

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Hope Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, October 25, 2017
6:30 PM
Hope Town Office

Board Members Present:

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

Others Present:

- Samantha Mank, Langley Willauer & John Monroe

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 6:48 p.m. by Brian.

Minutes:

- There was some discussion regarding the amount of information that is presented in the meeting minutes and agendas. The Selectmen he would like the minutes and the agendas to contain enough information that residents who were unable to attend a Selectmen's Meeting would be able to still be informed about Town matters & business and they would know if there is an issue that the Selectmen will be discussing if it was something they wanted to be present for. A motion was made by Dick to accept the Oct. 11, 2016 minutes. It was seconded by Mike.

Motion passed 5-0.

Town Administrator Report:

- Treasurer - Account balances were reviewed. Mentioned having a meeting with some different banking institutions for investment opportunities.
Office - The staff is preparing for the Nov. 8th election as well as maintaining all of the day to day operations required.
LPI - Samantha was issued a temporary license valid until April 25, 2017.
CEO - The Selectmen asked if there had been any new developments or information regarding the septic system that is currently be utilized by the Town Office and 2 neighboring buildings. Samantha explained that she had a brief conversation with the owner of Pine Ridge Carpentry. There are still a lot of unknown variables at this time. Samantha will try to pin point a time frame of when the septic system was put in and when the former Apple Barn was connected to it.

Old Business:

- **Mid-Coast Solid Waste** - None
- **Bull Hill Rd. Tax Acquired Property** – The Selectmen were provided a detailed packet outlining all of the steps that had been taken to identify the owner of personal property that is still on the property that was tax acquired by the town in January 2016. The Selectmen signed the certified letter giving the last known owner a 21-day notice to remove any personal property on the land, otherwise it will be legally considered abandoned and also come under the ownership of the Town.

New Business:

- **South Hope Memorial** – This issue was brought to the Board by Dick. The flagpole green on Rt. 17 has a granite memorial to those who have served. Signs have been placed on that small area. Citizens have raised their concerns with Dick about it being a sign of disrespect to place

signs on the memorial area. Dick has proposed that the Board of Selectmen make an official policy prohibiting future signs on the memorial green. The Selectmen will vote on this policy at the next Selectmen's meeting. The proposed policy is as follows:

It is the policy of the Town of Hope that no signs or foreign objects shall be placed on the grounds of the Veteran's Memorial located in the Village of South Hope at the intersection of Hart's Mill Road and Route 17. Any employee or Official of the Town of Hope is authorized to remove any sign or foreign object placed in violation of this policy. (Effective November ____, 2016)

- **New Overtime Rules** – New Department of Labor overtime rules, effective December 2016, state salaried employees who receive less than \$47,478 annually are entitled to overtime compensation at 1.5 times regular pay for hours worked over 40 per week. Dick raised the question regarding the Administrator's salary and wanted to know if any changes need to be made in order to be in compliance. The Administrator has opted to receive pay instead of benefits such that her total salary package will exceed the federal \$47,478 wage threshold. Samantha will contact MMA and find out if the PIB counts as salary or if the Selectmen need to take further action.

Other Business:

- **Hobbs Pond Boat Launch** – The Hobbs Pond boat launch at Luce Lane & Crabtree Lane sits on privately owned property. The resident property owner would like to continue to make that boat launch available to the public for hand carry access only. The resident has further asked that the town place large rocks that were removed from the culvert project, in the water access area which would prevent vehicular traffic. The property owner would like affirmative support from the Town in the endeavor. The Selectmen recognize the rights of the property owner and wish to leave these property matters up to the owner alone. Dick made a motion: that in response to an email from Landon Fake, the Selectmen provide the following options for Mr. Fake: 1.) Mr. Fake may purchase the rocks from the Town for the total cost of \$1.00 as is, where is. Or, 2.) The Town will remove the rocks from their present location at the Town's expense. Mike seconded the motion.
Motion passed 5-0.

Future Agenda Items:

- North East Ambulance meeting
- Replacement of Jim Annis on MCSW Board

Warrants

- The Selectmen reviewed the Warrants. Warrant 35 is the school warrant. MRS 20-A §15006 prohibits the municipal officers from signing the warrant if certain conditions are not met. The number of required signatures from the School Board were not on the warrant. Dick made a motion to approve and sign warrants 34 & 36 and to postpone approval of warrant 35.
Motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment:

Dick made a motion to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. Seconded by Mike.
Motion passed 5-0