in reference to the Harmony Park wall. B. Holt asked about the stone V. MacDonald referred to at several meetings. K. Roberts stated that they used that stone because they had to lift the wall due to the ledge. They had to do the whole wall that way.

8. Town Beach - Harmony Park

P. LaRochelle stated that he was looking at the Town Beach and the people trying to manipulate around the stones. He asked if the dirt bag could be removed. K. Roberts stated that he called the company and they are backed up. He stated that he could go back down with his crew. He said they can clean it up and get it done. P. LaRochelle stated that he would like it done and cleaned up before the weekend. R. Wentworth stated before the weekend or the 4th of July. P. LaRochelle said he would like it to be done as soon as possible. B. Holt feels that is part of the project for GMI and they should replace the sand. R. Wentworth reminded the board that they are the ones that put a stop order on the work that was being done. Discussion ensued. P. LaRochelle asked K. Roberts how much time would be needed for this to be done. K. Roberts stated that with the authorization of the board it could be done in a day.

V. MacDonald made a motion that the Highway Department go and restore the condition of the Town Beach and add sand if it needs to be added to make it decent for the people and P. LaRochelle seconded. R. Wentworth added to the motion with removing the rocks and it was seconded by P. LaRochelle.

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes	R. Wentworth, yes	

Old Business:

Selectmen Reports

B. Holt stated that at the last Emergency Management meeting they were waiting for the Governor's 3:00 pm announcement. The Milfoil Committee will be meeting tomorrow at Pearson Road at 2:00 pm outdoors. He stated that he would not be able to go.

P. LaRochelle stated that the boat ramp was inspected by him and K. Roberts. P. LaRochelle dove in with a snorkel. Went down to the end of the ramp. It drops off anywhere from 18-22 inches. That is where the problem is. There are some large boulders. We have another 8-10 feet to work with. K. Roberts was still on the line and joined the conversation. He explained the concrete work that could be completed. He called Winnepesaukee Marine about what could be done. R. Wentworth asked if it would require a Wetlands Permit. K. Roberts stated that it would. It would be about \$1,600.00 for the permit and \$400.00 with the State. K. Roberts stated he would provide the quotes. P. LaRochelle stated that he took pictures and would try and have them for the next meeting. R. Wentworth stated that the Town Administrator would need to find out where the funds would come from for the permits and materials. He asked if there is a way to put a sign that damage could be caused at the ramp. K. Roberts stated that he had a meeting with the State and they are going to be moving in approximately July 13 at the Fish and Game docks. They are looking at a 1 ½ year for completion. K. Roberts said he would put a sign in the corner of the walls on both sides. Discussion ensued about other options for boat ramps. P. LaRochelle stated that the Ski Show has a tentative date of August 22 with a rain date of August 23 if everything is a go with the Emergency Team. He stated that a plan needs to be formed for Bay Hill Road. The traffic is getting faster coming down the hill. He doesn't believe the Noise Ordinance is being enforced. The exhausts on cars are loud. That is all you hear going up the hill and coming down. R. Wentworth suggested a speed study be done. It is the consensus of the Board to have the Town Administrator send a letter to the Police Chief asking him to start looking at the speeds on Bay Hill Road and other Town roads. P. LaRochelle wanted to say Thank you to the Garden Club for all the work that they have done around town.

P. Wittmann stated that he talked to the Chairman of the Old Home Committee on the phone Sunday about the possibility of having an Old Home Day. They were thinking of maybe keeping the Car Show on the same day as having a BBQ behind Town Hall. R. Wentworth suggested that they contact Profile Bank about having the BBQ in their parking lot. You can practice social distancing better. P. Wittmann will give the Chairman a call and let him know about the suggestion and tell him it is time to have a meeting and let the EMT team know where and when it will be.

V. MacDonald asked if at Midnight if the Town Hall will be open.

R. Wentworth explained that at the EMT team meeting today plans are being put into place in order to open to the public. Town Hall will be closed upstairs to the public. Several different ideas are being discussed for the individual departments. They would also like someone at the door to greet the public to limit the amount of foot traffic in the building. The entire team is working to get the building open for the 1st of July. The Grounds and Maintenance Department are doing a good job keeping the bay picked up.

Town Administrator Report by L. Dionne

L. Dionne stated that the first item had to do with the swimming area water testing. The Town was informed about a week ago by DES that they will no longer this year be testing the swim areas in the state. It is up to the municipality to do the testing if they wish. She asked if the Board would like the Town to test the water. It would be one test in June, one in July, and one in August. We would pay the fees but do not know what they are right now. R. Wentworth stated that he would like to see the beach area tested at least once a year. The public dock would be worth it. V. MacDonald has an issue with paying for it because the State owns the water. If the state does not want to test it then we should be suing them. That is their responsibility. L. Dionne stated that another option would be to leave it up to the Health Officer to make a determination. R. Wentworth stated that is where it should be. If he feels it needs to be tested then he should have the authority to do that. V. MacDonald feels a letter should be sent back to the State demanding they test their waterways for the public. R. Wentworth feels it should be up to J. Dever, Health Officer. B. Holt stated that the Water Department in town takes water samples all the time and takes them to Concord to be tested. Can that be incorporated into the testing. R. Wentworth would like to table this and have J. Dever get back to the Board with what he feels should be the schedule to test the water in the bay and what the cost would be. V. MacDonald still feels that a letter should be sent to the State. He also feels it should be put in the newspaper that the State no longer wants to test the Town's waterways.

L. Dionne shared an email from S. Simmonds, Solid Waste Superintendent. He is asking that the Solid Waste Facility fees that were waived because of the pandemic be reinstated effective June 26, 2020.

R. Wentworth made a motion to have the fees reinstated as of Friday, June 26, 2020 and seconded by B. Holt. Roll Call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, no	R. Wentworth, yes	

V. MacDonald stated that the fees were waived because of the pandemic. Now it will go back to normal but the Town Hall is still not opening. Discussion ensued.

L. Dionne shared a packet. The Emergency Management Team is asking that the Board of Selectmen utilize Employee Manual Section 9.3.15 concerning the Boards right to waive any requirement pertaining to the purchase of supplies. She asked that the Board use that section and waive 9.3.4. That is the section that requires competitive bidding or soliciting. The Emergency Management Team wants to have Mahoney Hardware install touchless hardware in the public restrooms beginning with the West side public restrooms. The cost will exceed the \$5,000.00 amount. There is not enough time to obtain other bids. The state reimbursement will be ending soon and it needs to be prioritized. She would like the board to utilize 9.3.15 and waive 9.3.4. V. MacDonald stated that all that is needed is a sign that states "cleaned once a day" or "cleaned twice a day". He doesn't feel all these things need to be added because of the pandemic. R. Wentworth stated that this could be paid back to the Town through the GOFFER fund or FEMA. He states that he is in agreement with it because it saves water. P. LaRochelle asked if this qualifies as modernizing the bathrooms which has been discussed before. B. Holt asked when it is going to stop. He feels that the toilets there currently are going to work just as good. It is a good idea and should probably be done but stop the spending.

R. Wentworth made a motion to allow the Town Administrator and Emergency Management Team to apply for the funds needed as presented for Mahoney's Plumbing and Heating for the installation to the West Side bathroom and to apply for the grant and get 100% approval and seconded by P. LaRochelle.

P. LaRochelle rescinded his second.

R. Wentworth rescinded his motion.

R. Wentworth made a motion to apply through the GOFFER Fund for a grant in the amount \$9,265.78 to apply electronic automatic flush valves for toilets, three electronic flush valves for urinals, and two hands free sensors, and other Kohler products provided by Mahoney's Plumbing and Heating at the same time asks that the Board of Selectmen waive 9.3.4, the section that requires competitive bidding and seconded by P. LaRochelle. V. MacDonald is he already awarded that bid. R. Wentworth said that is right. B. Holt said there was nothing in the motion that if the Town doesn't get the grant. R. Wentworth said if we don't get the grant, then we don't have the money to do the job. Roll Call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, no	R. Wentworth, yes	

R. Wentworth made a motion if the Town does not receive the grant the project does not go forward and seconded by B. Holt. P. Wittmann stated that the whole thing could be solved by just putting hand sanitizer in the bathrooms. Roll Call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes	R. Wentworth, yes	

L. Dionne went over the Request for Proposal for Solar Array. The warrant article was approved in March for the capped landfill. This is a draft. R. Wentworth asked if the Town Attorney looked at it. L. Dionne stated yes. R. Wentworth asked if there was a letter that was signed off by the Town Attorney. L. Dionne stated that she could get that for them. L. Dionne stated she borrowed it from another municipality that is much larger than Alton. B. Holt asked how it works. L. Dionne stated that if this goes in there are two streams of revenue that will come to the town and go into the General Fund. One is a lease of the land and the other is a PILOT Program. Discussion ensued.

V. MacDonald made a motion to allow the Town Administrator to send out the Request for Proposals for the Solar Pilot on Hurd Hill Road and seconded by P. Wittmann. Roll Call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes	R. Wentworth, yes	

Approval of Minutes

June 8, 2020 - Regular

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Session, June 8, 2020 as presented and V. MacDonald seconded. Roll call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes	R. Wentworth, yes	

June 8, 2020 - Non-Public

R. Wentworth made a motion to not divulge the June 8, 2020 Non-Public minutes because divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board and render the proposed action ineffective and seconded by V. MacDonald. Roll call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes	R. Wentworth, yes	

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the minutes as sealed of the Non-Public Session, June 8, 2020 as presented and B. Holt seconded. Roll call vote:

B. Holt, yes	P. LaRochelle, yes	P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes	R. Wentworth, yes	

Consent Agenda Approval

R. Wentworth made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted on June 15, 2020 and V. MacDonald seconded. Roll call vote:

B. Holt, yes P. LaRochelle, yes P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, no R. Wentworth, yes

1. Assessing Department - Land Use Items.

Administrative Abatements

DeWees, 82 Rand Hill Road #29, 34-33-29, \$34.00
Hammond, L/O Miramichie Road, 15-8, \$114.00

2019 Abatement

KPS Realty Trust, 174 Main Street, 29-58, \$681.47

Current Use Application

Bayview Forest & Development LLC, L/O East Side Drive, 14-22-4, \$0

2. Green Oak Realty Dev LLC Excavation Intent Form.

- Rescind previous approval of 5/18/20 on Excavation Intent Form - “Green Oak Realty Dev LLC, Suncook Valley Road, 5-72, N/A”. (Current litigation)
- Table Excavation Intent Form. (Current litigation)

3. Town Clerk/Tax Collector Department.

- Unlicensed Dog Warrant.

Discretionary Action on Requests for Appointments (No discussion, majority vote required to allow/not allow appointment)

None

Non-Public Session:

None

Adjournment

P. LaRochelle moved at 8:06 pm to adjourn. P. Wittmann seconded. Motion carried. Roll call vote:

B. Holt, yes P. LaRochelle, yes P. Wittmann, yes
V. MacDonald, yes R. Wentworth, yes

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy L. Bailey

Stacy L. Bailey
Recording Secretary