

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes
September 26, 2023
(Approved - October 24, 2023)

Vice-Chairman B. Mitchell convened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

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

Agenda Approval

B. Mitchell made a motion to removed #4 under New Business Water Bandstand - Expenditures and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion. B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and R. Shea 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.
- **NOTICE** The Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office will be closed on Thursday, October 12TH, 2023 staff will be attending the N.H.C.T.C.A.'S 98th Annual Town Clerk Conference

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

None

Appointments

None

New Business

1. Road Name Change - Legacy Landing

R. Shea made a motion to rename Landing Road to Legacy Landing as outlined in the details presented to the Board tonight and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

2. Fire Department - Alton Firemen's Association Donation

R. Heath stated that there is a proposal on behalf of Alton Firemen's Association membership. They want to donate the specific pieces of equipment: tapered two piece cascade professional series stainless litter, rectangle two piece cascade professional series stainless litter with rnn patient packaging system, one terra tamer litter transport wheel with transport pack, and professional series titanium adjusted equalizer litter handle system. All of the items are estimated value of \$8,338.90. These are items and equipment that is being purchased by the Association. It is important to stress this because if we take a cash donation or anything like that, a public hearing needs to be held. Some time during the late 80's a Warrant Article was passed that gave the Board of Selectmen the right to accept gifts like this. There is on contingency that if the Town no longer decides they need the equipment, that it be returned to the Association.

R. Shea made a motion to accept the donated equipment from the Alton Firemen's Association as listed in their proposal of 9/17 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

3. Tax Deeding

R. Heath stated that 192 Main Street is the only property left on the list that the Board needs to consider tonight. The other two that are on the list have been paid. B. Mitchell asked if there has been any contact with the property owner. R. Heath stated that there is proof that they are receiving the notices.

R. Shea made a motion to proceed with the tax-deeding of 192 Main Street as presented and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

4. Water Bandstand - Expenditures

Postponed

5. Investment Policy - Approval

R. Heath stated that this policy is the same one as last year. It needs to be voted on every year. There hasn't been many changes to the document.

R. Shea made a motion to accept the Town of Alton Investment Policy as presented and B. Mitchell seconded with all in favor of the motion.

6. Preliminary Engineering - Municipal Parking Lot

R. Heath stated that there is a contract proposal with Tighe and Bond. They are one of the contract engineering firms for the Town. This is in reference to expanding the parking out behind the Library and next to Alton Floor and Tile. This is to apply for a dredge and fill permit through DES and extend that parking area so that there is more parking for Municipal buildings and patrons in the village area. This contract is for the approved \$10,00.00 that was a warrant article that was voted on.

R. Shea made a motion to proceed with awarding to Tighe and Bond Engineering a contract for \$10,000.00 for Phase 1 of the library parking lot expansion plan in accordance with their proposal dated August 30, 2023 and further authorize the Town Administrator to sign on behalf of the Board and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

7. 2024 Budget Presentations

Administration 4130

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for Administration 4130 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Assessing 4193

R. Shea made a motion to approve the budget for Assessing 4193 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Audio/Visual 4199

A.Morse made a motion to approve the budget for Audio/Visual 4199 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Budget Committee 4131

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for the Budget Committee 4131 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Building 4192

R. Shea made a motion to approve the budget for Building 4192 and B. Mitchell seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Conservation Commission 4612

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for Conservation Commission 4612 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Cemetery 4195

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for Cemetery 4195 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Emergency Management 4290

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for Emergency Management 4290 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Gilman Museum 4575

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for Gilman Museum 4575 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Short Term Interest 4723

A.Morse made a motion to approve the budget for Short Term Interest 4723 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

IT Department 4145

A.Morse made a motion to approve the budget for IT Department 4145 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Legal 4153

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for Legal 4153 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Library 4550

A.Morse made a motion to approve the budget for Library 4550 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Parks & Recreation 4520

R. Shea made a motion to approve the budget for Parks & Recreation and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Patriotic Purposes 4583

R. Shea made a motion to approve the budget for Patriotic Purposes 4583 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Planning 4191

A.Morse made a motion to approve the budget for Planning 4191 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Street Lights 4316

A.Morse made a motion to approve the budget for Street Lights 4316 and B. Mitchell seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Tax Collector/Town Clerk 4132

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for Tax Collector/Town Clerk 4132 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Elections 4140

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for Elections 4140 and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Welfare 4442

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the budget for Welfare 4442 and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Old Business

None

Selectmen Reports

R. Shea stated that the HHW Program is having difficulty obtaining quotes for the upcoming year for handling of disposal. He is going to attempt to contact someone on the Budget Committee to schedule a meeting.

A.Morse stated that the CIP Committee is going through budgets and meeting with departments. There is a meeting next Tuesday.

B. Mitchell had nothing to report.

Town Administrator Report

R. Heath gave the Board a quick update on the current projects in the building.

Approval of Minutes

August 22, 2023 - Public Session

R. Shea made a motion to approve the minutes of August 22, 2023 Public Session and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

Consent Agenda Approval

B. Mitchell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for September 26, 2023 as presented and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

1. **Fire Department**

Roslyn Dutile, AEMT to Paramedic, \$24.40/ hr, effective 9/10/2023
Michael Okoniewski, Forest Fire Warden/ effective 9/15/2023

2. **Water Bandstand Committee**

Robert Janes, 1 Year Term, Expires March 2024

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 stated that she presented several concerns at the last Board of Selectmen’s meeting. She has not heard from anyone about the progress to potential solutions. She comes back tonight to ask how this is going to be done. What is going to be done to move this along. Has legal counsel been informed, if so what is their suggestions. B. Mitchell asked if this could be on the next agenda. R. Heath stated that he could answer it now. He stated that legal counsel has been consulted within days of meeting with D. Richardson. The recommendation is that the administrative appeal that has been filed with the Zoning Board has to be the first step. A lot of the onset of these issues came from the fact that the information that she provided they were not notified of the Zoning Application in the first place. That was mainly the onset of issues progressing from there. Had the variance been rejected or property owner notified it would have never had gotten to the construction stage. That chain of events in legal opinion is what needs to be taken care of first. D. Richardson approached the table again. It is her understanding that going to ZBA will simply be an acknowledgment of the fact that they weren’t notified. Then there may or may not be another hearing which will confirm that they were not notified. It doesn’t do anything to address the issue. Fast forward another 45-60 days and she will still be sitting here asking what can be done. ZBA has no authority other than the fact of stating that her family wasn’t notified. R. Heath stated that he cannot get into too much but it was represented that those were continuous lots. That representation is what needs to be challenged at ZBA and notification. If they acknowledged that you win the appeal, then it is a civil matter that needs to be taken up with Berry Engineering. They made those representations. D. Richardson stated that there are a number of things that have nothing to do with ZBA. The Town has failed their due diligence. It still impacts her property rights. What she thinks she is hearing is to go to ZBA prove that she it right to then be told to take it up civilly. What she thinks that she is hearing is that this group is not going to do nothing. This is where the power to act relies. She asked if that would be an accurate reflection. The analogy that she would like to present is that the Police Department have the authority and obligation to stop people from speeding in our town. It doesn’t matter if it is a State road. They are not going to sit back and wait and say that it is a State road and we are going to wait until the State Police pick them up. They are going to say yup we have a problem but we are going to let someone else handle it. R. Heath stated that is not accurate. B. Mitchell stated that he cannot say too much about it because he hasn’t seen any of the paperwork.

Non-Public Session

B. Mitchell moved at 7:36 pm to enter into Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A: 3, II, d (sale or acquisition of property). A. Morse seconded. Roll call vote:

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

Public actions.

A Morse motioned to deed waiver and abate 2020 taxes in the amount of \$198.13 for map 8 lot 49/238. R. Shea seconded. **Motion carries**

A Morse motioned to deed waiver and abate 2020, 2021, and 2022 taxes in the amount of \$2,155.92 for map 36 lot 50. R. Shea seconded. **Motion carries**

R. Shea motioned deed waiver to map 14 lot 2-0. R. A. Morse seconded. **Motion carries**

Adjournment

R. Shea moved at 8:18 pm to adjourn. A. Morse seconded. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy L. Bailey
Recording Secretary

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Paul LaRochelle, Chairman

Brock Mitchell, Vice-Chairman

Andrew Morse, Selectman

Nick Buonopane, Selectman

Richard Shea, Selectman