

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 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, Mike Ames, Tim Pearse

**Board Members Absent:** Ray Sisk

**Others Present:** Jon Duke

**I. Call the Meeting to Order**

Barbara Bentley called the meeting to order at 6:40 P.M.

**II. Minutes**

**a. Minutes of the October 14, 2008 meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

Tim Pearse made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Mike Ames seconded.

**Motion passed 4-0.**

**III. Town Administrator's Report**

The Administrator explained the outcome of the Ordinance Review Committee's first meeting of looking at the Land Use Ordinance and to elect officers. Once again, Tom Ford will serve as chair of the ORC with Jim Guerra as Vice Chair and Jill Lang as secretary. Eric Galant of the Midcoast Regional Planning Commission attended the meeting and provided a pair of examples of potential ordinance models, with the committee choosing the least detailed of the models. The committee set forth an aggressive meeting schedule to meet their upcoming deadline of March 31, and will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month until the new year.

The Town received an unannounced inspection from the Bureau of Labor standards the prior week and while the inspector did not find any issues that cannot be easily and quickly corrected, there were areas of deficit that the town will need to address. The Bureau will send a letter to the town informing the Board of the potential fines the town could face. To avoid these fines, the town can either challenge the inspector's findings in front of the Board of Labor Standards or fix all of the issues noted in the inspector's report within 90 days.

Lastly, the Administrator presented the Selectmen with the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter financial report. Unfortunately, property tax collections are down over last year and we are very narrowly avoiding needing to borrow to cover the costs of running the town. Thankfully, this past June's town meeting vote to not use money from the undesignated fund balance and the increase in the mil rate from this past August should help us greatly next October. Yet, the next few weeks will remain a problem for us until our collections pick up closer to the due date.

Tim Pearse made a motion to exit as the Board of Selectmen and enter as the Board of Assessors. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 4-0**

#### **IV. Board of Assessors**

##### **a. Abatement – Ed Green**

Eric Campbell made a motion to grant an abatement to Ed Green in the amount of 216.32. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 4-0**

Eric Campbell made a motion to exit as the Board of Assessors and re-enter as the Board of Selectmen. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 4-0**

#### **V. Old Business**

##### **a. Fire Station lot – DEP Stormwater permit**

Eric Campbell made a motion to authorize Richard Higgins to sign a change order from Gartley & Dorsky to prepare an MDEP Stormwater permit for the proposed Hope Corner fire station. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passes 3-1 (Pearse opposed)**

#### **VI. New Business**

##### **a. Personnel Policy update – Sick/Personal Time**

The Board asked the Administrator to draft new language for the section of the personnel policy that relates to sick time that will provide 12 sick days for full time employees and 6 sick days for part time employees.

##### **b. Warrant Approval 33-36**

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

##### **c. Lien Release – 7 True Lane**

Eric Campbell made a motion to release all town liens on the property at 7 True Lane (Map 6 Lot 2-3) pending proof of payment of all taxes due to date. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 4-0.**

#### **VII. Adjournment**

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