

MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD MEETING
Hope Select Board
May 14, 2024
5:30 p.m.
Hope Town Office

Board Members Present:

- Sarah Ann Smith, Charlie Weidman, and Wayne Luce

Others Present:

- Samantha Mank

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m. by Sarah.

Agenda Adjustments/Approval:

- Charlie made a motion to approve the agenda as written. It was seconded by Wayne.
Motion passed 3-0

Public Comment:

- Charlie told the Select Board about a grant writer named Gabe who may be able to assist the Town with securing funds for various resiliency projects that could possibly include roads and solar studies. The SB was interested in speaking with her. Charlie will ask her to attend the next meeting.

Minutes:

- April 23, 2024: Charlie made a motion to approve the 4/23/24 minutes as written. It was seconded by Wayne.
Motion passed 3-0

Warrants 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, & 88:

- Charlie made a motion to approve and sign the Treasurers and Payroll warrants 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, and 88. It was seconded by Wayne.
Motion passed 3-0

New Business:

- Award Municipal Buildings Winter Maintenance Contract: Charlie made a motion to award the 2024 through 2027 winter maintenance contract to Snyder's Excavation and Landscaping for a total of \$49,455 over the next three years. It was seconded by Wayne.
Motion passed 3-0
- 2024 Personal Property Taxes 36 M.R.S. 105 § 760-A, Minor or Burdensome Amount - \$3,373.62: Charlie made a motion to write off the 2024 personal property taxes in the amount of \$3373.62. It was seconded by Wayne.

Motion passed 3-0

- Town Warrant & Notice of Election- June 11, 2024: Charlie made a motion to approve and sign the Warrant and Notice of Annual Municipal Election. It was seconded by Wayne.

Motion passed 3-0

- Lincolnville Letter Request Change to NEMHS Contract: The Select Board agreed with the request made Lincolnville. The EMS Committee members asked if they could join Lincolnville on the evening that NEMHS was presenting. Town Administrator will contact Dave Kinney, Lincolnville Town Administrator to see if this is possible.
- MMA Legislative Policy Committee Nominations: The Select Board reviewed the information.
- Boston Cane: The Select Board signed the certificates for Viola Richardson and Alfred Luce and would like to make presentations at the next Select Board meeting if the recipients or their family members would like to be present.

Old Business:

- None

Other Business:

None

Town Administrator Report:

- The Town received conditional approval of the Shoreland Zone Ordinance from the DEP today. There are five minor amendments that need to be voted on in order to get the final approval. I will send out a letter to all property owners with parcels located in SZ. Since the date for the annual town meeting hasn't been determined yet, there should be enough time to meet all of the legal notification and public hearing requirements to have the amendments of the town meeting warrant.
- There is a section in the basement that is not getting any power. I contacted Brad Dodge, who is an electrician and is a member of the HFD to investigate the issue on May 28th.
- The SU69 Superintendent reported that there is only one additional invoice to be submitted in order to finish the ESSER III funding. There is one invoice currently in the queue. Once it has been approved, the last one will be ready to upload to the government. It is unknown how long that approval process will take but, she is hoping it may only be a couple of weeks. The auditors should be willing to do the audit once the invoice has been approved. Kate and I will reach out jointly to the auditor's office to schedule something as soon as the dates are firmer. The Chair of the School Committee, Tim Lock, asked about speaking to the Select Board regarding moving forward with the budget process now that it appears the audit may be done sooner than anticipated. He may attend the May 28th Select Board meeting.

- An appeal has been filed for a Notice of Violation that was issued by the Code Enforcement Officer. The Hearing has been scheduled for May 28th. That is also the same evening as the next Select Borad meeting. The Select Board will meet at the Fire Station.
- There were 2 building permits and 0 plumbing permits issued since the 4/9/24 Select Board meeting:
 - Michael Rinaldi 87 Robbins Rd. Accessory Structure
 - Roger Hewitt 74 Highfield Rd. Remove Trees in SZ
 - Bell Stone 640 Howe Hill Rd. Accessory Structure
 - Everett Smith 10 Bryan Ln. Remove Trees in SZ
- There are 119 RE accounts with remaining balances for FY2024, totaling \$199,396.53.
- There are 14 RE accounts with remaining balances for FY2023, totaling \$32,960.44. Unpaid 2023 real estate taxes will automatically foreclose on February 11, 2025, if the accounts are not paid in full.

Adjournment:

- Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 6:21 p.m. It was seconded by Wayne.
Motion Passed 3-0