

MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD MEETING

Hope Select Board
Tuesday, April 11, 2023
6:30 p.m.
Hope Town Office

Board Members Present:

- Sarah Ann Smith, Dick Crabtree, Charlie Weidman, Mike Brown, and Michael Schultz

Others Present:

- Chelsea Summers

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Sarah.

Agenda Adjustments/Approval:

- Charlie made a motion to approve the agenda as written. It was seconded by Dick.
Motion passed 5-0

Public Comment:

- None

Minutes:

- March 28, 2023: Michael made a motion to approve the 3/28/23 minutes with one minor edit to the time of adjournment. It was seconded by Dick.
Motion passed 5-0

Warrants 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, & 75:

- The Select Board reviewed the warrants. Charlie made a motion to approve and sign all warrants. It was seconded by Michael.
Motion passed 5-0

New Business:

- Knox County Fiscal Year 24 Tax Assessment – Upon Board review, Dick made a motion to approve and sign the assessment. It was seconded by Charlie.
Motion passed 5-0
- Five Town CSD Warrant and Notice of Election – Upon Board review, Dick made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. It was seconded by Mike.
Motion Passed 5-0
- Mid Coast Solid Waste Fees and Bag Prices – The Municipal Solid Waste Options, Breakdown, & Waste Increase Calculations sheet was presented alongside the Corporation's Board of Director's meeting minutes from January, February, and March of 2023. Mike led a brief discussion involving bag fees, price per tonnage, and methods surrounding the disposal of various items. Dick made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 24 schedule of fees and bag prices as presented. It was seconded by Mike.
Motion passed 5-0

Old Business:

- Town Office Roofing Bids – The Board was presented with 2 bids, each containing multiple options. Sarah noted that snow guards along the perimeter of the entire building may be an unnecessary cost, and that it may be prudent to only have guards spanning specific areas including doorways and pathways to entry. Charlie expressed his preference for a metal roof due to its durability and longevity compared to asphalt shingles. Michael mentioned his concern regarding the aesthetic of a half metal-half asphalt roof and what that may imply to the citizenry regarding the financial position of the Town. All Board members agreed that the portion of the roof needing replacement appears to be more susceptible to the elements due to its northern exposure; consequently, weather factors need to be considered when choosing a proper material. Dick discussed the feasibility of manually raking or installing electrical tape on the area of the roof that accumulates the greatest snow-load. Charlie stressed the importance of having the work performed correctly so that the issue is only addressed once. Dick noted that one of the bids did not contain an option for metal specific solely to the area of roof needing repair. Sarah posed a question regarding the probability of issues with a metal roof becoming apparent within a five-year warranty timeframe. The discussion culminated with a plan to ask one of the bidders for their work references with photos, their earnest opinion regarding the current and potential future states of the problematic portion of the roof with covering options, and an additional bid for half the roof in metal. The matter was then tabled.

Other Business:

- The Board was made aware of a number of used Hope Elementary School computers available for purchase.
- Sarah asked for an update on potential hires for the position of Deputy Clerk. There were no applications to report.
- Dick asked if there were any updates to report regarding the status of the Senior Citizen’s Tax Stabilization program. There were no updates to report.

Town Administrator Report:

- The school is dispensing some surplus laptops. They are \$40/ ea.
- There were 2 new building permits and 3 plumbing permits issued since the 3/21/23 Select Board meeting:
 - David Pettee 7 Notch Rd. Accessory Structure
 - Ron Howard 128 Jones Hill Rd. Accessory Structures
- There are 9 RE accounts for 2022, totaling \$24,677.74. Unpaid 2022 real estate taxes will automatically foreclose on February 27, 2024, if the accounts are not paid in full.
- There are 781 RE accounts for 2023, totaling \$1,194,521.44. The second half is due on May 2, 2023.
- There are pre-payments totaling \$1,388.93 for the 2024 RE taxes.
- The cash has not been out of balance since the Select Board meeting on 3/28/23.

Adjournment:

- Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 7:46 p.m. It was seconded by Michael.
Motion passed 5-0