

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2007
ALTON TOWN HALL

Convene at 6:35 p.m. by Chairman Sherwood.

Present: Alan Sherwood, Chairman
Patricia Fuller, Vice-Chairman
Stephen McMahon, Selectman
William Curtin, Selectman
Peter Bolster, Selectmen
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a Moment of Silence

Approval of the Agenda

Motion by S. McMahon to approve the agenda. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

Public Hearing – Acceptance of State Emergency Management Funds – re: Spring Flood 2007.

A. Sherwood - To accept NH Emergency Management Agency Funds as a reimbursement for damages that occurred during the Spring 2007 flood. A portion of the reimbursement received from FEMA should have gone to the Fire Department and a small portion to the water department. There is also a recent reimbursement from the State.

R. Bailey - Itemization – reimbursement has covered both Spring flood of 2006 and 2007. Town qualified for approximately \$17,000 and \$109,000 for this year. Noted they had approved to go up to \$150,000 out of fund balance for emergency expenditure, which was approved by the Selectmen, the Budget Committee and by the Department of Revenue Administration. The transaction for the \$150,000 has already been done but it was understood that if State money was received before the end of the year that they would accept the State money and have this reimburse the Emergency account out of Highway and instead of the \$150,000 going against the surplus they would only do \$41,000 against the surplus.

1. Accept the \$109,000 received from the State for the Spring 2007 floods. They cannot accept the other money because it was for 2006 and will go into the general fund.

Open to public – none seen or heard – closed public input.

Motion by P. Fuller to accept the \$109,128.12 and apply it against the Highway Emergency Expenditure account for the Spring 2007 storm. Second by W. Curtin. No Discussion. Vote unanimous.

2. R. Bailey - On the original application from FEMA the Water Department has some expenses and also the Fire Department. The town initially accepted a first check for \$673,000 and it was applied all to the Highway. Acting tonight to take the Fire Department share and the Water Department expenses that were approved under the FEMA from what had been already given credit to the Highway and then have it be applied to their account.

P. Fuller so this needs to be transferred from Highway to Water and Fire Department.

A. Sherwood – asked if the \$673,000 already received from FEMA, \$4,969.11 is going to go to the Fire Department and \$2,907.28 to the Water Department and the remainder then of the \$673,000 will stay within the Highway Department reconstruction.

R. Bailey added for the Highway Department within the Emergency expenditure line.

Open to the public, none seen or heard – closed public input.

Motion by A. Sherwood that the \$673,000 already received from FEMA, \$4,969.11 is going to go to the Fire Department and \$2,907.28 to the Water Department and the remainder then of the \$673,000 will stay within the Highway Department reconstruction emergency expenditure line. Second by W. Curtin. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

General discussion of hours presented. – no action taken.

Public hearing closed.

Announcement

A. Sherwood – commented on the recognition of Thelma Chandler oldest town resident born March 11, 1908 receiving the Boston Post Cane.

R. Bailey announced the Merry Meeting River Bridge Construction. The State is working on the bridge. Working until approximately April 2008 putting up a temporary bridge. Open up new bridge by Fall 2008 and clean up and rails will go out into 2009. Will be working on this project until 2009.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

S. McMahon – nothing to report.

P. Fuller – successfully completed first year of nursing school. Thanked colleagues for support. Selectmen meeting will go back to 6:00pm on Mondays. Also noted the Governor has officially announced that he will be submitting a constitutional amendment on education funding in the new legislative session. He has not released it yet and when he does she will update the Selectmen. The ZBA had a very full agenda last week and the room was packed due to proposed Motor Cross Park. Next meeting on January 3 at 6 p.m. in Prospect Mountain Auditorium.

W. Curtin – nothing to report.

A. Sherwood – Thursday 12/20 at 7:30 a.m. meeting of the Household Hazardous Waste District and discussed next year's plans and looking at couple more collections next year. This will cost more as participation is way up.

Town Administrator Update and Verbal Report

Primary for January 8. Met with town moderator and building staff. Taking extra steps for handicapped access.

Radios – memo from Mr. Roberts, in 2007 budget for \$11,000 and is now down to \$6,000. The need is because there are some bad dead spots with radio system. New antenna to get coverage for all vehicles while not interfering with other channels and for a base station. Same vendor for both and doing work at the Fire Department. Need approval for \$5250.50.

Motion by A. Sherwood to approve the two purchase orders that total \$5,250.50 for upgrades to the radio system. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

Census – Received information for 2010 census – listing of maps and database. Plan to begin work next summer. Comparing to 911 list of physical households. There is a 120 day window to complete this and return back to them (in April).

Last minute expenditure items. Consider a workshop between now and the new year. Discussion on planning a meeting. Agreed on Friday, December 28 at 11 a.m.

Thank you to Ruth Messier for cabinet across the town clerk's office with the displays. They have received positive comments.

A. Sherwood noted thanks to Patricia Rockwood for all her research, working on the proclamation and decorating the cane for the presentation to Mrs. Chandler.

W. Curtin expressed his thanks to those who contributed towards the Mrs. Santa fund.

Public Input 1

Robert Longabaugh, first mentioned how nice the new curtain looks on the stage. Thanks to those who replaced this. Presented his petition for telecasting of the budget committee meetings. He has acknowledged the validity of the Budget Committee's arguments (some people are shy, some feel the U-tube might abuse excerpts of the meetings, and also that it changes the flavor of the meetings) but still feels that transparency is more important than those arguments. Consequently, drawn up a petition warrant article seeking necessary signatures.

P. Fuller noted the policy that has been voted on that the Selectmen recommend that all committees, elected and appointed by the town be video cast. But this cannot be forced, it is up to each committee and Board to vote.

R. Longabaugh also questioned the status of the lease on Shibley's at the Pier that is up on December 31st. Would like assurance that something will be taken care of with regards to this matter.

A. Sherwood –informed that the Selectmen are involved and either have this resolved by the end of the Calendar year or will mutually agree for a one month extension. Terms cannot be publicly discussed at the present.

David Porter – Intent to Cut Request - checking to see if permit will be addressed tonight.

Closed public input I.

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes

1. November 5, 2007 – Public Session I and II and Non-Public Session Sealed Minutes
Page 2, 3 lines down – should be fauna. Page 4, new business item 1, 2nd sub paragraph. 1 and 2 are yes, 3 and 4 are no and 5 is yes and survey to be attached to the minutes.

Motion by A. Sherwood to approve the minutes of November 5, 2007, public and non-public as amended. Second by W. Curtin. No Discussion. Vote unanimous.

2. November 26, 2007 – Workshop Session, Public and Sealed Non-Public Session Minutes.

Motion by W. Curtin accept the minutes of November 26, 2007, public and non-public. Second by A. Sherwood. No discussion. Vote 3 in favor and 1 abstention.

Noted by R. Bailey that the agenda has been approved but respectfully requests to hear item #4 under New Business to vote on recommendations submitted by Town Assessor.

Itemized – first was a Veterans credit, one equalization certificate, and 5 intents to cut.

Motion by A. Sherwood to approve the recommendations by the assessor and sign them accordingly. Second by W. Curtin. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

A. Sherwood noted to Mr. Porter that his Intent to Cut” will be signed later.

Old Business

1. Bids

A. Solid Waste Center/Chipping – R. Bailey noted Scott Simonds and Mr. Curtin were present for the bid openings. Three bids for the chipping of small stumps, logs and brush. Scott does not want chips, recommend to look at chip and dispose proposals. Low bidder is Greymont, Jr. Trucking at \$4,300. Scott recommends this company.

Motion by W. Curtin to approve Greymont, Jr. Trucking for the chipping bid. Second by P. Fuller. Discussion W. Curtin noted that Scott would like to hang onto the chips every other year since they have plenty now. Vote 3 in favor – 1 abstention.

7:10 – Peter Bolster took his seat

B. Solid Waste Containers – R. Bailey noted this was for 2-30 yard for demolition material and 1- 50 sealed yard unit would be used with the compactor. No one responded on a timely basis so there were no bids to be open. Since that time, Scott has obtained two quotes, Maguire Equipment and Atlantic Leasing. Base pricing – not including delivery. This is needed because some containers are beyond repair. Cost 2,000 to fix vs. new \$3595. 50 yard for solid waste disposal. Need approval- difference on delivery. Preference to go with Atlantic. Need approval to purchase but come back by the end of the year with recommendation.

Motion by P. Fuller to approve the bid by Atlantic Leasing and Scott to finalize with vendor for Selectmen to approve final recommendation. Second by W. Curtin. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

C. Copier – R. Bailey advised the two town hall copiers are five years old and we are trying to get one more year for one upstairs. Downstairs needs to be replaced. New copier will provide color copying in the building. No copier to do a large document currently. 5 companies responded and bids were read. Does not recommend lease purchase. Staff has preference for McDurgin (2nd lowest). Bailey suggested moving the older model to the Heike room. R. Bailey recommended awarding OCE at \$9300 as low bidder. Need approval to meet with OCE and look at machine and come back with recommendation. Machine will be linked through the server.

Motion by W. Curtin for the recommendation of R. Bailey for OCE and also approval to meet with OCE and look at machine and come back with a recommendation to the Selectmen and also McDurgin as a second recommendation if OCE does not work out. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

2. Review of 2008 Draft Warrant - A. Sherwood referred to copies distributed to the Board.

R. Bailey noted the Budget committee meeting Thursday and will have recommendations then. The Article for Buildings and Grounds truck that is going to be offset 100% with surplus, they are also going to offset 100% with the rescue truck. Offset \$60,000 from capital reserve on the Highway Truck and \$60,000 from surplus. Noted that he has added the Conservation article, drafted in the language for the article for easement for the septic. Planning Board has a hearing tomorrow and will be receiving 2 articles for definition changes and a petition article on signs and non-zoning, changing the code of ethics. These are non-money items. Warrant needs to be posted on January 28. New wording on the beach article for changing the purpose, this will require a 2/3 vote. Distributed draft copy of the default budget which needs to be available on January 9th for the Budget Committee Hearing.

3. Annual Town Report Status - Picture of the Fireworks for front cover and giving Matt Fassett credit for picture. Dedicating the report to all the employees – Alan distributed dedication for Board approval.

New Business

1. Acceptance of Donation/Reimbursement pursuant to RSA 31:95b. - Donation from Mr. Henderson of \$4,000 to be donated to the fire department. Use of funds to be recommended by the Fire Chief.

Motion by A. Sherwood to accept the donation from Mr. Henderson of \$4,000 to be donated to the Fire Department. Second by P. Bolster. Discussion: with final approval by the Selectmen. S. McMahon asked if funds were donated before or after. W. Curtin noted it was after his subdivision was approved. No further discussion. Vote unanimous.

2. NH Electric Co-Op- Vote to Approve Pole Petitions (2) for Chamberlain Road and Dan Kelley Drive.

Motion by P. Fuller to approved the petitions for NH Electric Co-Op for poles located on Chamberlain Road and Dan Kelley Drive. Pole Number 2700-T, 2701-T. Second by W. Curtin. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

3. Local Government Center – Insurance Renewal.

R. Bailey reviewed the 4 Resolutions – health, liability, WC and unemployment. Each has to be referenced separately.

Motion by W. Curtin to approve the resolution for the health insurance as noted on the enclosed document and authorize the Chairman and R. Bailey to sign any necessary documents. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

Motion by W. Curtin to approve the resolution for the property liability (3 year program – discounted rate) insurance as noted on the enclosed document and authorize the Chairman and R. Bailey to sign any necessary documents. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

Motion by W. Curtin to approve the resolution for the workman compensation insurance as noted on the enclosed document and authorize the Chairman and R. Bailey to sign any necessary documents. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

Motion by W. Curtin to approve the resolution for the unemployment insurance as noted on the enclosed document and authorize the Chairman and R. Bailey to sign any necessary documents. Second by P. Fuller. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

4. Vote on recommendations submitted by the Town Assessor. (noted discussed earlier in agenda).

5. Amend Welfare Guideline - R. Bailey noted recommendation from Patricia Rockwood, Welfare Officer to amend the guideline policy for gasoline policy, which is currently \$15.00 and would like this increased to \$25.00 (based on the need and the qualifications).

Motion by P. Fuller to raise the gasoline voucher to \$25.00 within the welfare guidelines. Second by W. Curtin. No discussion. Vote unanimous.

Public Input II

None

Non-Public Session – Vote to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a) (c) (e)

Motion by A. Sherwood to enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a) (c) (e).

Second by P. Fuller. No discussion. Vote unanimous. Polled members: P. Bolster, S. McMahan, A. Sherwood, P. Fuller, and W. Curtin all voted in the affirmative and the motion passed.

The Board took a short recess at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn B. Schaeffner, Recording Secretary
Minutes Approved: 1-21-08

