

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes

Public Session I

July 21, 2014

6:00 PM

1 Monument Square

Alton, NH 03809

**Approved: August 18, 2014**

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R. Loring Carr convened the meeting at 6:00 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence. The following members and staff were present:

R. Loring Carr, Chairman

Marc DeCoff, Vice Chairman

Cydney Johnson, Selectman

Lou LaCourse, Selectman

David Hussey, Selectman

E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

**PUBLIC HEARING  
Frohock Brook Road**

R. Loring Carr opened the Public Hearing which was led by Ken Roberts, Highway Agent who gave an overview of the work to be done on Frohock Brook Road.

It had been decided that there is a need for underground drainage and paving on Frohock Brook Road. Every stake currently in the road represents where a catch basin will be located which will clean everything and catch the sand and water to address the drainage issues at the bottom of the hill. There will be over 900' of piping installed then a two (2) inch binder coat of pavement will be laid down, waiting a year to be sure that there are no deficiencies in the road before the final pavement is applied. One (1) travel lane at a time will be dug out from the road 24-30 inches, top to bottom, removing the rocks that are six (6) inches or more. Once the base coat is put down any driveway will get at least a 4 foot apron, if it is already paved it will be tapered and blended for a smooth transition. Any existing culverts will be taken out as everything will be underground. There are a few minor trees that will be removed on the right hand side ditch line.

Robert Barsell, 10 Frohock Brook Road questioned if an environmental impact study had been done; his concern is his well with the diversion of all the water he believes that his well may either get contaminated or dry up. There is an underground spring just above 32 Frohock Brook Road.

Ken Roberts responded that nothing is really going to change underground, the spring will not be diverted. We are trying to trap all the water before it runs down the bottom of the roadway.

Richard Smith, 17 Frohock Brook Road questioned if the existing ditches will be filled and the banks sloped on the left side of the road.

Ken Roberts responded that ditch lines will be staying in place as there is still a need for the water to transfer into the catch basins. They won't be as deep as previous and should be about 18 inches.

Chuck Weston, Alton Mountain Road questioned when the left hand side of the road was developed there was a water flow plan approved but doesn't know if the plan was followed or done properly; by increasing the volume of water flow what type of effect will this have and who would be responsible if the plan was not followed and met.

Ken Roberts responded that nothing will change with the water flow from what it is today. It will be the same amount of water but will be much cleaner and more controlled. The Planning Department would be the one to question regarding the development.

Ron Scovill, 43 Frohock Brook Road has concerns regarding the snowmobile trail; will it be running on the road or the drainage areas.

Ken Roberts responded that the snowmobiles cannot ride on top of the C-top catch basins; they will need to go around them. The ditch lines and the snowmobile trail is a completely different issue.

Warren Meier, 617 Alton Mountain Road abutting Alton Shores Road voiced concerns about the water now draining across Frohock Brook Road; it is drowning his two (2) acre lot, killing the vegetation and turning his second lot into a swamp. Mr. Meier previously spoke to the town but nothing has been done. It seems that the volume of water will increase substantially with the catch basins as the water won't be able to evaporate or be absorbed in the ground surface. Can anything be done to alleviate the problem for both myself and for Chuck Weston.

Ken Roberts responded unfortunately no; this would need to be discussed with the Board of Selectmen at a later date. When the road was adopted in the 80's the drainage system was already in place therefore the town adopted the existing drainage system. The only thing that is being done is to clean the water to remove all the sand that migrates to the bottom of the roadway.

Chuck Weston would like the Zoning Board to look into this, when the development was created the volume of water was not supposed to increase; believing that it has increased substantially.

E. Russell Bailey will review the Planning Board file and the drainage plan.

Robert Barsell doesn't know why this meeting is taking place now if this is already a done deal commenting that after 40/50 years of the road always being dirt why would all the money be spent to pave it now.

Ken Roberts did not have a response and will make himself available downstairs for any further questions. The meeting was turned back over to the Chairman.

R. Loring Carr addressed Mr. Barsells question regarding runoff, washouts and spending money on this road. The Board reviewed the road due to complaints with washouts onto properties. In the review of the roads the Board saw that there was a problem on the road with washouts. Also, this creates a safety issue.

E. Russell Bailey noted that the drainage plan will be looked into.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:20 PM.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Cydney Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

R. Loring Carr suggested moving the Snowmobile Trail Review to accommodate the public in attendance and David Hussey seconded.

Cydney Johnson suggested moving public input.

Lou LaCourse thought that if there was something different than what has already been heard, it could be brought forth.

Cydney Johnson and Marc DeCoff were in agreement with public input. R. Loring Carr agreed to allow public input but there should not be anything voiced that has already been discussed prior to this meeting.

### **Snowmobile Trail Review/Public Input**

Roger Sample, Rand Hill Road; approached the Board noting he believes that there isn't a need for input as the Board has all the information that was needed.

Denise Foster, Rand Hill Road; wanted the Board to be aware that since the last Board meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup> she has been having an issue with harassment;

police reports have been filed. Her goal is to have everyone's rights respected and for her and her neighbors to have a peaceful neighborhood again.

John Gilligan, Route 28A; voiced his opinion regarding noise from both vehicles and snowmobiles; stating that this is just the way it is.

Bob Bergeron, Trail Master, Mt. Major Snowmobile Club brought written facts and passed along documentation to the Board in reference to several public domain informational facts. He pointed out highlights regarding decibels of various devices for a comparison of different noises to snowmobiles.

David Hussey stated that he has dealt with the club on numerous occasions for various issues. The only reason for moving the trail was due to safety reasons as it was going down his driveway. Anytime signs were asked to be put up, it was done, they were always right there to accommodate any request.

Virginia Bergeron was made aware of an issue by E. Russell Bailey of horn blowing, shortly after the last meeting. The word was immediately put out and nothing more seemed to be ongoing.

R. Loring Carr closed public input.

Maps were provided to the Board, Section B was referred to on the maps.

Lou LaCourse would like to see this be a win/win situation for both the snowmobile club and the residents by possibly placing a fence to mitigate the noise and also for privacy.

R. Loring Carr called upon a spokesperson of the snowmobile club.

E. Russell brought forth there would be interference with snow removal if there was a fence put in place.

Bob Bergeron, Trail Master stated that the vast majority of neighbors who are immediately adjacent to the trail do not have a problem or an issue with noise. If the trail were far enough over to put a fence up the club would have already done something. We are actually riding the shoulder of the road and have pushed the trail as far from the house off the road as much as possible for riding in the drainage ditch.

Cydney Johnson questioned how many feet is it to the front door of the house in question and how many feet of roadway is being used. It is estimated to be about 150 feet from the front door of her house and about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile total on the roadway which is broken up into pieces as the trails winds in and out of the abutting properties to the roadway. There is about 300 feet in the area in question.

R. Loring Carr proposed that if the trail is to continue, it be mandated that quiet zone signs and speed limit signs be put in place.

Bob Bergeron stated that this was already in the plan, in hopes that the trail will continue and for signs to be placed in the area of sensitivity.

R. Loring Carr questioned the penalty enforced regarding loud pipes. Bob Bergeron responded that Fish & Game are the enforcers of loud pipes and is very easy to enforce, it is a very hot topic because none of the clubs support loud noise. You are not allowed to modify the factory exhaust system which has, by federal requirements, a 76 decibel limit.

R. Loring Carr made a motion to allow the trail to continue with five (5) quiet signs along the area and a speed limit sign with those conditions it will stay, and a review of this after next year if there is a problem and David Hussey seconded (for full disclosure and before voting Cydney Johnson made it known that she is a member of the Mt. Major Snowmobile Club). All were in favor of the motion.

#### BOARD OF HEALTH

Cydney Johnson made a motion to recess as the Board of Selectmen and convene as the Board of Health and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

John Dever was called upon to present the review of the septic waiver for Map 16 Lot 16 ~ Seigler; EDA to well Required 75', Actual 65'.

The plan is for a replacement system for one that was installed in 2003 which is now in failure. The new field will be located in front of the house due to the slope of the lot to the house. The new field will be elevated and larger with a raised bed system for less opportunity for sheet flow of water on it, or over it.

The Board members questioned the placement and removal of the existing field with any legalities or ramifications of leaving it in place. There are options regarding the old septic either being left in place or removing it and properly disposing; there is no law against leaving the existing field in place and environmentally it is okay to do so; this should not create more of a hazard.

David Hussey made a motion to approve the plan as presented and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

R. Loring Carr brought forth questions to John Dever regarding the Advanced Technology System in reference to the Health Regulations; inquiring if the town was in compliance or had any issues or if there is a need for changes to be made to the current regulations as it seems there have been a lot of waiver requests.

John Dever responded that there are no issues with what is currently in place and most of the waivers have been for only the tanks.

David Hussey noted that when the regulations were written it was to protect the lake and not to make it easier for the landowner.

John Dever reported that there have been no exemptions for leach fields they have been for the tanks only and there have been no known issues to date.

David Hussey mentioned that possibly there should be no waivers with non-conforming lots.

E. Russell Bailey recommends not opening the Board up to specifics when it comes to waivers; each waiver needs to be looked at individually. The homeowners are doing the best they can and are usually making improvements.

R. Loring Carr made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Health and re-convene as the Board of Selectmen and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

**Announcements:**

- Old Home Weekend events are scheduled for August 8 through 10 with Fireworks on Saturday, 8/9 at 9:00 PM.

It was recommended that the schedule of events that was created by Mary Jarvis be placed on the town website.

**Appointments:** None

**Selectmen's Committee Report**

None

**Town Administrator's Report and Updates**

The surveys for Woodlands Road, Chestnut Cove Road and Lily Pond Road was previously approved and authorized for the engineer to do the survey work. Authorization is needed to increase the amount by approximately \$2,825.00 to do the two (2) box culverts on Chestnut Cove and Woodlands Roads for the additional survey work that needs to be done in the wetlands areas. The amount of the increase is \$16,286.00 opposed to \$19,111.00 to cover the additional work for the box culverts.

Cydney Johnson made a motion to authorize the increase from \$16,286.00 to \$19,111.00 to cover the additional work for the box culverts and Lou LaCourse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

The Senior Center is having a ground breaking ceremony for the new addition and would like the Board members to attend therefore we will need to set something up.

There has been a request for a stop sign on Alton Mountain Road and the Avery Hill Road intersection. This was reviewed years ago which resulted in negative decision. The Police Department does not recommend a stop sign nor does the Town Administrator who recommends the possibility of a caution or a curve sign.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to install a sharp curve sign and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

### **Public Input I**

None

### **Approval of Selectmen's Minutes**

Cydney Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of July 7, 2014 Public Session I as presented and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the minutes of July 7, 2014 Non Public Session releasing #1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 10. Cydney Johnson amended the motion to release #1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 & 10 and R. Loring Carr seconded the amendment. The vote was 4 approved, 1 opposed, Marc DeCoff.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the minutes of July 7, 2014 Public Session II as presented and R. Loring Carr seconded with all in favor of the motion.

R. Loring Carr made a motion to approve the minutes of July 8, 2014 Public Workshop Session I as presented and David Hussey seconded. The vote was 3 approved, 0 opposed and 2 abstentions, Cydney Johnson and Marc DeCoff.

### **Old Business:**

#### Project Status Updates

#### **Highway Reconstruction:**

E. Russell Bailey questioned the Boards position on the sand bid as it was tabled from the previous meeting. The three bidders are:

1. Green Oak Realty
2. NE Earth Mechanics
3. Plourde Sand & Gravel

E. Russell Bailey believed that the only bid outstanding was the sand bid. In David Hussey's opinion he thought that the Board should go with the grit sand as the size of the rocks in the other sand samples provided would be too dangerous; they would go through windshields. David Hussey made a motion to go with Green Oak for Sand and Marc DeCoff seconded (R. Loring Carr noted the pricing of \$6.75 a ton picked up and \$6.75 a ton delivered) and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Dan Kelley is being finished in the next couple of days there were a few weather delays. Both machines will be brought over to Trask Side Road which should be finished by next week. The excavator is now operational. Once Trask Side is finished one machine will be moved to the Senior Center to begin the excavation for the basement with the other machine going to Alton Mountain to begin the ditch work.

**Senior Center:** The goal is to have the site work finished so that the concrete work can begin the first week of August. There will be a need to schedule something after 5:30 PM in reference to the groundbreaking in order to have as many members of the Board in attendance. There is a contractor for the framing which is at no cost to the town with the town providing the materials. We need a roofer as the one that was going to do the work wanted \$100.00 a square to perform the work which would equal \$2,400.00 to \$2,500.00. Ken McWilliams contacted four (4) local contractors/roofers to provide sealed quotes with only one response. E. Russell Bailey recommends that if the sealed quote is reasonable we should go with the quote which has not been opened yet. At this time the sealed quote was opened. Cydney Johnson announced it was from T-Macdonald in the amount of \$1,525.00.

E. Russell Bailey recommends that we go with this quote as it was less than the original amount previously submitted.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the bid for T-Macdonald and Lou LaCourse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

**Sidewalks:** The easements are being worked on, the surveyors are obtaining the necessary information for the two vacant properties and DOT has been contacted regarding the Route 140 intersection, they see no issues.

**Water Bandstand:** The water bandstand is out for bid with the closing on August 4, 2014 with the work to be done sometime in January/February.

**Roberts Cove Beach:** This still needs a final drainage plan.

**Highway Building Roof:** The final specs need to be put together.

**West Alton Fire Station:** This is pending the next meetings discussion on the building improvements.

#### Street Light Inventory Status

There is a complete list of street lights from the electric company, each are being verified to determine their location and if they are in working order. In another month or so there should be a recommendation regarding them, prioritizing the intersections. There is a need to be concerned about school bus stops where there would be a lot of children; needing to check into this further with the school. R. Loring Carr inquired about using LED lighting at the museum. E. Russell Bailey would recommend using LED and hasn't had a chance to go out with David Hussey in regards to the light pole which is similar to the Hannaford light poles noting that the concern with this type of pole, being too large. The current light has been removed therefore we are ready anytime for the replacement. With improvements in the entire area, the Board needs to consider the aesthetic look of the pole mentioning that it will be on the Museum property. Further discussion transpired on the replacement pole which has already been removed. Cydney Johnson agrees it should be a decorative pole opposed to an industrial pole. The consensus of the Board was to table the pole issue. E. Russell Bailey thought it should fit the location and building; it is for the public's benefit at the intersection. R. Loring Carr recommended that Russ speak with NH Electric Coop regarding what minimum height is necessary for light coverage at the intersection.

#### Snowmobile Trail Review

This item was moved to accommodate the residents in attendance.

#### Legislative Policies

The Policy Conference is not until September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Cydney Johnson made a motion to table this item and Marc DeCoff seconded with all in favor of the motion.

#### **New Business:**

##### Land Use Items as recommended by the Town Assessor

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2014 Timber Warrant for Map 5 Lot 72 for \$14.27 and R. Loring Carr seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to approve the 2014 New Timber Intents for Map 9 Lot 32; Map 5 Lot 72; Map 5 Lot 53; Map 12 Lot 57 & 57-1; Map 9 Lot 60; Map 5

Lot 65; Map 1 Lot 7; Map 7 Lot 15; Map 12 Lot 66-2; Map 1 Lot 5 and Map 7 Lot 14 and R. Loring Carr seconded with all in favor of the motion.

David Hussey questioned if Map 5 Lot 65 had already been approved. E. Russell Bailey noted that the Assessor was approved previously to sign off on the Timber Intents.

#### Resignation, Timber Appraiser

E. Russell Bailey stated we can advertise for the Timber Appraiser position.

R. Loring Carr noted this should go out for advertising.

#### Parks and Recreation Swim Area Regulation-Group Policy

Tonight, this is for informational purposes to inform the Board that large groups are being dropped off at the swim area from out of town which can be a challenge for the Lifeguards. The Recreation Commission will be recommending a facility use rule for large groups who should have adult supervision. Reiterating this is just informational; wanting to know if this was agreeable to the Board. It is the general consensus of the Board to bring this back to the Board. Marc DeCoff brought up the subject of using radios; E. Russell Bailey will talk further with Kellie Troendle, Parks and Recreation Director. A final policy would need to be approved by the Board.

#### **Public Input II**

None

E. Russell Bailey requested returning to project status updates. The tree cutting bid was opened today. It was questioned if the low bidders had been used previously and if references were sent. It was noted that this could be a conditional approval.

Marc DeCoff made a motion to conditionally approve upon satisfactory references Ralston Tree Services in the amount of \$11,765.00 and Cydney Johnson seconded with all in favor of the motion.

#### **Non-Public Session:**

R. Loring Carr made a motion to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA91-A:3,II(a) personnel (c) character/reputation and (e) claims/litigation. The Board was polled with all in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary K. Jarvis*

Mary K. Jarvis  
Recording Secretary