

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes  
June 24, 2025  
*(Approved - July 22, 2025)*

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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  
Andrew Morse, Selectman  
Richard Shea, Selectman  
Drew Carter, Selectmen  
Ryan Heath, Town Administrator

**Agenda Approval**

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the agenda for June 24, 2025 as presented 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.

**Public Hearing 6:05pm**

Acceptance of "Welcome to Alton" Sign

N. Buonopane opened the Public Hearing at 6:07 pm. R. Heath stated that this is for the Board to accept the donation of the Welcome to Alton sign. N. Buonopane asked if there was any public input for the sign.

K. Sullivan approached the table. She stated that she is happy for R. Arsenault and her dedication in fundraising and bringing this sign to fruition. Thank you for her efforts.

R. Heath stated that R. Arsenault was not able to join us tonight. He did print out a copy of what the sign will look like. It is 84" wide by 48" high and has 8x8 12 foot granite posts. It has all been arranged and paid for through donations from member of the community. The location is in the traffic circle in the open area facing the New Durham side of the circle. NH DOT has all of the paperwork for permissions that are required to put it on State property. Everything looks in order and they didn't see any issues. We have not received it back as of yet.

N. Buonopane closed the Public Hearing at 6:11 pm.

P. LaRochelle made a motion to accept the Welcome To Alton sign in the Alton traffic circle on State property as it was presented and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

N. Buonopane made a motion to establish a Trust Fund to put any of the excess proceed donations into for the maintenance and upkeep of the sign and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

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

None

**Appointments**

None

**New Business**

1. Town Hall Murals Recognition - Joan Burns

N. Buonopane called J. Burns up. He stated that this is in recognition of her dedication in creating the murals on the first floor of Town Hall. J. Burns stated that she would like to thank everyone for coming tonight. There are so many familiar faces. She appreciates it very much. It was a pleasure to create the murals. The Historical Society came to her and asked if she would do it. She went on to explain how she created the murals.

## **2. Parks & Recreation Proclamation**

K. Troendle approached the table.

N. Buonopane read the proclamation out loud:

*WHEREAS, parks and recreation are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Alton, New Hampshire; and*

*WHEREAS, parks and recreation are a valued pillar to a thriving Alton community and its contributions to cultural vibrancy such as local events, celebrations, community led programs and spaces for physical activity, relaxation and social interactions; and*

*WHEREAS, parks and recreation promotes time spent in nature, which positively impacts mental health by increasing cognitive performance and well-being, and alleviating illnesses such as depression, attention deficit disorders, and Alzheimer's; and*

*WHEREAS, parks and recreation encourages physical activities by providing space for sports, hiking trails, swimming areas and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles and wellness; and*

*WHEREAS, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and*

*WHEREAS, We acknowledge the theme for Park and Recreation Month, "Build Together/Play Together." This emphasizes cooperation to create sustainable parks, thriving communities focused on health and wellness, high-quality accessible programs, and meaningful connections through participation and volunteerism; and*

*WHEREAS, parks and recreation increases a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and*

*WHEREAS, the Town of Alton Board of Selectmen recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.*

***NOW THEREFORE, the Town of Alton Board of Selectmen do hereby proclaim that July 2025 is celebrated as***

### ***Park and Recreation Month***

*And encourages all residents to show their support and contact our Parks and Recreation Department to participate in, or volunteer for an upcoming event, program, or project in July or anytime throughout the year.*

N. Buonopane read the next proclamation out loud.

*WHEREAS, the Town of Alton Board of Selectmen acknowledge that the parks and recreation field is a diverse system that contributes to community-wide health and wellness through various organized and self-directed activities that improve personal, social, environmental, and economic health; and*

*WHEREAS, the Town of Alton Board of Selectmen recognize the significance of town parks and recreation services that enhance the lives of citizens, making the community a desirable place to live, work, and visit; and*

*WHEREAS, the Town of Alton Board of Selectmen value the expertise of parks and recreation professionals in fostering community cohesion and resiliency, connecting people with nature and each other, and providing opportunities for healthful living, social equity, and environmental sustainability; and*

*WHEREAS, the Town of Alton Board of Selectmen appreciate the commitment of park and recreation professionals and volunteers to offer recreational and developmental enrichment for children, youth, adults, and older adults, and ensure that parks and recreational spaces are clean, safe, inclusive, welcoming, and ready to use.*

***NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town of Alton Board of Selectmen do hereby proclaim July 18, 2025 as***

*Park and Recreation Professionals Day*

*In the Town of Alton, and encourages residents to celebrate this day, and express appreciation to our park and recreation professional staff and volunteers for their contributions to the community.*

ADOPTED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025

**3. Fire Department -Equipment and Project Needs**

J. Reinert, Fire Chief approached the table. He is looking for approvals for some Capital Reserve purchases. He asked if the Board if they had any questions on his memo. N. Buonopane asked about the upstairs renovation at Central Station and Ambulance 2 corrosion/paint. J. Reinert explained both. P. LaRochelle asked about the mobile radio replacement. J. Reinert explained that it would be certain parts not the entire system. P. LaRochelle asked about the rotary saw. He asked how old it was. J. Reinert stated that it is 20 years old. Discussion ensued about the remaining items requested.

N. Buonopane made a motion to allow the Fire Chief to use \$50,500.00 from the Fire Department Capital Equipment Fund that has a current balance of \$1.1 million to replace the items as presented and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

N. Buonopane made a motion to allow the Fire Chief to use \$43,000.00 from the Ambulance Revolving Fund that has a current balance of \$937,000.00 to replace the items as presented and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

N. Buonopane made a motion to allow the Fire Chief to use \$15,000.00 from the Fire Department Building Improvement Fund that has a current balance of \$643,000.00 to replace the items as presented and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

**Old Business**

**1. Solid Waste - Roll Off Truck Lease/Purchase Documents**

N. Buonopane stated that the reason this is being discussed is because Municipal Capital Finance is allowing us to just enter into it. We have used them before in the past. Franklin Savings Bank they want a legal document from the Town's Attorney. Everything else is the same but \$200.00 less a year. R. Heath stated that the interest rate is actually a little lower with Municipal Capital Finance.

N. Buonopane made a motion to allow the DPW Director to enter into a contract with Municipal Capital Finance instead of Franklin Savings Bank for the lease/purchase of one 2025 Mack Granite Truck with accessories totaling \$255,811.00 and allow the Town Administrator to sign and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

R. Heath stated that legal had produced another document called a resolution. It breaks down the Board's authorization to approve this.

D. Carter made a motion to approve the resolution entitled "Resolution to Authorize" \$255,811.00 of Lease Purchase Financing to Fund the Purchase of Town Vehicles, be approved in form presented at this meeting and that an attested copy of said Resolution be included with the minutes of this meeting and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

**Selectmen Reports**

D. Carter stated that he had a Conservation Commission meeting.

R. Shea stated that there was the first meeting this year for Milfoil last week. There was a Hazardous Waste collection in Wolfeboro this past Saturday. The Swap Shop has been going very well.

A. Morse had nothing to report.

P. LaRochelle stated that the Water Bandstand Committee will be going out to do the painting and repairs on Saturday.

N. Buonopane stated that he had a Planning Board meeting.

### **Town Administrator Report**

R. Heath stated that NH DOT reached out and scheduled a meeting for July 8 with all of the Department Heads that will be involved with the culvert replacement on Route 11.

R. Heath stated that the tank sensors from the Highway Department have been replaced. The total cost with labor was \$1,750.00 and parts \$2,835.00 for a total of \$4,085.00. The DPW Director would like a motion to expend from the Highway Building Capital Reserve.

N. Buonopane made a motion to allow the DPW Director to expend \$4,085.00 from the Highway Building Capital Reserve and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

R. Heath stated that the last thing he wanted to run by the Board was if it would be okay to close Town Hall for an hour on July 2 for an employee appreciation luncheon. It was the consensus of the Board to allow this.

### **Approval of Minutes**

#### **June 10, 2025 - Public Session**

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the minutes of June 10, 2025 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 June 24, 2025 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

#### **1. Assessing Consent Items**

##### **Intent to Excavate**

Green Oak Realty Development; Map 5 Lot 72; L/O Suncook Valley Road

##### **Abatements**

Alton Bay Campmeeting Assoc.; Map 34 Lot 33-99; 76 Rand Hill Road; \$885.00

Alton Bay Campmeeting Assoc.; Map 34 Lot 33-99; 76 Rand Hill Road; \$443.00

#### **2. Special Event Application**

Alton Business Association, Alton Old Home Parade 2025, 8/9/2025

#### **3. Fire Department**

Christopher Panek, Firefighter/EMT, \$24.25 hr, Effective 6/25/2025

**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)**

D. Richardson approached the table. She would like to know who establishes Town land leases. What is the process of protocol the Town goes through for land leases. R. Heath is not aware of a situation. The only land lease that the Town is a part of is Shibley's on the Pier. That has been done per a Warrant Article. D. Richardson asked if the Town is using someone's private property that it needs to go through a Warrant Article. R. Heath stated it depends on what the circumstances are. D. Richardson stated that the culvert on Route 11 that had the Town water line run is now on her property. It run the length of her property to service all of the homes. There was no discussion with her about it coming across her property. She would like to know how her family is going to be compensated for the use of that line. Taking it out is not an option given the number of houses that is services. R.

Heath stated that he would direct that to the Water Superintendent. The other option is that they will disconnect it and take it out. That is not a land lease. Usually it is a utility right of way. She went to the Water Department and was told to bring it to the Board. R. Heath stated that the Water Superintendent said that was not part of the discussion she had with D. Richardson. D. Richardson refusing to have any liability on her property where a Town Employee who may be injured traversing her property to maintain a water line. That is an unfair assumption on part of the Town. D. Carter stated that he would like the Water Superintendent come in and provide them with detail as to where this water line is exactly. N. Buonopane stated that they will decide what needs to happen after speaking to the Water Superintendent.

#### Non-Public Session

N. Buonopane moved at 6:53 pm to enter nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II, a (employee matters). A. Morse seconded. Roll call vote:

P. LaRochelle - yes	N. Buonopane III - yes	R. Shea - yes
D. Carter - yes	A. Morse - yes	<u>Roll call vote carried unanimously.</u>

At 6:53 pm Chairman N. Buonopane convened the nonpublic session with the following people present:

P. LaRochelle, Chairman  
N. Buonopane III, Vice-chairman  
R. Shea, Selectmen  
A. Morse, Selectmen  
D. Carter, Selectmen  
R. Heath, Town Administrator  
J. Reinert, Fire Chief

D. Carter moved at 7:56 pm to exit the nonpublic session. A. Morse seconded. Roll call vote:

P. LaRochelle - yes	N. Buonopane III - yes	R. Shea - yes
D. Carter - yes	A. Morse - yes	<u>Roll call vote carried unanimously.</u>

N. Buonopane moved to 'not divulge' item two of the minutes because divulgence of the information likely would adversely affect 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	R. Shea - yes
D. Carter - yes	A. Morse - yes	<u>Roll call vote carried unanimously.</u>

#### Adjournment

N. Buonopane moved at 7:56 pm to adjourn. D. Carter seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy L. Bailey  
Recording Secretary