

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 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, James Annis, Eric Campbell, Tim Pearse, Ray Sisk,

**Others Present:** Jon Duke, Jean Ettlinger, Mike Ames

**I. Call the Meeting to Order**

James Annis called the meeting to order at 6:45 P.M.

**II. Minutes**

**a. Minutes of the March 11, 2008 meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

Barbara Bentley made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2008 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Ray Sisk seconded. **Motion passed 3-0 (Jim Annis and Eric Campbell abstained)**

**b. Minutes of the March 25, 2008 meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

Barbara Bentley made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2008 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

**c. Minutes of the March 26, 2008 meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

Barbara Bentley made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2008 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

**III. Town Administrator's Report**

The Town Administrator described the upcoming busy week and the fire station bid opening process due for next Thursday. One wrinkle in this schedule is that Scott Nelson, who had been appointed last week to serve on the bid review committee has stepped aside due to a conflict, so the Board will need to appoint another individual to serve in his place.

Also, the Administrator presented to the Board the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter financial report and a listing of the amounts received for various provider agencies as a part of the first year under the tax bill check off system. Ray Sisk suggested that the check off system be worded in such a way that the payment appears as a tax and thus is able to be written "off the top."

**IV. Unfinished Business**

**a. Preliminary Budget discussion**

Road Commissioner John Monroe presented to the Board the estimates for the project to repair and resurface the remainder of Alford Lake Road. Once the costs for this project are added to the contracted costs for winter maintenance very little money is left available for all other projects (emergency and otherwise) the town must undertake. In addition, the Road Commissioner has applied for grant funds with MEMA to conduct disaster mitigation work on Gillette Road to minimize the future amount of damage to the roadbed. The town would be required to provide 25% of the funding for this grant, but this money would be taken from the existing budget amount if approved.

The Board suggested removing the new TRIO motor vehicle registration software, additional staff hours for the Town Office, and a phone system in place of a office equipment/software reserve account. The Administrator agreed to pass this idea along to the Budget Committee to gauge their interest in this proposal.

**b. Hope Corner Fire Station Bid Review Committee**

Barbara Bentley made a motion to appoint Tim Higbee and Jim Annis to the review committee. Ray Sisk seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**V. New Business**

**a. Hope Grove Cemetery Rules Amendment**

Mike Ames and Jean Ettlinger presented to the Board an amended version of the Hope Grove Cemetery Rules for their approval. The Cemetery Committee had looked at the rules for the past three months in hopes of updating the regulations to reflect the cemetery today. The most notable of the changes proposed is an increase in lot prices from \$300 to \$400, but this would be the first increase in over 11 years. These increases are not only in line with what other surrounding towns are charging for cemetery lots, but reflect the higher costs of maintaining the grounds themselves.

The Board asked the Cemetery Committee to look at creating a scholarship program to defray some or all of the costs for the purchase of lots and report back to the Board with possible changes.

Eric Campbell made a motion to accept the amendments as presented. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**b. Town Meeting civic group sales**

Eric Campbell made a motion to allow the Midcoast Ladies Club and the Hatchet Mountain Sno Riders to sell raffle tickets and refreshments at both the Special Town Meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup> and the Annual Town Meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**c. Warrant Approval 76-79**

Eric Campbell made a motion the approve warrants 76-79. Ray Sisk seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

## **VI. Adjournment**

Tim Pease made a motion to adjourn at 9:50pm. Eric Campbell seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**