

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**Hope Board of Selectmen**  
**Tuesday, April 10, 2018**  
**6:30 PM**  
**Hope Town Office**

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Others Present:**

- Samantha Mank, John Monroe, Jake Esancy, Clarence Keller

**Call to Order:**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM by Brian.

**Public Comment:**

- None

**Minutes:**

- Dick made a motion to accept the 3/27/2018 minutes as written. It was seconded by Wendy.  
**Motion passed 3-0-1** (*Brian*)

**Administrator's Report:**

- MMA will be in Hope to conduct a risk analysis survey on the Fire Station and the Salt/Sand Shed.
- Spoke to those involved with foreclosed property. Will know results in a few weeks.
- I believe we have come to a consensus on the contract with NEMHS. The attorney already has the contract and is making any needed changes. I hope to have a lower price offered to the Towns as a result of all of the changes.
- There was an injury to one of our fire fighters. He was struck in the head with a fire hose that came uncoupled. He suffered a head concussion, but we are expecting a full recovery.
- There are 800 outstanding 2018 tax real estate accounts totaling \$1,091,328.52
- There are 22 outstanding 2017 real estate accounts totaling \$43,205.93 with liens that will automatically foreclose in January 2019 if the accounts remain delinquent.

**New Business:**

- Sign Warrant and Notice of Election for Five Town Community School Budget Validation Referendum: The Selectmen reviewed and signed the warrant for the Five Town CSD Validation Referendum. The meeting will be held on May 22, 2018 at the Strom Theatre at the Camden Hills Regional School.
- Liability Insurance for Town: After reading through the documentation that was provided by the Allen Agency and MMA regarding liability insurance coverage for the Town, Dick made a motion to continue insurance coverage through MMA for the upcoming year. Dick noted that MMA is an organization whose sole purpose is to look out for the better interests of municipalities. In addition, he cited a difference in aggregate coverage for the same price. He said that Allen Agency is a very honorable and reputable company. Wendy noted that the underwriter for Allen Agency is located in Texas. She personally prefers MMA because it covers Towns in the State of Maine. Mike seconded the motion.

**Motion passed 4-0**

- Road Commissioner – John Monroe: John went over some of the highlights from the Budget Committee Meeting as he now has some updated figures for some of the work he is proposing. There was some discussion about how to handle a portion of Alford Lake Rd and Hackleburnham Rd.

The Road Commissioner also discussed the snowplowing. He told the Selectmen that there was a notable increase in the number of complaints regarding the plowing this year. He noted that the Selectmen changed the plowing policy to not put sand down in both directions during plowing operations. He also stated that if the Selectmen were not pleased with the plowing job, that now would be the time to terminate the contract. The Selectmen were pleased that the contractor did as he was told, and they were overall pleased with the plowing. John said that some people think hiring Jake Esancy is a conflict of interest because the Road Commissioner has helped him. The Selectmen did not see a conflict of interest. Mike said he didn't mind driving in the snow and thought that a good job was done on the plowing. Brian stated that as Selectmen, they already knew there would be an increase in complaints because it is a new contractor. Also, it was a very hard winter with many small storms and lots of ice. John gave the Selectmen some cost comparisons of the Town of Union. The Selectmen will put an Article on the annual meeting warrant and let the voter decide if they want additional winter road treatment next year. Brian stated that there were no egregious violations that would nullify the contract. He stated that he sees a brighter future and that maybe the next winter season won't be as bad as this one.

- Emergency Operations Plan – Clarence Keller: Clarence presented an updated Emergency Operations Plan for the Town of Hope. The purpose of the plan is to have something in place to follow in cases of emergency or extended weather problems. The Selectmen reviewed the plan and had lots of discussion with Clarence. Mike made a motion to accept and sign the EOP as presented by Clarence. It was seconded by Dick.

**Motion passed 4-0**

There was also discussion regarding the need for a new EMA Director as Clarence would like to step down. The position requires quite a bit of time that Clarence does not have. The Selectmen will begin advertising locally for the position.

**Old Business:**

- None

**Other Business:**

- None

**Review and Sign Warrants:**

- The Selectmen reviewed the warrants. Mike made a motion to approve and sign warrant #'s 72, 73, 74, and 75. It was seconded by Dick.

**Motion passed 4-0**

**Adjournment:**

- Dick made a motion to adjourn at 9:24 PM. It was seconded by Mike.

**Motion passed 4-0**