

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Hope Board of Selectmen
Tuesday September 10, 2019
6:30PM
Hope Town Office

Board Members Present:

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

Others Present:

- Mary Tolles, John Monroe, Matt Winston

Call to Order:

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

Public Comment:

- None

Minutes:

- 8/27/2019 meeting: There was a motion and second to accept the August 27, 2019 minutes with some minor corrections.

Motion passed 4-0

New Business:

- Resignation of Michael Mank as EMA Director – Sarah made a motion that we accept Mike's letter of resignation effective August 1st. Thom seconded the motion.

Motion passed 4-0

- Thom made a motion to appoint Clarence Keller as Hope's EMA Director effective August 1st, pending his acceptance, and to appoint Michael Mank as his deputy. The motion was seconded by Sarah.

Motion passed 4-0

- Roads Update – Road Commissioner John Monroe updated the Selectmen on the status of Crabtree Road. The Town's part of the work is now finished, and he expects that the paving will be done in the next couple of weeks. There was more ledge than he expected, and three culverts had to be replaced that were not budgeted. He thinks that this unbudgeted work will be partly offset by a lower paving bill because they did not have to pull up as much asphalt as they originally expected. Winter salt and sand have been put in and the Town's plowing contractor, Jake Esancy, is getting his equipment ready for winter. John reported that there are a lot of washouts along the edges of roads which he hopes to get taken care of before winter. The worst are on Gillette Road; the others are not quite as bad. There was a discussion about the possibility of installing temporary

speed bumps on Alford Lake Road for ten weeks during the summer near Alford Lake Camp. No action was taken at this time.

Old Business:

- None

Town Administrator Report:

- The Town’s newly adopted Shoreland Zone Ordinance has finally been accepted and approved by the State.
- The Planning Board is meeting tomorrow evening for a Site Plan Review of the solar project, contingent upon DEP approval. It is likely that the DEP permit, if it gets approved, won’t be until November. Rick B. is already aware of this. I have not received any communication back from the Town Attorney or Bill Behrens regarding the revised PPA or Equipment Lease Agreement.
- There has been a complaint regarding the noise level and the amount of time the gun firing is taking place at the Knox County Fish and Game range. I have received a petition with 51 signatures requesting that the Town of Hope Selectmen schedule a public hearing to discuss the impact of the Knox County Fish and Game Shooting Range on the neighborhood in Hope. The law clearly states that a municipal noise ordinance may not require or be applied so as to require a sport shooting range to limit or eliminate shooting activities that have occurred on a regular basis at the range prior to the enactment date of the ordinance. The other complaint is that the neighbors believe that there has been an increase or change in the intensity of use at the range without CEO or PB approval. The complainant did reach out this past week to a Selectman requesting a hearing before the Appeals Board.
- I did hear back from the Fire Marshall’s Office. Marc sent a packet for Lindsay to fill out and submit. Although we are moving forward with the upstairs “Plan B” I’d like to use the time during this next year to try and get what approval possible.
- 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 31 outstanding 2019 real estate tax accounts totaling \$65,048.73 with liens that will go to automatic foreclosure on February 16, 2021 if accounts remain unpaid.
- There are 1,124 RE 2020 tax accounts totaling \$2,975,457.95. Taxes were committed on July 23rd. The total represents both halves of the due tax payments.

Suspend as Selectmen/Convene as Board of Assessors:

- Sarah made a motion to suspend as the Board of Selectmen and to convene as the Board

of Assessors. It was seconded by Wendy.

Motion passed 4-0

Review, Approve, and Sign Municipal Valuation Return:

- Thom made a motion to sign the Municipal Valuation Return. Wendy seconded the motion.

Motion passed 4-0

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. It was seconded Thom.

Motion passed 4-0

Review & Sign Warrants #'s 21, 22, 23, and 24:

- The Selectmen reviewed the warrants. Sarah made a motion to approve and sign warrant #'s 21, 22, 23, & 24. It was seconded by Wendy.

Motion passed 4-0

Adjournment:

- Thom made a motion to adjourn at 7:36PM. It was seconded by Sarah.

Motion passed 4-0