

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**Hope Board of Selectmen**  
**Tuesday August 27, 2019**  
**6:30PM**  
**Hope Town Office**

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Others Present:**

- Samantha Mank and Lindsay Pinchbeck

**Call to Order:**

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

**Public Comment:**

- None

**Minutes:**

- 8/13/2019 meeting: Wendy made a motion to accept the August 13, 2019 minutes. It was seconded by Thom.

**Motion passed 3-0-2** (*Sarah & Bruce*)

**Town Administrator Report:**

- I met with Jarrod Williams from William's Construction and Roofing. He confirmed that the shingles would be a Cambridge IKO 40-year shingle and would match the west side of the roof that had already been replaced. We walked around the building and discussed what gutters would go and which ones would be replaced. It appears that the existing gutters were short links put together. He is proposing replacing the existing the gutters with seamless gutters placed in the appropriate places. We also discussed putting ice and water shield throughout all of the valleys. He said he could do that but, the cost would not remain unchanged. He said it would cost an additional \$400 bringing the total to \$15,980 including the gutters. He said he could begin the project around September 15th but would be completed by October 15th. I have included a draft contract for approval.
- I met with the other 3 Towns regarding our ambulance service. After much discussion, it was revealed that the personnel costs for a contract with Rockland would cost approx. \$1.6 million dollars per year and would continue to grow due to pay increases. This figure does not include any capital costs such as 2 ambulances at approx. \$600K each and stocking them. Both Camden and Rockport realize that it is not going to be possible to have a plan with Rockland in place before July1, 2020. They are considering putting it as a ballot question next June. In the meantime, there are some items in the contract that have been overlooked or ignored. The EMS Review Committee has not met. That got traced back to Camden Selectman, Marc Ratner, who is the Chair of that Committee. We are waiting for him to schedule one. Apparently, 3 Towns are getting the monthly reports from NEMHS, but Camden has not been receiving them. In addition, the Fire Chiefs have

not been meeting with the NEMHS Station Chief on a regular basis. In July, Hope only had 7 calls for service. I explained that with numbers like ours, there is no way to justify an increase of approx. \$1.72 million.

- The Planning Board met last Wednesday and discussed the solar array project. The PB voted on whether or not this project even needed to go before the PB. The vote was unanimous that Site Plan Review is required in this case based on a section in the Land Use Ordinance LUO 9.3.5 which states in part Site Plan Review is required if... “any change of use in which the intensity of use – as reflected in traffic generated, impacts on municipal services, the environment and surrounding neighborhood will differ in a substantial way from that of the proceeding use.”

Furthermore, the PB does not want to review the application until the DEP has approved the project and issued the appropriate wetlands permit. As the CEO, I will work with Will Gartley and Rick Bresnahan, (if instructed to do so by the Board of Selectmen) to prepare a Site Plan Review application on behalf of the Town.

- The advertisement for the bookkeeper position is almost finalized. It will be published the first week of September. The plan is to start interviews the first part of October.
- There are 15 outstanding 2018 real estate tax accounts totaling \$23,427.84 with liens that will go to automatic foreclosure on February 14, 2020 if accounts remain unpaid.
- There are 36 outstanding 2019 real estate tax accounts totaling \$69,490.16 with liens that will go to automatic foreclosure on February 16, 2021 if accounts remain unpaid.
- There are 1,150 RE 2020 tax accounts totaling \$3,065,587.71. Taxes were committed on July 23rd. The total represents both halves of the due tax payments.

#### **New Business:**

- Accept Donation for Recreation Committee from Sweet Tree Arts: The Town received a \$150.00 donation for the Recreation Committee from Sweet Tree Arts. Sarah made a motion to accept the \$150.00 for the Recreation Committee, with thanks. It was seconded by Thom.

**Motion passed 5-0**

- Application for 1 Day Event Liquor License – Bicycle Coalition of Maine: The Selectmen reviewed the application from the Bicycle Coalition of Maine. Thom made a motion to approve the one-day liquor license event to be held at the Alford Lake Girls Camp as detailed in the application from the Bike Coalition. It was seconded by Sarah.

**Motion passed 5-0**

#### **Old Business:**

- Lease Agreement Sweet Tree Arts School – Lindsay Pinchbeck: The Town Administrator gave an update to the Selectmen about where the process is at. Right now, we are waiting to hear back from the Plans Reviewer, Marc Veilleux. Lindsay has made some attempts to contact him. The Town Administrator will join in on the effort to contact him as well. Lindsay has been in contact with the Library Board and says that the Library is in full support of the school using the upstairs space. They only request that the room divider is repaired to make open and close much easier than it does now. Amy Gertner, who is the middle school teacher, has also become a member of the Library Board of Directors. And

they are excited about having the children involved.

There was much discussion about the specific details such as entryways, restrooms, library use, an emergency plan, and child safety. The lease agreement was discussed as well, and it was agreed that the lease cost would be \$300/month. In addition, there will be a six-week trial period to determine if the Town Office/Library space is a good fit with the school.

Thom made a motion to lease the space in the Town Office/Library to Sweet Tree Arts for 4 hours/day, 4 days/week during the school year for \$300/month and to approve the other lease agreement details. It was seconded by Sarah.

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Suspend as Selectmen/Convene as Board of Assessors:**

- Bruce made a motion to suspend as the Board of Selectmen and to convene as the Board of Assessors at 8:12PM. It was seconded by Thom.

**Motion passed 5-0**

- ***Review, Approve, and Sign County Assessment Warrant:*** There was much discussion regarding the Town Valuation and how it affects the County taxes. The Town Administrator will follow-up with the Assessors Agent, Vern Ziegler.

Bruce made a motion to sign the County Tax Assessment. It was seconded by Sarah.

**Motion passed 5-0**

- ***Adjourn as Assessors/Reconvene as Selectmen:*** Sarah made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Assessors and to reconvene as the Board of Selectmen at 8:27PM. It was seconded Thom.

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Review & Sign Warrants #'s 15, 16, 17, 18, & 19:**

- The Selectmen reviewed the warrants. Sarah made a motion to approve and sign warrant #'s 15, 16, 17, 18, & 19. It was seconded by Thom.

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Adjournment:**

- Wendy made a motion to adjourn at 8:29PM. It was seconded by Thom.

**Motion passed 5-0**