

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**Hope Board of Selectmen**  
**Wednesday, March 15, 2017**  
**6:30 pm**  
**Hope Town Office**

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Others Present:**

- Samantha Mank, Langley Willauer, Tom Ford, and Todd Snyder

**Call to Order:**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Brian.

**Minutes:**

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

**Administrator's Report:**

- The advertisement for the snowplowing bids have been posted. Bids will be opened on March 24, 2017 at 2:00 pm
- The Animal Control Officer will come and meet with Selectmen for annual review on May 9, 2017
- The heating oil for the South Hope Fire Station has been purchased through the Knox County Co-op in the past. The estimation is that the Fire Station will use approximately 550 gallons of heating oil. Bids for propane to heat the Town Office and the Hope Corner Fire Station generally start sometime in May.
- The Fire Chief has some concerns regarding one of the phosphorous treatment ponds located behind the Hope Corner Fire Station. He thinks that it may not be functioning properly and wanted to bring it to the Selectmen's attention before Spring.
- There are 30 outstanding 2016 real estate tax accounts that are scheduled for foreclosure in January 2018.

**New Business:**

- Letter from Planning Board to appoint an additional member: Langley submitted a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting that a new member be appointed to the Planning Board to fill the current vacancy. In addition, he requested that the Selectmen consider the need to appoint alternates since 2 of the current Planning Board members spend months away in the winter. Tom Ford spoke about the pitfall of appointing alternates. In short, if an alternate attends and prepares for each meeting but is not utilized it can cause the volunteers to not want to serve at all. He thinks it would be better to just appoint people to the Planning Board and work around the absences. There was some discussion regarding the residency of seasonal members. Wendy noted that the Planning Board ordinance requires members to attend at least 75% of the meetings and to not miss more than 4 consecutive meetings without good cause. Dick will draft a notice to plea for volunteers to fill these positions.
- Award mowing bid: Todd Snyder spoke on his own behalf regarding the mowing bids. He stated that he has been doing the mowing for the town for 18 years and that there have not been any complaints that he is aware of during that time. He is aware that his bid is around

\$1,300 higher per year than the other bids but believes that his history and experience should be considered before awarding the bid. The Selectmen want more time to gather information regarding all of the bids and tabled awarding the bid until the next Selectmen's meeting on March 28, 2017.

- “MRC options for receiving monies from PERC: Our waste disposal contract with PERC expires in 2018. Charter municipalities own an equity interest in PERC. Charter municipalities can require PERC to buy back this equity interest. The MRC and PERC recently came to an agreement about this issue, and they agreed that 1.5 million dollars was the price that PERC would have to pay to buy back all equity ownership interests of the charter communities. The buyback is called to “put” option. The value of the 4 towns’ limited partnership interest in PERC is \$72,443.15. Because the original waste disposal agreement with PERC was with each of the 4 towns, this money belongs to each of the 4 towns. To exercise the “put” option, the town must give notice to the general partners of PERC by December 15, 2017. Because this is a property interest of each town, each town must obtain voter approval to sell the equity interest in PERC.” ←*[Memo from Attorney Paul Gibbons]* Hope holds a 9.9% share of the \$72,443.15 which is \$7,171.87. Furthermore, Mid-Coast Solid Waste (MCSW) would like the towns to submit an additional warrant article to have that money stay at MCSW. Tom spoke regarding this and explained to the Selectmen that this is still in process and that only the Executive Board has discussed this. The regular MCSW Board Meeting is on 3/22/17. Dick noted that when the money comes back to the town that the town then has 100% control of how that money is spent and if MCSW has it then Hope only has 9.9% control over how the money is spent. Tom confirmed that was true. The Selectmen are very reluctant to do this. In addition, a larger sum of money will be coming to the town later so decisions made now can affect what happens then.

**Review & Sign Warrants #'s: 69,70,71 &72**

- The warrants were reviewed and signed by 4 Selectmen on 3/14/17 before the Town Office closed early due to weather.

**Executive Session:**

- Wendy made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6) (A) for Personnel Matters. It was seconded by Dick.

**Motion passed 5-0**

- Selectmen entered Executive Session at 8:04 pm
- Selectmen exited Executive Session at 8:20 pm

**Adjournment:**

- Dick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. Seconded by Mike.

**Motion passed 5-0**