

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 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, Tim Pearse, Mike Ames, Ray Sisk, Kathleen Hastings

**Others Present:** Jon Duke, Alex Ludwig, Clarence Keller, Fred Holbrook, Leslie Robinson, Robert Marks

**I. Call the Meeting to Order**

Barbara Bentley called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

**II. Minutes**

**a. Minutes of the August 25, 2009 meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

Tim Pearse moved, and Mike Ames seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2009 meeting with corrections.

**The minutes were approved 5-0**

**III. Selectmen's Roundtable**

- The Board of Selectmen will meet at the South Hope Fire Station at their next regular meeting on Tuesday, September 22.
- Kathleen Hastings wanted to issue a sincere thank you to Hope resident, Kim Pendleton, in her capacity as a school bus driver for Luce Transportation. Ms. Pendleton teaches each of the students on her bus to wait until she notes with a beep of her horn.
- Mike Ames noted that he received several complaints regarding the inability for the new garbage bags to hold the 30 lbs. noted on the bag. MCSWC is investigating what will be done to rectify this situation.

**IV. Town Administrator's Report**

- The Administrator reported to the Board his conversation with Terry Connelly of the EPA regarding the fact that the EPA, Maine DEP, and the parties responsible for the cleanup agreed to begin to move the process of the Union Chemical site away from attempting to clean the site and toward handing over the property. More on this will occur this winter and should take approximately two years to complete with plenty of town and community involvement.
- Rapid Renewal, the state's on line vehicle re-registration tool, is now working for the town and we are in a beta testing phase of working all kinks out of the system. I expect the system will be online in a week's time.
- Florance will be on vacation for the next two weeks, and we have only received a pair of applications for the deputy clerk position.

- The Administrator reported that he will be investigating how the town can easily provide flu shots to the employees whether that be with utilizing the clinic at the Hope Elementary School or via reimbursement.
- The Board asked to learn more regarding placing liens on personal property as a result of the seizure of an excavator last month by law enforcement. The law allows towns to lien personal property for up to two years prior the current commitment, while much of the outstanding taxes are significantly older than that.

## V. Old Business

### a. New Fire Station Construction Update

The Administrator noted the town was presented with four change orders at the construction meeting prior to the Selectmen's meeting. Those in attendance at the construction meeting offered input and asked questions regarding these change orders and all but one will be discussed at the next construction meeting on September 22 at 3PM. The one change order that will not be altered reflects \$939 in electrical work to provide, amongst other things, outlets in the equipment room to charge each firemen's flashlights. This amount will be taken from the credit given to the town due to shrinking the pavement width of the outlet lane.

Secondly, the Administrator spoke with representatives from Maritime Energy and P.G. Willey regarding providing the propane for the new fire station. Each company provided quotes with comparable specifications, but Maritime quoted a price of \$150 while P.G. Willey offered a price of \$456. Each company offered the same price of \$1.76 per gallon of propane.

Tim Pearse made a motion to accept the bid from Maritime Energy to provide propane and. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 4-1 (Sisk opposed)**

As a bit of good news, Chief Keller spoke to the Board regarding the cost of these proposed change orders and the town's inability to fund these changes due to a lack of contingency funding. However, Chief Keller announced that the Hope Volunteer Fire Department Inc. received a donation in the amount of \$30,000 to cover costs of the building that were unable to be covered by the scope of the construction and provide finishing touches to the building. These funds should help cover outstanding costs of the change order proposals.

## VI. New Business

### a. Road Maintenance Update

Paving is due to begin next week as Alex completed replacing a pair of culverts on Crabtree Road in preparation for this re-paving. Alex reported that he will replace the two culverts on Gillette Road soon. The wet weather has been an impediment to replacing those culverts, but he still plans to replace them soon.

### b. TABOR II / Excise Tax Referendum

The Board asked the Administrator to provide a draft of a resolution opposing the Excise Tax referendum.

### c. Transfer of Hope Grove Cemetery Lots – Francina Pearse

Ray Sisk moved, and Mike Ames seconded, a motion to transfer lots 3 and 4 in row from Francina and William Pearse Sr. to William Pearse Jr. **Motion approved 5-0.**

**d. Approval of Warrants**

Ray Sisk moved, and Mike Ames seconded, a motion to approve Warrants 17-19 and 21. **Motion approved 5-0.**

**VII. Adjournment**

Tim Pearse moved to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Ray Sisk seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**