

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes  
September 9, 2024  
*(Approved - September 24, 2024)*

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**Convene**

Chairman P. LaRochelle reconvened the meeting at 6:00 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  
N. Buonopane, Vice-Chairman  
Andrew Morse, Selectman  
Richard Shea, Selectman  
Drew Carter, Selectmen  
Ryan Heath, Town Administrator

**Agenda Approval**

P. LaRochelle stated that he would like to add 2 announcements to the agenda 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 outside this meeting room, and on our website.
- The Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Office will be closed on Thursday, September 19, 2024. The staff will be attending the Tax Collectors 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Conference. The office will reopen on Monday, September 23, 2024.
- The Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Office will be closed on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 for the State Primary Election that will be held at Prospect Mountain High School from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm and will reopen on Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 12 Noon.
- The Town Planner would like to announce that she has been appointed by the Governor to the Board of Land Surveyors for the State
- The Selectman h have decided to withdraw from the Pearson Rd. Senior Center for the Swap Shop due to overabundance of dislike of the location. Again, this was only a suggestion. This will be further elaborated on in old business.

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

J. Houser approached the table. She would like to make three points. One is that the solid waste disposal is the primary purpose of the Transfer Station. She asked if there were funds set aside that could be used for building and site work for the Swap Shop. A benefit of the Swap Shop is providing financial relief to lower incomes in Alton.

R. Mastellar approached the table. She asked what the next steps are.

A.Shplley approached the table. She suggested raising the price of the stickers to help fund the Swap Shop.

M. Knight approached the table. She stated that the Senior Center is a bad idea. She stated that the staff never helped with the Swap Shop.

K. Sullivan approached the table. She thanked the public for sticking around after the announcement.

B. Dodge approached the table. She is thrilled that the Swap Shop is happening.

J. Blackwood approached the table. She wants everyone to about volunteering at the Swap Shop.

R. Larson approached the table. She is surprised that the Board read their emails.

H. Taylor approached the table. He tanked the Board members for their decision.

## Appointments

None

## New Business

### 1. Fire Department - Dry Hydrant Installation Request

J. Reinert, Fire Chief approached the table. Currently the New Hampshire Dam Bureau is working to replace the dam on Sunset Lake. They offered to install a dry hydrant at no charge as long as the Town pays for materials. The Town has a Dry Hydrant Installation and Repair Fund. The quote for materials is \$1,619.01.

N. Buonopane made a motion to approve the \$1,619.01 coming from the Dry Hydrant Fund and A. Morse seconded with all in favor of the motion.

### 2. Conservation Commission - Conservation Fund Projects

G. Young approached the table. He is asking for two withdrawals from the Conservation Fund. The first one is to help defray the acquisition costs for an easement on 56 acres of land on Halls Hill Road called Moonberry Farm. They are asking for \$5,000.00 for that. The total estimated cost of the project is \$794,00.00.

R. Shea made a motion to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend \$5,000.00 from the Conservation Trust Fund to enable then to take advantage of the offer for Moonberry Farm Property and N. Buonopane seconded with all in favor of the motion.

G. Young stated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> one is the New Hampshire Society for the Protection of Forests is purchasing property for conservation that abuts the Morse Preserve. It is 1,000 acres.

N. Buonopane made a motion to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend \$75,000.00 from the Conservation Trust Fund to enable then to take advantage of the offer for Meinert Property and R. Shea seconded with all in favor of the motion.

### 3. Town Clerk/Tax Collector - Tax Deeding

R. Heath stated that this is just a heads up for the Board of an impending date of September 24 for the tax deeding.

## Old Business

### 1. Swap Shop Discussion

P. LaRochelle stated that his suggestion for the Senior Center was solely based on having a clean environment; It would be easy access in and out without dealing with the rest of the Transfer Station. He stated that the are at the Transfer Station will be graded by bringing in more gravel, reuse the old storage container, put it in place on level ground, barricade fencing with stakes. He also proposes for the Town to have a full list of volunteers who will be there and have them sign a waiver of liability. There will be no electricity and no cameras because at this time we do not have the funds and should be a six month trial to open it up.

R. Heath stated that there is a letter from the Town Attorney stating that the use of money from the recycling or revolving fund would not be advisable.

## Selectmen Reports

D. Carter had nothing to report.

R. Shea stated that HHW collection day is Saturday, September 21 and there is an upcoming Milfoil meeting.

A.Morse had nothing to report.

N. Buonopane had nothing to report.

P. LaRochelle had nothing to report.

## Town Administrator Report

R. Heath stated that there will be some upcoming Budget proposals during the September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

R. Heath wanted to remind the Board that there is an upcoming Ribbon Cutting ceremony at Mount Major on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am.

R. Heath stated that the next thing is the 319 Grant. That is the stormwater management grant through the Conservation Commission and Tighe and Bond. It targets Mill Pond and all of the contaminants that enter it.

Approval of Minutes

None

Consent Agenda Approval

1. Notice of Limitations/Waiver of Liability

330 Rattlesnake Island, Map 77 Lot 12  
174 Blackpoint Road, Map 44 Lot 36  
131 Clay Point Road, Map 21 Lot 1-5  
19 Barbara Drive, Map 71 Lot 83.  
6 Beach Street, Map 65 Lot 34

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*)

J. Blackwood approached the table. She stated that the container would need heat and a 2<sup>nd</sup> door. She stated that the fund mentioned in the 2005 Warrant Article should fund it.

K. Sullivan approached the table. She thanked the Board for listening.

L. Carr approached the table. He asked what the details are for the Conservation Commission request.

D. Richardson approached the table. She thanked the Board for listening. She would like clarification for what the six months would be. She also stated that there needs to be guidelines.

K. Sullivan approached the table. She explained several ways for the public to contact the Board of Selectmen.

J. Houser approached the table. She reiterated some of the comments from J. Blackwood. She would like some clarifications on when and how things will be done.

Non-Public Session

None

Adjournment

N. Buonopane moved at 7:01 pm pm to adjourn. A. Morse seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy L. Bailey  
Recording Secretary