

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2009
SOUTH HOPE FIRE STATION
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, Tim Pearse, Mike Ames, Kathleen Hastings

Board Members Absent: Ray Sisk

Others Present: Jon Duke, Alex Ludwig, Leslie Robinson

I. Call the Meeting to Order

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

II. Minutes

a. Minutes of the October 13, 2009 meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Tim Pearse moved, and Mike Ames seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2009 meeting with corrections.

The minutes were approved 4-0 (Sisk absent)

III. Selectmen's Roundtable

- Next regular meeting will be at the Hope Town Office on November 10th.
- Election Day will be November 3rd at the Hope Town Office from 10 AM to 8 PM.
- Tim Pearse noted that Barnestown Road had been paved with some ridges on the pavement.
- Kathleen Hastings noted the culverts on Gillette Road have been paved.

IV. Town Administrator's Report

- The Administrator brought copies of a voter guide produced by the Maine League of Women Voters which provides an unbiased discussion of all the ballot initiatives on the November 3rd ballot as well as plain language regarding all facets of voting day. Mary and Florance are handing these out to individuals who ask about the questions so that the town can help educate voters without possibly influencing them.
- The November calendar for the town is now available, and an updated sheet with building permits approved as of October 27th was circulated to the Board.
- Florance wished to pass along her sincere thanks for the town closing the town office so that the office staff could attend her mother's funeral last Wednesday.
- The Administrator updated the Board regarding the issues with Marriner's regarding the town's paving project. The check had been sent after the Warrants were drafted and was

cached. Following the last meeting, the Administrator contacted Marriner's and made them aware of the town's unhappiness with how the project was handled. The Board asked the Administrator to contact Marriner's once again and inquire about what steps they plan to take to rectify the situation. Further, the Board discussed having the paving contractors provide the price quotes and specification information in preparation for distributing a paving bid. The Board agreed to place discussion of the possible roads to be paved next year on the agenda for their next meeting.

V. Old Business

a. New Fire Station Construction Update

- After consultation with all interested parties, it was agreed that the Town will not put a finish coat of asphalt over the driveways and parking areas until spring. Project delays have put this phase of the project too late in the season for an adequate paving job to be completed.
- The Administrator received a complaint regarding the lights on the front of the new fire station and surveyed the situation with Barbara Bentley just prior to the meeting. It is apparent that the lights per design create a great deal of glare and are in conflict with the town's land use ordinance. The Administrator will speak with the architect to find a solution to this issue and provide enough light to illuminate the front of the bay.
- The deadline for drawing down the bond for the fire station project is October 31st so the office is working diligently to get necessary information in line to complete that step of the process.
- Last Monday, the Administrator, Fire Chief, Fred Holbrook and Richard Higgins reviewed the work completed at the fire station and created a punch list for the items that need to be addressed by the contractor prior to project completion.

VI. New Business

a. School Consolidation Repeal Referendum Resolution

Tim Pearse made a motion to reconsider the vote at the last meeting regarding supporting the repeal of the School Consolidation law. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passes 3-1 (Bentley opposed)**

Tim Pearse made a motion to support the repeal of the School Consolidation law on the November 3, 2009 ballot. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion failed 2-2. (Bentley and Hastings opposed)**

b. Community Involvement

Kathleen Hastings spoke to the Board regarding the recent conversations she had with a member of the School Committee regarding community involvement and getting more citizens to town meeting. The Board agreed to set up a joint meeting of the School Board and Board of Selectmen to discuss this issue further and look for ways to work together to more citizens involved.

c. Local School Spending

The Board discussed an email from the Rockport Select Board requesting other town governments that are part of the Five Town CSD become more involved with the details of the school department's finances. Rockport's board has learned a number of eye opening details regarding the expense of our school system in comparison to other similarly affluent communities in the state and feels our communities need to be better informed on these details. This email spurred further conversation with the Board and they discussed working with the School Board at that joint meeting to help set a framework for the Budget Committee so that their ideas and suggestions can be used more proactively as opposed to much later in the budget process for the town and school.

d. Approval of Warrants

Tim Pearse moved, and Mike Ames seconded, a motion to approve Warrants 30-33..

Motion approved 4-0.

VIII. Adjournment

Mike Ames moved to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 4-0.**