

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
August 12, 2025
(Approved - September 9, 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
Andrew Morse, Selectman
Richard Shea, Selectman
Drew Carter, Selectmen
Ryan Heath, Town Administrator

Agenda Approval

R. Shea would like to amend the agenda to add New Business #1 Discussion about changes to future agendas. 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.

Appointments

None

New Business

1. Future Agenda Changes - Discussion

R. Shea stated that after the last meeting, he thought it would be a nice idea after the Town Administrator's report a Selectmen's Question section could be added. The Chairman would poll each Selectman to see if he had any questions for the Administrator.

It is the consensus of the Board to add this to future agendas.

Old Business

1. 18 Hidden Springs - Land Clearing Bid - Award

S. Garland, Public Works Director, approached the table. R. Heath stated that there are a few things that need to take place. He said the last time this was discussed there was a concern with the acreage. He reached out to Tighe and Bond. He stated that the reason that there are 28 acres is because the red area on the conceptual plans allow for additional items to be stored outside of the area of the DPW building. The Water Department needs to be incorporated into this as well. They were also trying to encompass an area of monitoring wells. They keep having to maintain trails to the wells. We will be required to maintain and monitor the wells basically forever. We would like to go in and clear an area around them in order to easily access them. If we find out later on that we need more space we will need additional permitting. S. Garland stated that the gravel area across from the current location is just under 2 acres and they do utilize the entire area. D. Carter stated that he is not a big fan of clearing for ball fields. We are in no condition for clearing for that for many years. He thinks the money should be saved. He thinks it should be limited to clearing for DPW for now. R. Heath stated that the funding is mostly ARPA funds that are earmarked for that. It wouldn't go back into the General Fund. The money that is to be used is from ARPA Funds and the Capital Reserve. D. Carter asked what ARPA is. R. Heath explained what the funds come from. D. Carter asked how much we would risk losing if not spent. R. Heath stated that it is approximately \$76,000.00. R. Shea asked if it were restricted to only spending ARPA Funds could they do enough for the DPW facility. S. Garland stated that he did contact the vendors and there is one that would maintain a \$5,000.00 per

acre cost for any amount of acres. Discussion ensued as to how many acres could be cleared using only ARPA Funds.

R. Shea made a motion to authorize the Public Works Director to engage Boggs Logging of Ossipee, NH to clear up to 14 acres of the Hidden Springs site in the amount of \$5,000.00 per acre with the use of ARPA Funds for this purpose and to make certain the work is completed in the time limit the funds are available and to waive the Timber Tax per RSA 79:3-b and D. Carter seconded with all in favor of the motion.

2. Water Bandstand Committee - Water Ski Show Request

P. LaRochelle stated that this is the same request that is asked every year.

N. Buonopane made a motion to allow the Water Bandstand Committee request and D. Carter seconded with all in favor of the motion.

3. Mount Washington Pier - Update

R. Heath stated that at the last meeting the Board requested that he reach out to the Mt. Washington about future years. He went back to the original correspondence and discovered that they already addressed the Board's concern and stated that they do not intend to abandon the Port of Alton Bay.

4. Welcome to Alton Sign - Update

S. Garland approached the table again. R. Heath stated the NH DOT refused the permit for the sign. The requirement now is that the sign would be required to have break away posts. The Town of Alton actually owns a little triangle in front of Homestead Place. That will not need a permit from the State. There is a dead tree that needs to be removed. The sign would have the same vantage point as it would have in the other location.

N. Buonopane made a motion to change the location of the "Welcome to Alton Sign" to the triangle at the end of Homestead Place owned by the Town and P. LaRochelle seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Selectmen Reports

D. Carter stated that had a Conservation Commission meeting. There will be an informational meeting tonight at the East Alton meeting house at 7:00 pm.

R. Shea stated that Milfoil program is looking very good and we should receive a second check from the State. We will be well under budget. HHW did the Saturday waste collection at the landfill and it went very well. The Swap Shop is going well. He was able to attend a meeting for a more detailed election check in.

A. Morse stated that he has had a couple of meeting for the CIP. They are waiting for more of the Department heads to meet.

P. LaRochelle stated that the ZBA met.

N. Buonopane stated that the Planning Board meeting is coming up next Tuesday. He would like to thank everyone who came out for Old Home Week. It was a great success.

Town Administrator Report

R. Heath stated that he wanted give the Board an update about Blueberry Lane. It is now finally complete. The highway Department did a phenomenal job.

R. Heath stated that the elevator passed it's final test to go to the State for licensing.

R. Heath stated that the Fire Chief wanted him to inform the Board about a fire truck. There was a structure fire yesterday and happened to put their brand new fire truck into a ditch. It will be put out of service for a few days and the Fire Chief will allow them to utilize a spare engine that we just replaced.

R. Heath stated that there has been a big topic of discussion about road painting. In particular the centerline on town roads. When the stripping was discontinued we had a vendor that had a minimum. They wouldn't come out to do just one road. The DPW Director reached out to the contractor that was used for Rand Hill and they do not

have a minimum. A. Morse stated that it shouldn't be done this year. Wait and see how the Budget goes this year. It is the consensus of the Board to wait on the painting this year.

R. Heath stated that the last thing is that with the Budget Season coming he has a meeting with Department Heads and would like to know if the Board is in agreement with a 4% Merit increase. It is the consensus of the Board to allow the 4%.

Selectmen Questions

R. Shea stated that the Supervisors of the Checklist are not listed as a Town Board on our website. Perhaps they can be added.

Approval of Minutes

July 22, 2025 - Public Session

P. LaRochelle made a motion to approve the minutes of July 22, 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 August 12, 2025 as presented and D. Carter seconded with all in favor of the motion.

1. Assessing Consent Items

Abatement

Hawkes; Map 54 Lot 33; 17 Lantana Lane; \$0 (denied)

Timber Yield Taxes

Jones; Map 54 Lot 4-3; L/O Route 11D; \$488.89

Rezendes; Map 1 Lot 22; 550 Muchado Hill Road; \$953.35

Roberts Cove, Inc.; Map 19 Lot 8-1; 128 Roberts Cove Road; \$1,628.57

2. Fire Department

Mitchell Harzmovitch, Student Intern, \$17.95/hr., Effective 8/12/2025

Discretionary Action on Requests for Appointments (No discussion, majority vote required to allow/not allow appointment)

Roger Sample - Building Inspector, Roll Off Truck, and Town Hall Occupancy

N. Buonopane stated that he would allow him to come in for the appointment with the understanding that there is a form that can be filled out if you have a grievance with a Town employee or Department.

Public Input II *(limited to 5 minutes per person on any Governmental/Town Business)*

K. Sullivan approached the table. She thanked the Board for participating in the parade this weekend. She appreciates all of the questions tonight and thinks they did a really good job just hashing stuff out.

Non-Public Session

None

Adjournment

A. Morse made a motion to adjourn at 6:58 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