

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
October 28, 2025, 2025
(Approved - November 12, 2025)

Chairman N. Buonopane convened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

N. Buonopane 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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N. Buonopane, Chairman
Paul LaRochelle, Vice-Chairman, Excused
Andrew Morse, Selectman
Richard Shea, Selectman
Drew Carter, Selectmen
Ryan Heath, Town Administrator

Agenda Approval

R. Heath stated that he would like to move the Non-Public item of Promotion to the Consent Agenda.

D. Carter made a motion to approve the agenda as amended 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 outside this meeting room, and on our website.
- Please be advised that the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office will operate with **limited hours on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, and Thursday, October 30, 2025**, due to the majority of staff attending the New Hampshire City & Town Clerk Association's 100th Annual Fall Conference.

Adjusted Office Hours:

- **Wednesday, October 29:** Open from 7:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
- **Thursday, October 30:** Open from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

We kindly ask for your patience during this time of reduced staffing. The decision to offer limited hours was made to minimize disruption while allowing staff to attend this required annual training, in accordance with RSA 31:8.

We appreciate your understanding and encourage residents to plan accordingly.

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

None

Appointments

None

New Business

1. Solid Waste - Disposal Contract

S. Garland, Public Works Director, approached the table. The Waste Management Contract is coming to an end on December 31. It was a 7-year contract. He reached out to Waste Management and Casella to get quotes on another 7-year contract. Both facilities are relatively the same number of miles. Waste Management is \$100/ton and Casella is \$131/ton. The drive to Casella involves many hills and windy roads. The drive to Waste Management is not. It is his recommendation to go with Waste Management. We have had a long-standing relationship with them. He feels that it is a safer drive in bad weather.

R. Shea made a motion to approve an additional contract with Waste Management for the 7-years in accordance with terms and conditions presented and authorize the Public Works Director to act as the signing agent or the Town Administrator to act as the signing agent and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Old Business

1. Dental Plan Discussion

L. Parker, Finance Manager, approached the table. She asked the Board if they made a decision about the Life and Short-Term Disability insurance that was presented at the previous meeting. Will they keep it at \$30,000.00 or raise it to \$50,000.00. D. Carter stated that he thinks it should remain where it is. We need to get through this budget season. R. Shea stated that he agreed.

It is the consensus of the Board that they stay the same amounts and move to the Standard.

2. Budget Presentations

Planning 4191

J. MacArthur, Planner, approached the table. She stated that this year she is trying to compensate for the Default Budget over the last two years. The increases are in wages, dues and fees, meetings and conferences, and postage.

N. Buonopane made a motion to approve the Planning Budget (4191) for \$157,510.00 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Parks and Recreation 4520

K. Troendle, Parks and Rec Director, approached the table. She highlighted some of the changes to her budget. This budget is less than the budget that was presented last year.

N. Buonopane made a motion to approve the Parks and Recreation (4520) Budget for \$141,204.00 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Water 4331

C. Mitchell, Water Superintendent, approached the table. She stated that her budget was pretty much flatlined. There is a significant increase of 40% because of health insurance.

N. Buonopane made a motion to approve the Water (4331) Budget for \$600,916.00 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Police 4210

T. MacDougall, Police Chief, and B. Tolios, Lieutenant, approached the table. T. MacDougall highlighted some of the changes in his budget.

N. Buonopane made a motion to approve the Police (4210) Budget for \$1,586,715.00 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Legal 4153

D. Carter made a motion to approve the Legal (4153) Budget for \$145,418.00 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Administration 4130

N. Buonopane made a motion to approve the Administration (4130) Budget for \$465,946.00 and D. Carter seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Building 4192

D. Carter made a motion to approve the Building (4192) Budget for \$152,127.00 and A. Morse seconded with 4 in favor and 1 against (NB).

Town Clerk/Tax Collector 4132

N. Buonopane made a motion to approve the Town Clerk/Tax Collector (4132) Budget \$213,843.00 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Election & Registration 4140

R. Heath stated that the new equipment is the E-pollbooks for check ins at the elections. There were several questions about the annual cost for them. It is requested that the Tax Collector/Town Clerk be here at the next meeting to answer the questions.

R. Shea made a motion to table this budget until such time that the Town Clerk can be present and N. Buonopane seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Town Administrator Report

R. Heath stated that the first thing is for informational purposes. There is a notification for a surplus land review from the Bureau of Business and Economic Affairs. It is a proposal to use some surplus land through the State. They want to bring power to the dam.

R. Heath stated that the last thing that he had was that the State inspection for the elevator will be on November 7, at 9:00 am.

Selectmen Reports/Questions

D. Carter had nothing to report.

R. Shea stated the Milfoil Committee had wrapped up and the Swap Shop had wrapped up as well. He does have a report from someone from the Swap Shop that he will be sharing with the Board soon. He would also like to know will the chair lift on the stairs be taken out. R. Heath stated that it will once the elevator is operational.

A. Morse had nothing to report. He would like to thank all of the Department Heads for the work that they put in to create their budgets.

N. Buonopane had nothing to report but would like to also reiterate what Selectman Morse stated about the Department Heads.

Approval of Minutes

October 14, 2025 - Public Session

D. Carter made a motion to approve the minutes of October 14, 2025 Public Session and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Consent Agenda Approval

D. Carter made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for October 28, 2025 as amended and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

1. Assessing Consent Items

Abatements

Luffman; Map 11 Lot 13-31; 46 High Point Road; \$911

2. **Water Department**

Hannaford Bros.	80 Wolfeboro Hwy	Acct. 260/915	\$42,584.00
Tim Holt	78 Riverlake	Acct. 1514	\$110.00
James Dunn	7 Barr Rd. - Farm	Acct. 837/803	\$369.388

3. **Solid Waste Department**

James Foley, Promotion Solid Waste Attendant to Solid Waste Attendant/Assistant Director

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*)

None

Non-Public Session

None

Adjournment

A. Morse made a motion to adjourn at 7:02 pm and D. Carter seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy L. Bailey
Recording Secretary

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Nick Buonopane III, Chairman

Paul LaRochelle, Vice-Chairman

Andrew Morse, Selectman

Richard Shea, Selectman

Drew Carter, Selectman