

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSOR'S MEETING
Hope Board of Selectmen & Assessor's
Tuesday, May 9, 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, Mary Tolles, John Monroe, Jacob Esancy & Langley Willauer

Call to Order Board of Selectmen:

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Brian.
- The Board of Selectmen express with sadness their condolences on the very unexpected and untimely passing of Tom Ford. Tom was a very valued member of the community and served the Town of Hope in so many ways including the Board of Appeals, Town Meeting Moderator, Member of the Board of Selectmen, Hope Elementary School Basketball Coach, Chair of the MCSW Board of Director's, and a number of other activities and committees as well. He was a friend to many and will be missed.

Minutes:

- Dick made a motion to accept the 4/29/17 minutes as written. Seconded by Wendy.
Motion passed 5-0

Administrator's Report:

- **Personnel:** I met with the custodian yesterday. We discussed job performance as well as what our expectations are. I have placed call with our rubbish contractor, still haven't had a return call yet. Sent a letter to our mowing contractor. There were some things missed at the town office that needed to be handled better such as weed whacking around the building.
- **CEO/LPI:** I have completed/passed 2 of the three exams need for my LPI license. The final exam is schedule for next Monday, May 15th. Some stats for Building and plumbing permits: 48 Building Permits totaling \$6,877.22 – 25 Plumbing Permits totaling \$3,795.00. In 2016, there were 48 building permits issued handling 54 different projects which is the highest number of permits issued in a year since 2009. In 2016, there were 25 plumbing permits issued. This is the highest number of permits issued in a year since 2012.
- **Delinquent Real Estate Accounts:** There are 25 outstanding 2016 real estate tax accounts totaling \$41,665 with liens that will automatically foreclose in January 2018 if the accounts remain delinquent.

New Business:

- Update with Animal Control Officer – Heidi Blood: Heidi was not present at this meeting. Samantha will call and invite her to the next Selectmen’s meeting.
- Update and paving bids discussion with Road Commissioner – John Monroe: We are behind on getting the paving bids out. The Road Commissioner wanted direction from the Selectmen on how exactly to write the specifications for the bids. He has recommended that .91 miles of road are paved this year. However, the budget committee will likely recommend less than that. The voters will ultimately decide at Town Meeting but the request for bids must be sent before town meeting. The Selectmen advised the Road Commissioner to seek bids based on .91 miles of paving.
- Discussion regarding cable television in Hope: A resident came to the Town Office requesting information about bring Spectrum Cable to the Town of Hope. The Town does not have a franchise agreement or contract with any company at this time. The contract that the Town previously had with Lincolnville Telephone expired on February 1, 2015. Dick asked the other Selectmen if we should have a franchise agreement with a company or is it even anything that is even needed anymore? David would like the town residents to seek whatever cable provider they want instead of having a franchise agreement. After much discussion, Dick made a motion: The Board of Selectmen finds no need for the Town to have a franchise agreement at this time. It was seconded by Mike.

Motion passed 4-1 (Dick)

Old Business:

- Update with Winter Maintenance Contractor – Jacob Esancy: Brian began the discussion by welcoming Jake to the meeting. He stated that he was glad that there was competition and that the process worked. Competition is good. Brian further cautioned Jake that he would likely be more scrutinized by the Town’s people, more than any other contractor previously has been. Our former contractor had been with the Town for many years, some of the scrutiny will be warranted and some will not. The Selectmen want to have good and open dialogue. The other Selectmen reiterated the need for good communication. Jake explained that he will actually be on the roads doing the plowing so he will be able to keep a first-hand look at how his employees are doing and be able to make corrections on the spot. The Road Commissioner expressed his confidence in Jake’s ability to be able to handle not only the job but any unwarranted comments as well. Dick noted that the Selectmen changed the Sand Shed Policy and now they need to enforce it. This change should make it easier for the contractor to get in and out of the shed area. In addition, the Road Commissioner indicated that surveillance cameras were going to be installed around the area to help with enforcement and to deter vandalism. Jake is working on getting all of his equipment together before the September 1st deadline. He still needs 1-2 trucks and a loader. Jake will make monthly reports in writing to the Selectmen through the Road Commissioner.
- Maintenance and repair needs of the phosphorus treatment ponds (PTP) at the Fire Corner Station: Dick reported to the other Selectmen that there has been quite a bit of rain. Three of the PTP’s have drained. The 4th pond is sloped and only a

portion of that pond has drained. The question then becomes are 3½ of the ponds working incorrectly and only ½ of a pond working correctly or is it the other way around. Clarence stated that the bottom is not level. The grasses in the undrained portion is that of wetlands and that isn't supposed to be that way. Clarence had a letter from Gartley & Dorsky recommending "that the 200-sq. ft. area in the soil filter is repaired because it is lower than the rest of the bottom of the filter, and remains inundated to the point where the grass cover is compromised." David stated that he thought the Board of Selectmen had decided to have the work done by a firm other than Gartley and Dorsky. Clarence told the Selectmen that he is just trying to maintain the ponds so he would like to follow the advice of the engineers. "I would just like to have it fixed and off of my plate and I don't want the Town to incur a fine." Brian is concerned about the conflicting responses about how the ponds are actually supposed to work. Brian wants to know if the ponds were originally installed correctly. David made a motion to have the Town Administrator to find other entities who have PTP's and find out they use to inspect the ponds and to bring those alternatives to the Selectmen so that they can make an informed decision. It was seconded by Dick.

Motion passed 5-0

Other Business:

- Appointment to the MCSW Board of Directors: David made a motion to nominate Wendy as the Town of Hope representative to the MCSW Board of Director's until elections in July. It was seconded by Dick.

Motion passed 5-0

- Website Privacy Policy: Because it is mandatory for the Town to adopt a policy regarding website privacy. The wording of the following policy is suggested.

Because individuals who visit the Town of Hope's website are important to us, we do not capture personal information about them without their permission. We endeavor to collect only the minimum amount of information needed to provide the services, security, and information access for which this site was created. Personal information will not be collected unless you voluntarily send an email message or request E-Alerts. This information will be considered to be voluntarily provided and will be treated in the same manner as information provided in written form. We will not sell or rent this information to anyone. We will not share your information with any third party outside of the Town of Hope. We will use your information to respond to you regarding the reason you contacted us. We may contact you in the future by email on Town-related business only. You may opt out of E-Alerts at any time by following the link on the website or in any E-Alert message.

Email

Email messages will be treated the same as any other written communication. They may be subject to public inspection or legal disclosure and may be saved for a period of time before they are destroyed.

Hyperlinks

Our website contains hyperlinks, or "links" to other sites. Websites linking to our website may have different privacy practices from the ones described herein. Visitors to our website should read the privacy statements of other websites they visit. Our privacy policy applies solely to information collected by our website.

Information Disclaimer

The Town of Hope has made reasonable effort to ensure the accuracy of the information provided in this website. However, due to the possibility of unauthorized access to this site, data transmission errors, changes to source material made since the last update to the site, or other human or mechanical errors, the information contained on this website should not be deemed reliable for legal purposes. Please contact the Hope Town Office to verify the accuracy of the information.

Consent

By using our website, you signify your assent to our privacy policy. If you do not agree with any term in this policy, please do not use our website or submit any personal information.

Contact

If you have any questions about this policy, please contact the Town Administrator of Hope or call 207-763-4199.

Mike made a motion to adopt the wording of the Website Privacy Policy as required by State Law MRS 1 Ch 14-A §542. It was seconded by Dick.

Motion passed 5-0

Future Agenda Items:

- A side by side comparison of the Town's need to upgrade from DSL to Broadband Fiber Optic service
- Review the vacation/sick time section of the Town Personnel Policy
- 6 Month review of Town Administrator

Review & Sign Warrants #'s:

- The Selectmen reviewed David made a motion to approve and sign Warrants # 83, 84, 85 & 86. It was seconded by Mike.

Motion passed 5-0

Adjournment:

- Wendy made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen at 8:43 PM. It was seconded by Mike.

Motion passed 5-0

Call to Order Board of Assessors:

- The meeting was called to order at 8:43 PM by Brian.
- Vern has prepared the Declaration Ration for the Board of Assessor's to sign. Motion was made by Dick to sign the Declaration Ratio. It was seconded by Mike.

Motion passed 5-0

Adjournment:

- Mike made a motion to adjourn the Board of Assessor's at 8:50 PM. It was seconded by Dick.

Motion passed 5-0