

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes  
May 9, 2023  
*(Approved - June 27, 2023)*

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Chairman P. LaRochelle convened the meeting at 6:01 PM.

P. LaRochelle 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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Paul LaRochelle, Chairman  
Brock Mitchell, Vice- Chairman, Excused  
Andrew Morse, Selectman  
Nicholas Buonopane, Selectman, Selectman  
Richard Shea, Selectmen  
Ryan Heath, Town Administrator

**Agenda Approval**

P. LaRochelle made an amendment to the agenda New Business #2 Police Department - Private Detail Fee Recommendations will be postponed to the next meeting. P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and N. Buonopane 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 in this meeting room, and on our website.
- The Alton Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office will be closed on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. The staff will be attending the Town Clerk's Annual Spring Workshop.

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

R. Wentworth approached the table. He would like to talk about Loon Cove. He said it was replaced in 1968 and the road was opened in 1971. The State put two culverts in, one that expands across Route 11 and one that expands across Loon Cove. Since he has lived there he never saw the water come up the way it did. The road has always held it and has never washed out. He thinks the contractor disturbed that slope when they put the bridge in.

**Appointments**

**New Business**

1. Cemetery Tree Removal

S. Kinmond, Public Works Director, approached the table. He is looking to remove two oak trees on the southerly side of Old Riverside Cemetery. Both trees are on the Town property. They have encroached the property line. The root system has encroached on the small garage of the abutting property. He has obtained tow prices to remove the trees. The funds would come out of Perpetual Care.

R. Shea made a motion to authorize the Public Works Director to engage with Arbor Tech removal of two trees on the South side of Old Riverside Cemetery in the amount of \$3,800.00 and N. Buonopane seconded with all in favor of the motion.

2. Police Department- Private Detail Fee Recommendations

*\*Postponed\**

3. Gilman Library - Resignation/ Appointment

R. Heath stated that the memo in front of them is a resignation from Karen Petelle from the Library Board of Trustees. The other letter is a request from the Gilman Library Board of Trustees to fill the vacancy with Kristine Simone.

N. Buonopane made a motion to appoint Kristine Simone for the letter of resignation that was received and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

## Old Business

### 1. Loon Cove Road Discussion

S. Kinmond and J. Housel, Highway Foreman, approached the table. S. Kinmond gave the Board members an update relative to the Loon Cove situation. Some of the Board members were not here when this was originally voted by the Board. This design is not a new design. The soil around the pipe was disturbed to about 12". It was not disturbed below that location. It was then filled on top of that with erosion stone. They do not have an answer as to why the metal pipe floated. He has met with the contractor and consulted with him. It is beyond any type of warranty period. They need to remove the pipe. They will cut the rods that tie back to the foundation and cut the pipe and remove it piece by piece. They will then fortify the stream bed. J. Housel stated that he has already purchased four blades for his saw. N. Buonopane asked what the time frame would be. S. Kinmond explained how they would like to repair the bridge. Discussion ensued as to what needs to be done.

N. Buonopane made a motion to allow the Public Works Department to repair the bridge on Loon Cove and remove the existing culvert that has been compromised and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

## Selectmen Reports

R. Shea reported that the Budget Committee had been quiet and needs to meet with the Town administrator about HHW.

N. Buonopane reported that the Planning Board went well and he missed the meeting for Old Home Week.

A. Morse had nothing to report.

P. LaRochelle reported that there was a ZBA meeting last week and everything went very well.

## Town Administrator Report

R. Heath stated that he received notification from the Fire Department that the Fire Boat did arrive. It has been launched into the water and they have been doing training.

R. Heath stated that he needs a consensus of the Board for the color of the blocks for the sidewalks in the Bay. It is the consensus of the Board to go forward with the color that they looked at before the meeting.

R. Heath stated that there is a memo from the Public Works Director regarding the Winter Maintenance billing. This is an informational packet.

R. Heath stated that the last thing that he has is that he would like the Board to consider a change to the Personnel Policy. There is a section called "Probationary Employees". They usually are not eligible for pay increases their first year or their probationary period. Part of the wording eliminates them from getting COLA. He is only referring to COLA. He would like the Board's support in modifying that policy only to eliminate the wording COLA so probationary employees would be entitled to only COLA increase.

N. Buonopane made a motion to eliminate COLA from the probationary policy and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

## Approval of Minutes

### April 3, 2023 - Public Session

R. Shea made a motion to approve the minutes for April 3, 2023 Public Session and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

## Consent Agenda Approval

R. Shea made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for May 9, 2023 as presented and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

### 1. Land Use Items - approval

#### Veteran's Credit Application

Echo Rev. Trust; Map 60 Lot 27; 108 Minge Cove Road; \$750

**Elderly Exemption Application**

Feely; Map 5 Lot 73-11; 64 Abednego Road; 65+ Elderly Exemption

**Disability Exemption**

Stewart; Map 8 Lot 51; 24 Ehlen Way; Disability Exemption

**Timber Tax**

Torosian; Map 10 Lot 26; L/O Avery Hill Road; 89.30  
Hillsgrove; Map 2 Lot 13-2; 32 Dudley Road; \$4,537.65  
Sample; Map 9 Lot 53-2; Sample Terrace; \$752.50  
Matarozzo; Map 9 Lot 6-1; Suncook Valley Road; \$18.94  
Matarozzo; Map 9 Lot 6; Suncook Valley Road; \$425.70

**Excavation Tax**

Williams; Map 8 Lot 3-2; L/O Frank C Gilman Highway; \$86

**Excavation Intent**

Williams; Map 8 Lot 3-2; L/O Frank C Gilman Highway; Intent for 2023

**2. Fire Department**

Samuel Norford, Per Diem Lieutenant/A-EMT, \$24.40/hr to Full Time Lieutenant/A-EMT, \$28.50/hr, effective 5/14/2023

**3. Appointments**

Eugene Young, Conservation Commission, Expire 3/31/2026  
Thomas Diveny, Conservation Commission, Expire 3/31/2026

**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)

R. Wentworth approached the table. He was not looking to put the blame anywhere. Since 1971 he has lived there. Very little comes from Alton Mountain. It is right that it was a vortex. He would like to see it corrected.

**Non-Public Session**

P. LaRochelle moved at 7:01 pm to enter into Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II, a (personnel matters). A. Morse seconded. Roll call vote:

P. LaRochelle - yes                      B. Mitchell - Excused                      R. Shea - yes  
N. Buonopane III - Yes                      A. Morse - yes                      Roll call vote carried unanimously.

At 7:01 pm Chairman LaRochelle convened the nonpublic session with the following people present:

- P. LaRochelle, Chairman
- R. Shea, Selectmen
- A. Morse, Selectmen
- N. Buonopane III, Selectmen
- R. Heath, Town Administrator

P. LaRochelle moved at 7:43 pm to exit nonpublic session. R. Shea seconded. Roll call vote:

P. LaRochelle - yes  
N. Buonopane III - Yes

B. Mitchell - Excused  
A. Morse - yes

R. Shea - yes  
Roll call vote carried unanimously.

P. LaRochelle moved to 'not divulge' item two of the minutes because divulgence of the information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board or render the proposed action of the board ineffective.  
A. Morse seconded. Roll call vote:

P. LaRochelle - yes  
N. Buonopane III - Yes

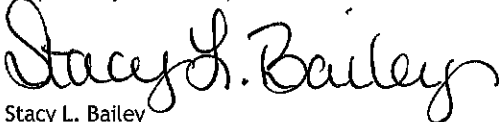
B. Mitchell - Excused  
A. Morse - yes

R. Shea - yes  
Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Adjournment

A. Morse moved at 7:50 pm to adjourn. R. Shea seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Stacy L. Bailey