

**ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC SESSION I**

**December 7, 2009
ALTON TOWN HALL**

The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m., by Stephen McMahon. The following members of the Board of Selectmen and staff were present:

Stephen McMahon, Chair
Peter Bolster, Selectman
R. Loring Carr, Selectman
David Hussey, Selectman
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

S. McMahon led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda - R. Bailey requested to add "East Alton Fire Station" to the agenda. L. Carr spoke about a document from the Assessor that was received in the mail about a house bill that establishes legislation for assessors and requested that it be placed on the next agenda.

S. McMahon motioned to approve the agenda and P. Bolster seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Appointments:

Milfoil Committee - Nancy Downing, a member of Milfoil Committee, introduced members of the committee and concerned citizens and business owners. She reviewed the objectives and goal of the committee. There was a presentation by Jonathan Downing about variable milfoil. He reported on the history of the plant in Lake Winnepesaukee and other water bodies in the area. There is over nineteen square miles of water in Alton and approximately thirty-three acres of milfoil identified. Mr. Downing spoke about issues with the evasive aquatic plant and presented maps of problem areas. He reported on the number of homes, public launches, and marinas that have milfoil. There are five marinas and public launch areas that have been identified as having milfoil. He reported on the number of boat slips affected by milfoil which totaled seven hundred and thirty-three slips. He stated he could not emphasize the need for action to correct this problem. He reported on the bids received to eradicate the milfoil in the thirty-three acres of water. He discussed the bids and grant money that is available. The committee has recommended to have the eradication done immediately. He reported that they would need to enter into the contract with DES within thirty days. The cost to the town would be approximately \$11,000, whereas several business owners and citizens have pledged money to help with the cost of the removal of milfoil. L. Carr confirmed that the deadline for the grant was December 23 for each year and Mrs. Downing responded that it was the same time frame from year-to-year. She spoke about some of the structured recommendations. There was discussion about the cost of boat registrations and the milfoil fee that is paid to the town/state, and how that money is used. S. McMahon spoke about the funding of the project.

L. Carr motioned to fund the \$5,000 needed for the treatment of the milfoil in the river and D. Hussey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Board thanked the committee for their hard work. Mr. Downing recommended that the milfoil committee be continued and that someone from the Board should be on the committee. R. Bailey reported that the grant has been awarded. D. Hussey motioned to accept the grant and to authorize R. Bailey to sign, and P. Bolster seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Cemetery Trustees – Shirley Lane reported that the Cemetery Trustees took “an awful bashing” in public and on television in a recent meeting. She addresses several comments made by members of the Alton Budget Committee. She listed the scope of work done in the winter by the current cemetery caretaker, the management of lots that have been sold, and other responsibilities. She spoke about some of the comments made by members of the Budget Committee. She requested that the Selectmen reverse the recommendations of the Budget Committee. L. Carr asked about the five-year contract given to Mr. DiVito after the Budget Committee’s recommendations were made. He invited her to bring her concerns to the Budget Committee and discuss the issues she has brought up the Selectmen tonight. There was discussion about the process for review and approval of the budget. D. Hussey spoke about the process of needing to consult the Selectmen for the five-year contract. P. Bolster stated that the Cemetery Trustees needed to check with the town administrator, town attorney, and the Board of Selectmen as part of the process. There was discussion about the need for the process of the contract with the employee.

The Board took a brief break at 7:23 p.m.

BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board unanimously recessed as the Board of Selectmen and convened as the Board of Health at approximately 7:33 p.m.

Saley Way Map 51; Lot 27

Tom Varney of Varney Engineering requested three waiver for a septic design for Map 51, Lot 27, (4 Saley Way, Alton, NH – owner: Stephen Rogers). The Board reviewed and discussed the map, plans, and documents submitted by Mr. Varney.

L. Carr motioned to grant the three waivers: Septic Tank to be fifty-five feet from the lake (Alton requires 100 feet); septic tank to be ten feet from the foundation with foundation drains (Alton requires 25 feet); and septic tank to be forty-two and one-half feet from the neighbor’s foundation (Alton requires seventy-five feet.) S. McMahon seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Scott Drive, Map 72; Lot 48

Hunter Homes, owner, presented the application for a septic design and his request for waivers. The engineer who designed the new system spoke about the different process that is used which is more efficient and has a minimal impact on the environment. The new system would require the following waivers from the town: forty feet from the well, two feet from the foundation, and sixty feet from an open drain (culvert). There is one state waiver: thirty feet from poorly drained wetlands. This plan was originally approved at the town level on November 16, 2008 and it was approved by DES on November 20, 2008 and constructed. Upon inspection by DES personnel, it was rejected because of its proximity to wetlands. L. Carr noted from his recollection that “originally one was installed in wetlands and it was rejected after they did their inspection and had to be monitored for so many years, it is important to have the best record on monitoring and higher wetlands. Bubbler systems restore what was disturbed. i

P. Bolster motioned to grant the waivers from the town requested by Mr. Homes at Map 72, Lot 48, contingent that the system installed is the one that is put in place. S. McMahon seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Black Point Road, Map 45, Lot 47 & 48

Brian Berling from LandTech presented the request for waivers for Black Point Road, Map 45, Lot 47 & 48. The waivers from the town includes: seventy feet from the well, fifty feet from open water, five feet from property lines, and five feet from the foundation with drains. There is one state waiver which is a five foot setback from property lines. P. Bolster recommended that Mr. Berling check with the home

association that this property is a part of and Mr. Berlind responded that he would notify them. The Board reviewed and discussed the design and recommendations from the Code Enforcement Department.

L.Carr motioned to grant the waivers requested for Black Point Road, Map 45; Lot 47 and 48, and D. Hussey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Mount Major Highway; Map 38; Lot 16

John Dever, Health Officer, presented the request for septic waivers for ICO Annis, 257 Mount Major Highway. The waiver is for the leach field being within one hundred feet of open drainage, in this case, a culvert opening. D. Hussey motioned to grant the waivers requested and P. Bolster seconded the vote. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

L. Carr motioned to adjourn as the Board of Health and to convene as Board of Selectmen and D. Hussey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The Board of Selectmen convened at 8:16 p.m.

Selectmen Committee Reports –

D. Hussey stated there was no report at this time.

P. Bolster reported that the Down Town Revitalization Committee has recently met. There is a meeting to be scheduled for the Alton Central School Building & Grounds Committee on Wednesday, December 9, to discuss recent legislation about the funding of building aid for schools. He commented that the presentation by the Milfoil Study Committee given earlier in the night's meeting was an excellent presentation and felt it was very informative and professional. There was discussion about some of the issues with milfoil in the waters.

L. Carr motioned for Peter Bolster to check into the Lake Host Grant and a State Grant for next year and D. Hussey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

L. Carr reported the Budget Committee has been meeting regularly and the school budget has been reviewed and approved. They will be working on Warrant articles next.

S. McMahon reported that Household Hazardous Waste has recently met and there will be dates set for collections.

P. Bolster reported there would be a one percent decrease in money coming from taxations.

Town Administrator's Report – R. Bailey stated there was no report at this time.

Public Input –

Richard MacDonald, Alton resident and member of the Alton Budget Committee, spoke about some of the expenses by the Cemetery Trustees, such as the purchase of an excavator. He addressed some of the comments made by Shirley Lane earlier in the meeting.

Doug Kirkpatrick, Alton resident, spoke about the Cemetery Trustee's expenses. He spoke about his concerns about the checks and balances systems that he felt was lacking from the management of the Cemetery. There was discussion about the management of trust funds in town and the current economy. Mr. Kirkpatrick spoke about the current school board and felt that they had more power than the Selectmen and had a bigger budget. He felt there was not a good return for the money based on the students he watched on Granite State Challenge.

Steve Parker asked about what departments the Selectmen has power over, such as the Water Department. Peter Keen asked if there were goals and objectives for the Board of Selectmen. It was reported that the Board did not have goals and objectives at this time. There was open discussion by the Board of Selectmen about some of the goals and objectives they were considering and had in the past. Mr. Keen noted there were goals and objectives for the Police Department and asked for a report of where they were at with those things. He noted that it was part of R. Bailey's contract that he is educated for any goals and objectives

Steve Parker announced that a teachers' contract has been reached but that it hasn't been ratified yet.

Meeting Minutes -

L. Carr motioned to approve the meeting minutes for October 28, 2009, Workshop Session ,and the sealed non-public session minutes. D. Hussey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

L. Carr motioned to approve the meeting minutes of November 12, 2009, Workshop Session I and II, and the sealed non-public session minutes. D. Hussey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

L. Carr motioned to approve the meeting minutes of November 16, 2009, Public Session I and II, and the sealed non-public minutes. D. Hussey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

L. Carr motioned to approve the meeting minutes of November 19, 2009, Public Session I and II and the sealed non-public minutes. P. Bolster seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Old Business –

2010 Warrant/Budget Status - R. Bailey reported there would be a workshop next week and they would probably need another workshop. He spoke about the building expense request from the Fire Chief, who has asked that the budget line item that was cut is reconsidered. He spoke about the insurance, which has come in at six percent, and noted that a copy of it would go to the Budget Committee. He spoke about the recommendations of Bob Longabaugh for the purchase of a mini-camera for the Heidke Room, on the first floor of the Town Hall.

Request for Video Equipment - L. Carr motioned to approve the request for a DVD recorder, camera and tripod to be purchased and for it not to exceed \$700 and P. Bolster seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of three with one no vote. (No – DH)

Fire Department Budget Request - There was discussion about the Building Expenses in the Fire Department's budget. L. Carr noted it was a compromise, as extra money was put in personnel.

There was discussion about the improvements needed for the Fire Station and issues with the roof. L. Carr motioned to put \$10,000 into a Capitol Reserve Fund for the Fire Department and to reduce the Pearson Road (Senior Center) to \$15,000. D. Hussey seconded the motion. P. Bolster spoke about the condition of the Senior Center building and felt the money couldn't be taken from a small account. The motion passed by a vote of three to one. (No – PB)

L. Carr spoke about an issue that he saw when he was on the boat ride and noted that one of the beams on a dock at the Alton Bay Community Center were leaning. R. Bailey stated that if there was not money left in this year's budget that he would come back to them. He noted he needed to talk with Kellie Troendle about it.

Scheduling of Deliberative Session - R. Bailey requested authorization to contact the school for the deliberative session on Wednesday, February 3, 2010 with a snow day on Thursday, February 4, 2010. D. Hussey moved the requested and P. Bolster seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Alton Shores Culvert - R. Bailey reported the Selectmen need to approve a change order for the contract to install the box culvert and amend the engineer's agreement for their increase. The contractor change order is for \$40,085.11 and the engineer's agreement increase is \$9,200. In addition, the Selectmen need to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract documents. This is a FEMA grant (75% Federal and 25% Town) plus the town will receive \$5,359 in administrative reimbursement from the grant.

D. Hussey motioned to approve the request presented for the Alton Shore Change Order to authorize E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator, to sign the contract documents. P. Bolster seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

East Alton Fire Station Roof Bid - L. Carr motioned to approve the bid presented for the East Alton Fire Station roof by Target New England \$7,860.00 and P. Bolster Seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Survey Bids - L. Carr motioned to award Pohepek Land Surveying and Septic System Design, LLC for the survey of Coffin Brook Road, Stockbridge Corner Road, and Traskside Road. D. Hussey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Tax Maps – D. Hussey motioned to approve the annual agreement as presented with Cartographic Associated to update out tax maps, at the cost of \$2,500, and authorized E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator, authorization to sign the agreement. L. Carr seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Items for Approval – Assessing Dept – L. Carr motioned to approve the list of items presented for approval by the Assessing Department: Intent to Cut, Elderly Exemption 2010 (Denied Assets Exceed 50,000 Limit), Veterans' Credits 2010, Gravel Tax, Land Use Charge and 2009 Abatement. D. Hussey seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public Input - P. Bolster spoke about the perambulation of the town's lines and one particular marker that could not be located. There was discussion about ways to improve locating the markers and using technology in the process.

Non-Public Session –

L. Carr motioned to move the meeting into non-public session to discuss matters covered under RSA 91-A: 3, II, (a), (c) and (e). D. Hussey seconded the motion. All Board members were polled and voted unanimously.

The meeting moved into non-public session at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Argriopolis. Recorder

Minutes Approved January 20, 2010