

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2009  
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, Tim Pearse, Ray Sisk, Mike Ames

**Others Present:** Jon Duke, Alex Ludwig, Clarence Keller

**I. Call the Meeting to Order**

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

**II. Minutes**

**a. Minutes of the March 10, 2009 meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

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

**Motion passed 5-0**

**III. Town Administrator's Report**

The Administrator noted that all four towns in the Midcoast Solid Waste Corporation have approved the 50% increase in the cost of trash bags and loose municipal solid waste effective April 1. There was some confusion as to when the increase would go into effect, but the date is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Florance will be out this week on vacation, but Mary will be working alone as we try to keep court payroll costs down.

Palmer Pease phoned today to request an extension of his deadline to pay the entire sum of back taxes in response for the town returning the home he resides in back into his name. The Board agreed to not alter the deadline set of March 31.

**IV. Old Business**

**a. New Fire Station Construction Update**

No new news from the DEP as the deadline has just passed for the minimum amount of time the DEP has to consider a stormwater application. The application is currently sitting on the desk of a staff engineer; and once his review of the project is complete, we should have word on the approval of the application shortly.

**b. Emergency Operations Plan**

Clarence pointed out a number of minor corrections to the draft Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). The EOP is meant to lay a floor plan as to how the Town of Hope responds to a disaster.

Tim Pearse made a motion to adopt the Town of Hope Emergency Operations Plan as amended. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

## **V. New Business**

### **a. Emergency Management Ordinance**

Clarence presented to the Board a draft of the Emergency Management Ordinance to be considered by the voters at the June town meeting. The Board asked Clarence to return with additional language that clarifies the Emergency Management Director's authority to spend funds without Selectmen approval in a State of Emergency. The Board asked that language is circulated to the Board prior to the Public Hearing on the ordinance at the next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

### **b. FY 2010 Budget**

The Board considered the entire FY 2010 municipal budget and made several cuts in an effort to reduce the overall proposed Selectmen's budget to \$798,484 or a 4% cut over the FY 2009 budget. The Board will present their budget draft to the Budget Committee for their consideration and meet collectively prior to the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

### **c. Tax Due Date Change**

The Board considered changing the date taxes are due from the current dates of November 30 and April 30. The main reasoning for the change is to move the first due date back so as to avoid severe cash flow issues for town finances and potentially borrowing money to cover expenses. The Board endorsed putting September 30 and April 30 on the Town Meeting Warrant draft they will consider at the Selectmen's meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **d. Town Report Bid**

Ray Sisk made a motion to accept the bid from Lincoln County Publishing. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

### **d. Portable Toilet Bid**

Eric Campbell made a motion to accept the portable toilet bid from Cleanwoods in the amount of \$850. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

### **e. Warrant Approval 77-80**

Ray Sisk made a motion to approve the warrants as presented. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

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

## **VI. Board of Assessors**

### **a. Abatement – Wayne & Lorraine Smith**

Ray Sisk made a motion to approve an abatement to Wayne Smith in the amount of \$1,987.84. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

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 5-0.**

## **VII. Adjournment**

Tim Pearse moved to adjourn at 10:00 pm. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**