

MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD MEETING
Hope Select Board
August 13, 2024
5:00 p.m.
Hope Town Office

Board Members Present:

- Sarah Ann Smith, Charlie Weidman, Wayne Luce and Crystal Robinson

Others Present:

- Samantha Mank

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 5:19 p.m. by Sarah.

Agenda Adjustments/Approval:

- Charlie made a motion to approve the agenda as written. It was seconded by Crystal.
Motion passed 4-0

Public Comment:

- None

Minutes:

- July 23, 2024: Charlie made a motion to approve the 7/23/24 minutes as written. It was seconded by Wayne.
Motion passed 4-0
- July 27, 2024: Charlie made a motion to approve the 7/27/24 minutes as written. It was seconded by Wayne.
Motion passed 3-0-1 (Sarah)
- August 7, 2024: Charlie made a motion to approve the 8/7/24 minutes with minor edits. It was seconded by Crystal.
Motion passed 4-0

Warrants 8, 9, 10, 11, 103, 104, 105, 106, & 107:

- Charlie made a motion to approve and sign the Treasurers and Payroll warrants 8, 9, 10, 11, 103, 104, 105, 106, and 107, It was seconded by Crystal.
Motion passed 4-0

New Business:

- **None**

Old Business:

- None

Other Business:

- None

Town Administrator's Report:

- I will be meeting with Gabrian McPhail from Resilient Communities on August 30th to move forward with the enrollment process. There will be some additional committee and townspeople work needed this Fall before the grant application can be submitted. Gabe will be helping the Town with every part of the application process.
- The transition from Harbor Digital to Gusco was completed on July 20th. There were some additional concerns about having enough back up data should the server fail before it is replaced. Harbor Digital agreed to store backups for an additional 30 days as a precaution. The transition has been smooth.
- Shani and I will be meeting with the School Union 69 Finance Team on Thursday to review FY24 fourth quarter financials. In addition, we will be discussing processes for FY25 and access to the school's new software. We will develop a realistic plan to ensure the FY24 audit can happen in a timely manner and hopefully not delay the annual town meeting again.
- Nomination papers for the special election for Select Board, Assessors, and Overseers on November 5th are available for August 8th until September 6th. There has been interest in this election and papers have already been taken out.
- FEMA has once again replaced the agent handling the Town's project cases. It appears that there will not be a delay in processing due to this change. The Town has 5 projects for the May Day 2023 storm. We are expecting a reimbursement of 90% totaling \$213,773.94.
- The Assessors Agent has been in town doing field work necessary for the tax commitment. The FY25 tax commitment will be on the August 27th agenda. The tax bills will be mailed out on or before August 30th.
- There were 10 building permits, and 8 plumbing permits issued since the 7/9/24 Select Board meeting.
 - Lynn Thomas 10 Bryan Lane Tree Removal
 - Mary Ann Butler 28 Oak Lane Accessory Structure
 - Edward Wolfe 709 Peasetown Rd Accessory Structure
 - Laura Erspamer 8 Wink Lane Accessory Structure & deck
 - Randy McKee 228 Gillette Rd Accessory Structure
 - Evan Obercian 169 Bull Hill Rd Single Family Dwelling
 - Jeffrey Walker 40 Church St Mobile Home
 - Matthew Craig 968 Hatchet Mountain Rd Accessory Structure
 - Keith Ludwig 118 Ludwig Rd Home Occupation
 - Edwin Greenrose 139 Beaver Lodge Rd Tree cutting in SZ
- There are 40 RE accounts with remaining balances for FY2024, totaling \$72,897.17. Unpaid 2024 real estate taxes will automatically be foreclosed on February 20, 2026, if those accounts are not paid in full.
- There are 12 RE accounts with remaining balances for FY2023, totaling \$29,303.24. Unpaid 2023 real estate taxes will automatically be foreclosed on February 1, 2025, if those accounts are not paid in full.

Adjournment:

- Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 5:39 p.m. It was seconded by Wayne.
Motion Passed 4-0