

MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD MEETING

Hope Select Board
Tuesday, June 13, 2023
6:30 p.m.
Hope Town Office

Board Members Present:

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

Others Present:

- Samantha Mank

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Sarah.

Agenda Adjustments/Approval:

- The agenda was approved and accepted by consent.

Public Comment:

None

Minutes:

- May 23, 2023: Mike made a motion to approve the 5/23/23 minutes. It was seconded by Michael.
Motion passed 3-0-2 (Charlie & Michael)

Warrants 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, & 96:

- The Select Board reviewed the warrants. Charlie made a motion to approve and sign warrants 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, and 96. It was seconded by Mike.
Motion passed 5-0

New Business:

- Application for Committee Service – Reappointment Molly Luce, Planning Board: Dick made a motion to reappoint Molly Luce to the Planning Board for a five-year term expiring on June 30, 2028. It was seconded by Mike.
Motion passed 5-0
- 2023-24 Contract with Interstate Septic: Dick made a motion to approve and sign the annual contract with Interstate Septic. It was seconded by Mike.
Motion passed 5-0
- Renew Liquor License for Pushaw’s Trading Post – Susan Pushaw: Dick made a motion to renew the liquor license for Pushaw’s Trading Post. It was seconded by Michael.
Motion passed 5-0

Old Business:

- Sarah gave an update on the ground penetrating radar project in Morey Hill Cemetery. There was discussion surrounding the location of plots that had already been purchased. The Select

Board agreed to allow the purchase to stand, however Morrey Hill Cemetery is now closed for any additional or new plots.

Other Business:

- None

Town Administrator Report:

- I received an email from the auditors yesterday indicating the FY2022 audit was close to being completed. It is being reviewed for editing purposes. There wasn't a definitive date of when the physical audit would be in hand. There are still a few procedural things that must happen before either special town meeting can be held.
- The Public Hearing for some ordinance amendments and the mining moratorium is scheduled for tomorrow evening. The Alford Lake/Lermond Pond Association has submitted a story to the Pen Bay Pilot urging all residents to attend. The article states that they will be seeking a ban on mineral mining.
- The School Union 69 Finance Subcommittee is also meeting tomorrow evening at the Hope Elementary School at 6:00 p.m. The full Joint School Board will be meeting on Tuesday, June 20th. The subcommittee will be making recommendations regarding their findings at that time.
- There still has not been a presidential declaration for the May 1st storm yet. However, FEMA did come and I have submitted some documentation through the Knox County EMA. Everyone is saying that it appears quite likely that it will be coming at some point.
- We are finally making some headway on the Highfield Rd. violations. The town's attorney has set aside some time to draft some documents. Once things progress a little bit more, we will have an executive session to review and discuss those documents.
- There were 9 new building permits and 3 plumbing permits since the 5/23/23 Select Board meeting:

○ Brady Clark	34 Maple Dr.	Accessory Structure (Garage)
○ Chris Stone	34 Island Ln.	Dock
○ Ezra Howell	77 Barrett Hill Rd.	Accessory Structure (Barn)
○ Cheryl Pease	117 Beaver Lodge Rd.	Shoreline Stabilization
○ Dan Ford	318 Hatchet Mountain Rd.	Accessory Structure (Garage)
○ Rick Catalano	22 Heritage Ln.	Excavation/Fill & Clearing
○ Bernie Garrigan	160 Ludwig Rd.	Addition
○ Paul Belcher	Overlook Ln.	SFD w/ Garage
○ Megan Patterson	23 Seacoast Rd.	Accessory Structure (Barn)

- There are 5 RE accounts for 2022, totaling \$20,120.16. Unpaid 2022 real estate taxes will automatically foreclose on February 27, 2024, if the accounts are not paid in full.
- There are 100 RE accounts for 2023, totaling \$151,849.24.
- There have been pre-payments totaling \$12,850.22 for the 2024 RE taxes.
- The cash has not been out of balance since the Select Board meeting on 5/23/23.

Adjournment:

- Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. It was seconded by Mike.

Motion passed 5-0