

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Hope Board of Selectmen
Tuesday June 25, 2019
6:30PM
Hope Town Office

Board Members Present:

- Brian Powers Jr, Sarah Ann Smith, Wendy Pelletier, Thom Ingraham, & Bruce Haffner

Others Present:

- Samantha Mank, John Monroe, Dick Crabtree, Harold Mosher, Bill Jones, and Matt Winston

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Brian

Public Comment:

- None

Minutes:

- 6/11/19: Sarah made a motion to accept the 6/11/19 minutes with minor corrections. It was seconded by Wendy.
Motion passed 3-0-2 (Thom & Bruce)
- 6/12/19: Sarah made a motion to accept the 6/12/19 minutes. It was seconded by Wendy.
Motion passed 3-0-2 (Thom & Bruce)

Administrator's Report:

- Attended the Mid Coast Manager's Association Meeting last week. Kate Dufour was the speaker. The projected 2020 revenue sharing has increased from 2% to 3%. This translates to an approx. \$35,000 increase for Hope. The estimated 2021 revenue sharing is projected to increase to 3.75%. This is possibly an increase of \$40,000 from 2020.
- The final money from the October 2017 storm has been received from MEMA. The Town expended \$8,130.54 for the storm clean-up. On November 28, 2018 the Town received a 75% reimbursement from FEMA in the amount of \$6,097.91. The State sent 15% in the amount of \$1,219.58. Leaving the Town to pay for 10% of the storm clean-up (\$813.05). All of the money returned to the Town has been put back into the Emergency Road Repair Reserve. This closes out the storm reimbursement.
- The School Committee will be appointing 2 new people, Jude Masseur and Sarah Gilbert for one-year terms later this week. Brooks Crane has accepted the 1-year position as the CSD Representative.
- Auditor, Bill Brewer has sent a letter explaining his auditing services. Apparently, there may have been some misunderstandings as to what annual audits do and don't do. In an effort to make sure that Town officials are aware that regular audits are not fail proof, he states in paragraph three "Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement."

- After the Special Town Meeting for the school budget, Chelsea helped get a donation toward the school's scoreboard.

New Business:

- Election of Officers:
 - Chair: Sarah made a motion to nominate Brian as the Chair of the Board of Selectmen. It was seconded by Wendy.
Motion passed 4-0-1 (Brian)
 - Vice Chair: Thom made a motion to nominate Sarah as the Vice Chair of the Board of Selectmen. It was seconded by Bruce.
Motion passed 4-0-1 (Sarah)
- Meeting Information for New Board Members: Brian began the new business portion of the meeting by explaining the basic idea of how Selectmen meetings are conducted:
 - Attendance is key. If you must be absent be sure to let someone know.
 - Everyone on the Board of Selectmen is equal.
 - Everyone's thoughts and opinions are welcome.
 - Everyone is to be respectful regardless of personal thoughts and opinions.
 - Meetings are always open to the public unless in executive session. Hope residents should always be given an opportunity to speak.
 - All meeting or thoughts are open. There is no "good 'ole boy" system, there are no back room deals.
 - All emails are public.
 - If you think there is a potential for a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest, recommend recusing yourself from that particular vote.
 - As the Chair, Brian said he does not make motions because he does not want to guide the meeting since he is the moderator.
 - When making a motion, please do so in the affirmative or positive.
 - Sarah added that any time 3 or more Selectmen are together it is considered a public meeting, so do not discuss Town business in that setting should it occur.
 - Chelsea will send an email regarding Freedom of Access Act (FOAA).
- ~~Solar Discussion—Bill from Revision Energy:~~ (Removed from agenda)
- **Update on Heat Pumps for Municipal Buildings:** (Added to agenda) – Brian and Samantha met with Bill Behrens and another representative from Revision Energy. The purpose was to do a walk through of the municipal buildings and determine the actual need for heat pumps and other possible energy saving remedies. Brian gave an extensive report of each building. A written report may be available as early as Friday.
- Animal Control Agreement Annual Renewal: Heidi Blood is the Town's ACO. She was expected to be at the meeting tonight but was called to Searsmont for an ACO issue there. The Selectmen review the contract and Bruce made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the annual agreement with Heidi. It was seconded by Thom.
Motion passed 5-0
- NEMHS May Report: The Selectmen reviewed the May ambulance report.

- NEMHS Ambulance Contract: Dick gave an update on where the contract negotiations are for the Town to ambulance service. He took some time to give some background information to the new Selectmen. He also explained that a new addendum would be sent out very soon offering the Town of Hope a 2-year contract. Dick recommends approving and signing the new contract. He believes we may be able to have everything completed by June 30th. Sarah made a motion to authorize Brian to sign the ambulance contract once the new one has been received and reviewed and negotiations were completed. It was seconded by Bruce.
Motion passed 5-0
- Appointments to Committees:
 - Planning Board – Robert Hall: Thom made a motion to appoint Robert Hall to a 5-year term on the Planning Board expiring on June 30, 2024. It was seconded by Wendy.
Motion passed 5-0
 - Ambulance Review Committee – Richard Crabtree: Bruce made a motion to appoint Dick Crabtree to the Ambulance Review Committee for a duration to end once the current contract being negotiated has been signed. It was seconded by Sarah.
Motion passed 5-0
 - Mid Coast Solid Waste Board or Directors – Michael Brown: Wendy made a motion to appoint Mike to the MCSW Board of Director’s to complete his BoD term expiring on June 30, 2020. It was seconded by Thom.
Motion passed 5-0
 - Board of Appeals – Mary Ireland: Thom made a motion to appoint Mary Ireland to the Board of Appeals for a 5-year term expiring on June 30, 20124. It was seconded by Sarah.
Motion passed 5-0
- **Road Commissioner – John Monroe:** (Added to agenda):
 - **Salt Bid:** John said that the bids were received through the County. The Town has done business with New England Salt in the past. They have a good reputation for making deliveries when the salt is needed. There have been times when other companies haven’t or refused to deliver the salt. The bid price is \$47.07/ton. The Town budgeted \$55/ton. John recommended awarding bid to New England Salt. Bruce made a motion to award the salt bid to New England Salt for 500 tons at \$47.07/ton. It was seconded by Thom.
Motion passed 5-0
 - **Sand Bid:** In years past, Lucas has been charging \$11/yd. This year, the Road Commissioner budgeted \$12/yd. The actual price for sand this year is \$13/yd plus an additional \$1/yd to “put it up”. In addition, Lucas will hold onto an extra 400 yds for the Town to be delivered in the late winter if needed. So, before the budget year even starts, the roads salt budget will be over by \$4,000. Hopefully, it will even out since the sand budget came in lower than expected. The Road Commissioner recommends awarding the sand budget to Lucas. Wendy made a motion to award the sand bid to Lucas for 2,000 yards at \$14/yd. It was seconded by Thom.
Motion passed 5-0
 - **Roads Update:** Since the budget is so tight, the paving bid has been put out for just Crabtree Rd. The paving and the edging for Hope St. have been removed. John said that he is really starting to get concerned about the paving because the Town is not keeping up with the 1.6 miles per year plan. He said that Gillette Rd and several others are starting to come apart.

He said that there will need to be some culvert work done before Crabtree Rd can be paved. He noted that there are 22 places utilizing Crabtree Rd with an additional 24 camps and homes on Luce Lane needed access to Crabtree Rd as well.

The owner of the Alford Lake Girls Camp spoke with John and was very concerned for the camper's safety because of the high rate of speed vehicles are traveling on Alford Lake Rd. Brian said that he had also talked with her. The County has placed a speed radar sign there for a couple of weeks to help deter the speeding. Although Alford Lake is a Town road, the Town does not get to set speed limits. It is likely that the speed limit would actually be increased if a speed study were requested. There was more discussion surrounding option to try to slow down the traffic on Alford Lake Rd during the summer season.

- Letter from Michael Douglass: Mike sent a letter to the Selectmen regarding his residency being moved to Searsmont while he was a member of the School Committee. He apologized for not knowing that the 180-day residency didn't apply to school committee members. Thom said that he had worked with Mike on the School Committee and that he is a sincere person.

Old Business:

- None

Other Business:

- Brown Tail Moths: Thom asked if there has been any reports or complaints about brown tailed moths received at the Town Office. The Town Administrator was not aware of any at that time. Thom asked if a link could be put on the Town website for help and information regarding how to treat rashes or destroy the brown-tail moth. The Town Administrator will have that available online in the morning.
- Brian had questions about a mileage reimbursement for a member of the fire department. He also wanted to know if all of the election/ballot clerks had been paid. The Town Administrator will research both issues.

Review & Sign Warrants #'s 89, 90, and 91:

- The Selectmen reviewed the warrants. Sarah made a motion to approve and sign warrant #'s 89, 90 and 91. It was seconded by Wendy.
Motion passed 5-0

Adjournment:

- Sarah made a motion to adjourn at 9:16PM. It was seconded by Wendy.
Motion passed 5-0