

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**Hope Board of Selectmen**  
**Tuesday, February 28, 2017**  
**6:30 PM**  
**Hope Town Office**

**Executive Session:**

- The Board of Selectmen entered into Executive Session at 6:15 PM Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (A) – Town Administrator 3-month Evaluation
- The Board of Selectmen exited Executive Session at 6:44 PM

**Board Members Present:**

- Brian Powers Jr., Wendy Pelletier, David Bosken, Dick Crabtree & Mike Brown

**Others Present:**

- Samantha Mank, Bobbi Oxton & John Monroe

**Call to Order:**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:47 PM by Brian.

**Public Comment:** None

**Minutes:**

- Dick made a motion to accept the 2/14/17 minutes as written. Seconded by David.  
**Motion passed 5-0**
- Dick made a motion to accept the 2/28/17 minutes as written. Seconded by David.  
**Motion passed 5-0**

**Administrator's Report:**

- There are 31 outstanding 2016 real estate taxes that are scheduled for foreclosure in January 2018.
- Programmable thermostats have been installed at the Town Office. The Fire Chief reviewed the energy policy for both fire stations.
- Spoke with Ron Peasely from the State Marshall's office regarding fire/smoke detectors in the Town Office. The Fire Code indicates that they are not required for an office building.
- Attended the Mid Coast Municipal Association meeting. Met with other area managers and discussed availability and benefits of fiber optics.
- There was a Public Hearing for HopeAir on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. The Planning Board approved the Site Plan for the change of use for the new facility.

**New Business:**

- Road Commissioner – John Monroe stated again that he thought the snowplowing contract for the Town should go out to bid. He had inquired if there would be any additional interested bidders and he believes that there will be. There was discussion about whether there is a way to be more specific with sand and salt usage. John said that each storm is different and may require different amounts of sanding and plowing so it would be difficult to do so. All of the Selectmen agreed

to put the contract out to bid. John will notify Farley & Son that the Town will not be extending the current contract. Brian suggested that the Board consider changing the current sand/salt shed policy. Right now, it is a huge liability to allow the public to enter the shed and remove sand. There is too great of a risk for them to be injured. Perhaps making it go into effect next fall would be best. There are some maintenance and door repairs that need to be done over the summer. There was discussion as to whether or not there should be a small outside bin for residents on a first come first serve basis. Ultimately, the Selectmen and Road Commissioner saw to many ways for it to quickly have a negative impact. Dick made a motion to change the current sand policy which allows residents to get 2 five-gallon buckets of sand per storm from the sand shed for personal use; to: The Salt/Sand Shed will be closed to the public. Salt/Sand shall be used for the sole purpose of sanding the Town of Hope roads. The policy will be enacted at the beginning of the 2017-2018 winter season. It was seconded by Mike.

**Motion passed 5-0**

- Town Clerk – Bobbi Oxtan Town Meeting time line, Town Meeting warrant, Hope Chest usage: Bobbi presented a timeline for critical dates regarding the Town Meeting. She is using the Town’s Facebook page as well to help inform town residents about deadlines for nomination papers or proposed ordinance additions or changes. She asked the Selectmen to be thinking about the content of the Town warrant for the annual meeting.

Historically, the annual Town Meeting has been held at the school on the Monday evening after the referendum election in June. However, this year that Monday falls on the same day as the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation. Therefore, the Selectmen by a unanimous vote have changed the date of the Town Meeting to **Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 6:00PM at the Hope School**. Bobbi has asked that the Town Office be closed at noon on that day to allow for the close-out of the books. The Selectmen unanimously agreed.

The end of the fiscal year is on Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Bobbi asked the Selectmen what the policy or procedure is for a resident to obtain assistance through the Hope Chest. She believes that her position presents her with the ability to know who is really in need and sometimes time is of the essence and would like to avoid making people jump through hoops to get help. The Selectmen explained that there is not a written policy and that the Selectmen have the sole authority to make disbursements. If necessary, the Chair of the Board can make a decision without a consensus. However, the very first step is to notify the Selectmen about the need.

- Town Report Dedication: Wendy suggested the Volunteer Firefighters. Mike suggested Dick & Gwen Brodis. The Selectmen decided to dedicate this years Town Report to the Volunteer Firefighter’s and to have a separate one time in-memoriam page to Dick Brodis.

- **Old Business:**
  - Animal Control contract/renewal: The Selectmen would like to meet with the Animal Control Officer and go over the job description and have an annual review and check-in. The Selectmen unanimously agreed to pay the ACO \$240.30 for reimbursable expenses for the past 13 months.
  - Town of Hope Spirit of America Tribute: Tabled
- **Other Business:**
  - Dick asked to have additional discussion regarding the budget. He would like the Selectmen to present to the Budget Committee as a unified Board. All of the Selectmen agreed that they were in consensus with the budget that they are sending to the Budget Committee.
- **Review & Sign Warrants #'s:** The Selectmen reviewed all of the invoices and had a question regarding a particular bill. They opted to sign and approve warrants with the exception of that one invoice. Mike made a motion to approve and sign warrants 66 & 67 and to exclude a payment of \$165.85 from warrant 68 until its validity could be determined. It was seconded by Dick.  
**Motion passed 5-0**
- **Adjournment:** Dick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:22. Seconded by Mike.  
**Motion passed 5-0**

*Samantha investigated the validity of the invoice in question, and presented the facts to the Selectmen on the following day. By a vote of the majority of Selectmen, the invoice was approved and paid.*