

MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD MEETING

Hope Select Board
Tuesday, September 13, 2022
6:30 p.m.
Hope Town Office

*View the meeting in its entirety at
https://townhallstreams.com/towns/hope_me*

Board Members Present:

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

Others Present:

- Samantha Mank, Megan Porter, Jonathan Powers, Jack Foley, and Margaret Morse (*Zoom*)

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 presented. It was seconded Mike.
Motion passed 4-0

Public Comment:

- None

Minutes:

- August 23, 2022: Dick made a motion to approve the 8/23/22 minutes. It was seconded by Charlie.
Motion passed 3-0-1 (Sarah)

Warrants 16, 17, 18, & 19:

- The Select Board reviewed the warrants. Charlie made a motion to approve and sign warrants 16, 17, 18 and 19. It was seconded by Mike.
Motion passed 4-0

New Business:

- Girl Scouts Use of Hope Corner Fire Station – Megan Porter: Megan has led a Girl Scout troop for the past four years. However, the troop has not had a location to meet since the pandemic. The Girl Scouts of America will provide the ongoing liability insurance as required by the Town. She is asking to be permitted use of the Hope Corner Fire Station conference room between 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. every other Sunday with a maximum troop size of seven girls. The Select Board welcomes the Girl Scouts and is happy they have this opportunity. Charlie made a motion to approve the Girls Scouts usage of the HCFS. It was seconded by Dick.
Motion passed 4-0

- NEMHS Contract Activity Update – Jonathan Powers: Mr. Powers is the Division Chief for the Rockport ambulance base. He gave an overview of the services and activity from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The Select Board thanked him and North East Mobile Health Services for their service and commitment to Hope residents.
- Paving Bids for Parking Lot at True Park: Two bids were received to pave the parking lot at True Park. The Select Board wanted to hear a recommendation from John Monroe regarding the bidding companies. Charlie made a motion to tentatively accept the lowest bid from Discount Asphalt Paving in the amount of \$136/ton if the Road Commissioner gives a favorable recommendation. In the event, there is not a favorable recommendation, the item will be tabled until the next Select Board meeting. It was seconded by Mike.
Motion passed 4-0
- Committee Service Application – Planning Board, David Hall: Dick made a motion to appoint David Hall to the Planning Board with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. It was seconded by Charlie.
Motion passed 4-0
- Resignation Planning Board, Marie Berry: Dick made a motion to accept the resignation of Marie Berry from the Planning Board. It was seconded by Charlie.
Motion passed 4-0
- FY22 4th Quarter Financial Report: The Town Administrator presented the 4th quarter ending June 30, 2022 financial report to the Select Board. FY22 audit is scheduled in October for the audited final numbers. The Select Board accepted the quarterly report.
- Carry Forwards:
 - ARPA Funds - \$178,380.87: Dick made a motion to carry \$178,380.87 of ARPA funds forward from FY22 to FY23. It was seconded by Charlie.
Motion passed 4-0
 - Public Safety/Ambulance/1st Responders - \$2,881.29: Dick made a motion to carry \$2,881.29 from the First Responder/Ambulance/Public Safety line from FY22 to FY23. It was seconded by Charlie.
Motion passed 4-0

Old Business:

- None

Other Business:

- None

Board of Assessors:

- Suspend as Select Board/Convene as Board of Assessors: Dick made a motion to suspend as the Select Board and convene as the Board of Assessors at 7:19 p.m. It was seconded by Charlie.
Motion passed 4-0

- Farmland Withdrawal Penalty, Blueberry Service, Inc - \$6,282.36: Charlie made a motion to approve assessing a farmland withdrawal penalty to Blueberry Service, Inc. in the amount of \$6,282.36. It was seconded by Mike.

Motion passed 4-0

- Adjourn as Board of Assessors/Reconvene as Select Board: Dick made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Assessors and reconvene as the Select Board at 7:21 p.m. It was seconded by Charlie.

Motion passed 4-0

Town Administrator Report:

- I am in weekly contact with a representative from FEMA. As work in Hope is completed, I send updated reports and invoices. FEMA is as eager to have the projects completed and closed out as the Town is.
- The EMS Review Committee is scheduled to meet on Thursday, October 27th in Lincolnville.
- There are no new updates regarding the violation on Lermond Pond.
- DEP has given approval for the advertising of the septic system installation at 4 Shore Rd. It must appear in the local paper for a minimum of 10 days. The DEP must review the bids before the town can award the project to a contractor. The ad won't be in print until Sept. 22nd because of the deadline to submit. All invoices will be drawn from the septic grant line which has already been established. Once the grant money from the DEP grant award has been received, it will be used to settle and balance that account.
- Steve Walker from IF&W attended the Planning Board meeting last Wednesday. The bulk of his conversation was about habitats and preserving them. During the question-and-answer portion of the presentation there were some more directed questions about resource protection, wildlife wetlands, and wading bird and waterfowl habitats. Once the meeting started, the Planning Board voted to rescind their previous vote to recommend a specific property be removed from the resource protection district. A detailed findings of fact and conclusion of law will be forwarded to the Select Board outlining their decision. Since the property owner sent the same request to both the Select Board and the Planning Board, the Select Board may accept or reject the Planning Board's recommendation/decision and make a determination that may or may not differ from the Planning Board.
- There have been 75 property tax stabilization applications submitted to the town office as of 4:30 today.
- There were 3 new building permits and 4 plumbing permits issued since the last Select Board meeting:

○ Wesley Butler	92 Camden Rd.	Single Family Dwelling
○ Ryan Littler	18 Morton Ln.	Accessory Structure
○ Lara Webb	450 Alford Lake Rd.	Accessory Structure
- There are 5 RE accounts for 2021, totaling \$19,851.13. Unpaid 2021 real estate taxes will

automatically foreclose on February 3, 2023, if the accounts are not paid in full.

- There are 15 RE accounts for 2022, totaling \$34,200.01. Unpaid 2022 real estate taxes will automatically foreclose on February 27, 2024, if the accounts are not paid in full.
- There are 1,098 RE accounts for 2023, totaling \$2,898,851.19. The first payment is due on September 30, 2022.
- The cash deposit balance did not match with the bank deposits one time by \$.50 since the last Select Board meeting on 8/23/22. The discrepancy is believed to be a difference in the reading from the check scanner. The balances in TRIO matched. We have not been able to reconcile this matter with the bank. The 50¢ was reported in the misc. line and should be on the 1st quarter financial report.

Executive Session:

- Dick made a motion to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405 (6)(A)(1) for personnel matters at 7:38 p.m. It was seconded by Charlie.

Motion passed 4-0

- The Select Board exited executive session at 8:53. No action additional was taken.

Adjournment:

- Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. It was seconded by Dick.

Motion passed 4-0

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