

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2016
HOPE TOWN OFFICE
6:30 P.M.**

Note: These minutes may not be considered an official public record until such time as they are read and accepted by the Board of Selectmen.

Board Members Present: David Bosken, Brian Powers Jr., Wendy Pelletier, Chris Pinchbeck

Board Members Absent: Jim Annis

Others Present: Jon Duke, Clarence Keller, John Monroe, Charlie Weidman

I. Call the Meeting to Order

Brian Powers called the meeting to order at 6:37 P.M.

II. Minutes

a. Minutes of the May 10th meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Chris Pinchbeck moved, and Wendy Pelletier seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of May 10th meeting of the Board of Selectmen as amended. **Motion passed 4-0.**

III. Selectmen's Roundtable

- Next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will take place Tuesday, June 14th at 6:30pm at the Hope Town Office.

IV. Town Administrator's Report

Jon relayed to the Board the results of the school committee's bid opening for the replacement of the septic system at Hope Elementary School. The school committee received several bids, but chose the low bidder, Chris Packard, at a price just below \$40,000. The bid price is \$60,000 less than what was approved at the school budget meeting just two weeks ago, so unless some action is taken to reduce the amount in the school budget, the unexpended funds will lapse into the school unassigned fund balance. This matter is only complicated by plans to increase the amount used from the Town's unassigned fund balance at the Annual Town Meeting so as to reduce the impact to the taxpayers. Brian Powers and Jon plan to meet with the Superintendent and members of the school committee to see if a solution to this situation can be reached.

Camp Bishopswood saw the completion of its septic system last week. The system, which is the largest in Hope, replaced a 50 year old system which had begun to fail. Camp Bishopswood paid for the entire system using donations from their patrons and benefactors. The system is an engineered system which requires continuous monitoring and a higher level of review which encompasses officials in state government. Unlike most residential septic installations which require one or perhaps two visits, Jon visited the Bishopswood site a half dozen times over the past month as JBI worked to complete the project.

V. New Business

a. FY 17 Road Plan

The Board discussed with John Monroe the beaver dam removed at the culvert on Crabtree Road that splits Fish Pond and Hobbs Pond. The Board asked John Monroe to contract Game Warden Michelle Merrifield to pursue the trapping of the beavers who created the initial dam and have since started work on a new dam.

Next, John Monroe presented to the Board two quotes from All States Asphalt to cover the costs of chip sealing Jones Hill Road and Seacoast Road next fiscal year. The two quotes differ due to the depth of asphalt used to shim the road below the chip sealing process. John was quite impressed with the information presented by All States Asphalt's representative which indicates the quality of asphalt used on the Town's roads recently has not been as good quality as it had been. Additionally, John was impressed by the plan presented by All States Asphalt which calls for more of a shim than he had initially anticipated to the point where now advocates treating Seacoast Road and Jones Hill Road with chip sealing.

The Board discussed the options of circulating a bid for the other companies who can chip seal Town roads with similar characteristics as what John Monroe received as a quote. IN addition, the Board discussed the need for a public hearing prior to approving the Town's FY 17 Road Plan which would authorize the Board to hire the work needed to complete the road plan without putting projects larger than \$5000 out to bid. John Monroe will provide the Board with the names of other prospective bidders and prioritize the projects listed in the FY 17 Road Plan so that the public hearing in two weeks will show the priorities of the road needs.

a. South Hope Fire Station Ceiling

Chief Keller spoke with the Board regarding the need for the Town to contact Knox County Dispatch for the purpose of updating the dispatching protocols for the South Hope portion of the Town once the Board signs the revised contract with North East Mobile Health Services to expand service to the entire community. Jon responded that Linwood Lothrop of Knox County Dispatch and Dennis Simmons from North East Mobile Health Services have indicated that the process to update the dispatching protocols is quite simple and can be accomplished quickly. Clarence shared that he wished to ensure that the protocols for the first and second call for EMS services is in place well in advance of the start of the new contract on July 1st.

Secondly, the Board spoke with Chief Keller on the replacement of the ceiling in the South Hope Fire Station. Brian Powers noted that he recently attended a training at the Brooks Fire Station, where the Town utilized corrugated metal for the ceiling in the truck bay. The Board discussed other options for covering the ceiling of the station with boarding boards, sheetrock or corrugated plastic. Clarence will do some research on the various materials which could be used and then meet with the Board to see which material is the best fit for the project. Clarence will also create a flyer for EBS, Rankins, and other area building materials stores asking for contractors interested in the job to contact him or Jon Duke.

b. Approval of Warrant

Wendy Pelletier made a motion to approve Warrants 86-88. David Bosken seconded.
Motion passed 4-0.

VI. Future Agenda Items

VII. Adjournment

Chris Pinchbeck moved to adjourn at 9:07 pm. David Bosken seconded. **Motion passed 4-0.**