

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Hope Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, January 23, 2018
6:30 PM
Hope Town Office

Board Members Present:

- Brian Powers Jr., Wendy Pelletier, Dick Crabtree, Mike Brown, and Sarah Smith

Others Present:

- Samantha Mank, Harold Mosher, Langley Willauer, and John Monroe

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Brian.

Public Comment:

- None

Minutes:

- Mike made a motion to accept the 1/9/2018 minutes as written. It was seconded by Sarah.
Motion passed 5-0

Administrator's Report:

- CMP has been notified about the street light out by Highfield Rd. It should be repaired soon.
- I have been assisting with some of the FEMA and Flood mitigation paperwork for the Town. It is a lot to ask of our Fire Chief because there are some mandatory meetings during the day time hours which would require him to miss work. The Town of Hope is filing a claim under the Presidential Declaration from the October 2017 storm. It is possible that the Town could qualify for reimbursement of 75% of expenses incurred.
- I have attended a number of meetings as we prepare for the budget season:
 - On the 11th I attended a meeting with the managers/administrators of the 4 towns regarding the Ambulance service. That same evening Sarah, Dick and I attended the Ambulance Review Committee meeting.
 - On the 17th I attended a meeting regarding the MCSW.
 - On the 23rd, I attended an ambulance meeting which included the manager from Vinalhaven.
 - On Wednesday, the 24th, I will be meeting with a rep. from the Allen Agency regarding the town's insurance coverage.
 - On the 24th there is another MCSW budget meeting. The audit found things to be in order.
 - On the 25th I will be attending a FEMA/MEMA documentation meeting.
 - I have been working on a Code Enforcement issue that has required some extended time.
- Our Town Clerk has been selected for jury duty. She may be out for as long as 2 weeks.
- There are **938** outstanding 2018 tax real estate accounts totaling \$1,263,829.49
- There are **23** outstanding 2017 real estate accounts totaling \$46,680.21 with liens that will

automatically foreclose in January 2019 if the accounts remain delinquent.

- There are 6 outstanding 2016 real estate tax accounts totaling \$6,328.86 with liens that will automatically foreclose on this Friday, January 26, 2018 if the accounts remain delinquent.

New Business:

- Road Commissioner, John Monroe – Updates:
 - Plowing: The Road Commissioner reported that there was a snowplowing mishap during a previous storm. The Road Commissioner stated that he received many complaints from residents regarding this particular storm. The Road Commissioner also acknowledged that the swings in temperature have created some plowing difficulties. The Road Commissioner and the Town Administrator have already spoken with the Contractor about the problems with this storm coverage.
 - Sand/Salt Shed: The Road Commissioner reported that an Appleton resident complained about not having access to the Hope sand/salt shed. He said that he should have access to Hope sand because he plows and sands the driveways of some elderly residents in the town of Hope. In addition, the man stated that he had a couple of residents that he takes care of in Appleton as well. John told him that if he was getting paid for his services that he was in essence taking and selling sand that belongs to the Town. The Road Commissioner also passed around some current photos of the sand in the shed showing how high and dangerous the sand pile is. He also thinks that having the issue of allowing residents to decide the matter at Town Meeting is a mistake. The Town is avoiding liability issues under the current policy. He encouraged the Selectmen to not allow the shed to be open to the public. The Selectmen said that the shed will not be open for public access but, they are willing to have the residents vote about funding a new structure and staffing and additional needed equipment in order to allow residents access to a limited amount of sand during a storm.
 - Roads Budget: Prior to submitting his final budget request, the Road Commissioner wanted to know if the Selectmen would be in support of finishing the paving on Alford Lake Rd. The Town has continued to make cuts and the infrastructure is showing the results those cuts. The Town plan to pave 1.6 miles of road annually is way behind. Instead of paving roads every 10 years it is more like 15+ years. In the long run, it will cost more for the road reconstruction prior to being able to pave than it is just to maintain the roads. “We are going to start seeing the ripple effect if we don’t tend to our roads properly. The tree trimming has been cut from the budget for 3 years in a row. At some point, the work has to get done. Brian said that it makes sense to pave the roads that get the most wear and tear. On the roads that don’t get as much could have chip seal instead of pavement. Alford Rd has 1.9 miles left before the paving is complete. By doing proper maintenance on less traveled roads, we should be able to get caught up on the paving. The Selectmen told the Road Commissioner to include it in his budget request.
- Code Enforcement Officer Update: The Code Enforcement Officer reported that a Stop Work Order and Notice of Violations was issued on January 17, 2018. The owner of the property in question has sought legal counsel and is intending on filing an appeal. The Selectmen spoke with 2 members of the Planning Board who were present at this meeting. Langley stated that he believes that the Stop Work Order and Notice of Violations are justified. He also expressed that he thought that it is in the best interest of the Planning Board to also have legal representation. The Selectmen agreed and authorized the use of the Town Attorney to

represent the Planning Board and Code Enforcement Officer in any upcoming meetings/proceedings arising from this matter.

- 2018 Spirit of America: The Selectmen will think about this and revisit it at later time. It was tabled.

Old Business:

- Municipal Building Policy – Review & Discussion: The Town Administrator presented a draft of the proposed Municipal Building Use Policy. The Selectmen found this to be the draft that they would like to adopt. This policy will be placed on the February 13, 2018 agenda so that, there is ample time for there to be public review prior to the Selectmen voting to adopt the policy.
- North East Mobile Health Contract Renewal Update: The Town Administrator gave an update on the Ambulance Service options. NorthEast has presented an option 1.5. So far, the Town has been presented with 5 options for ambulance service.

Option Choice	Option #1	Option #1.5	Option #2	Option #3	Option #4
Level of Service	3 Paramedics every day 2 Paramedics every night	2 Paramedics every day 1 AEMT every day 2 Paramedics every night	3 Paramedics M-F days 2 Paramedics S&S days 2 Paramedics every night	2 Paramedics M-F days 1 AEMT M-F days 1 Paramedics S&S days 1 AEMT S&S days 2 Paramedics every night	2 Paramedics every day 1 AEMT M-F days 1 Paramedic every night 1 AEMT every night

Other Business:

- None

Executive Session:

- Personnel Matter - Pursuant to *1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (A) (1)*: Sarah made a motion to convene in Executive Session at 8:12 PM. It was seconded by Dick.

Motion passed 5-0

- Sarah made a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:44 PM. It was seconded by Dick.

Motion passed 5-0

Review & Sign Warrants #'s:

- The Selectmen reviewed the warrants. Dick made a motion to approve and sign warrants #'s 51, 52, 53, and 54. It was seconded by Sarah.

Motion passed 5-0

Adjournment:

- Sarah made a motion to adjourn at 9:43 PM. It was seconded by Dick.

Motion passed 5-0