

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2008
HOPE TOWN OFFICE
6:30 P.M.**

Note: These minutes may not be considered an official public record until such time as they are read and accepted by the Board of Selectmen.

Board Members Present: Barbara Bentley, Eric Campbell, Ray Sisk, Mike Ames, Tim Pearse

Others Present: Jon Duke, Paul Gibbons, Fred Holbrook, Tim Higbee,

I. Call the Meeting to Order

Barbara Bentley called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

II. Minutes

a. Minutes of the September 23, 2008 meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Tim Pearse made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Eric Campbell seconded.

Motion passed 5-0.

III. Town Administrator's Report

The Town Administrator updated the Board on the status of an enforcement matter on Camden Road.

Tim Pearse made a motion to enter Executive Session to consult with the Town Attorney on the Fire Station contracts. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

IV. Executive Session

a. Consultation with Town Attorney on Fire Station Contracts (1 M.R.S.A. §412)

Tim Pearse made a motion to exit Executive Session. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

V. Old Business

a. Report from Hope Regional Planning Commission (RPC)

RPC has elected to go into the Alternative Organizational Structure (AOS) because that is the only viable solution that allows all towns to remain with some control in their local schools while creating a workable cost sharing agreement. The AOS would have a controlling Regional School Structure board with members from each town school board, but the net result of closing the School Union #69 office. Existing employment contracts with faculty, staff, and administration remain in place so immediate changes in employment costs will likely not occur.

b. Transportation Committee

The Town Attorney offered to conduct a public meeting to educate members of town boards and committees, the historical society, land owners, and other interested citizens on roads and their legal rights and responsibilities. The Board scheduled the meeting for November 18th at 6:30pm at the Town Office.

c. Fire Station Architect's Contract

Eric Campbell made a motion to sign a contract with Richard Higgins Architects to provide design and engineering services for the proposed Hope Corner Fire Station project. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

Tim Pearse made a motion to suspend as the Board of Selectmen and re-enter as the Board of Assessors. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

VI. Board of Assessors

a. Abatement – Charlie and Rebecca Martz

Eric Campbell made a motion to grant an abatement in the amount of \$313.60 to Charlie and Rebecca Martz. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 4-0 (Sisk absent)**

b. Abatement – John Crabtree

Mike Ames made a motion to grant an abatement in the amount of \$396.80 to John Crabtree. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 4-0 (Sisk absent)**

c. Abatement – Inergy, LP

Tim Pearse made a motion to grant an abatement in the amount of \$25.60 to Inergy, LP. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion 4-0 (Sisk absent)**

d. Abatement – John Tohanczyn III and Christine Alberi

Eric Campbell made a motion to grant an abatement in the amount of \$910.08 to John Tohanczyn III and Christine Alberi and grant an accompanying supplement in the amount of \$910.08. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion 4-0 (Sisk absent)**

Tim Pearse made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Assessors and re-enter as the Board of Selectmen. Ray Sisk seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

VII. New Business

a. Shelter Agreement – Humane Society of Knox County

Ray Sisk made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

b. Town Office walkway ADA

Tim Pearse made a motion to give approval to the Town Administrator to contract with David Pettee and Chris Packard to provide their services to install a new ADA compliant walkway for the front of the town office building. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 4-0 (Sisk absent)**

b. Warrant Approval 29-32

Eric Campbell made a motion to approve the warrants as presented. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 4-0. (Sisk Absent)**

c. Appointments/Resignations

Tim Pearse made a motion appoint Celeste Crabtree as a Republican Ballot Counter, Amy Gertner as a Democratic Ballot Counter, and Margaret Ludwig as a Deputy Election Warden. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 4-0 (Sisk absent)**

VIII. Adjournment

Tim Pearse moved to adjourn at 8:55 pm. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 4-0. (Sisk absent)**