

MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD MEETING

Hope Select Board

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

6:30 PM

Hope Town Office/Zoom

View the meeting in its entirety at

https://townhallstreams.com/towns/hope_me

Board Members Present:

- Sarah Ann Smith, Brian Powers Jr., Bruce Haffner, and Amy Gertner

Others Present:

- Samantha Mank, Dick Crabtree, Amy Powers, Margaret Morse, Olivia Powers, Langley Willauer, Nancy Ford, and Ellie Goldberg

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by Sarah at 6:32 PM

Public Comment:

- Amy powers read a prepared statement.

Minutes:

- August 8, 2020: There was a considerable discussion regarding the minutes as some residents had made their own transcriptions of various parts of the meeting and wanted those transcriptions included in the official minutes. After noting that the transcribed sections of the meeting that each wanted included were only partial segments that had not been authenticated or checked for accuracy by the Select Board, it was agreed to include them in the minutes. Brian made a motion to approve the minutes with all of the amendments and addendums discussed this evening and cannot validate the transcripts provided. It was seconded by Amy.

Motion passed 4-0

Town Administrator's Report:

- Received the final figures for the Local Roads Assistance. Hope will be getting \$33,090. Last year the Town received \$35,468. The FY 2021 budget predicted \$27,200.
- Was contacted by Joe from Revision Energy. He and a friend asked permission to film a spot with the Hope Solar Array in the backdrop for the virtual MOFGA Unity Fair this year. They were in the field around 1:00 pm last Monday.
- The Sweetland School begin classes last Monday. They have also asked to put a picnic

table out by the shed and to put a pop-up tent over it for various weather events. I explained that the Town could not be responsible for any of their property. I told Argy that people come to the Town Office parking lot and all hours to use the library internet and that there are absolutely no guarantees that the picnic would remain unused from day to day.

- I received a call from Ian from Coastal Mountain Land Trust. They have just about completed the trail from the Snowbowl to the three town granite monument. The next phase of the plan is to have a trail that can be entered/exited from Gillette Rd. They are seeking grants to make that happen in the near future.
- We did receive a notice that the State will be providing the Town with a second voting machine for the November 3rd election at no additional cost to the Town. One machine will be for Fed/State elections and the other is for the municipal election. Hopefully this will eliminate the need for any hand counting other than whatever the machine can't read which is typically very a very small number of ballots.
- The accountant will be in the office on Wednesday to finish the annual audit prep.
- There are 7 outstanding 2019 RE accounts totaling \$13,305.21 with liens that will go to automatic foreclosure on February 16, 2021 if accounts remain unpaid.
- There are 28 outstanding 2020 RE accounts totaling \$59,659.04 with liens that will to automatic foreclosure on February 10, 2022 if accounts remain unpaid.
- There are 1058 RE accounts for 2021, totaling \$2,295,706.29. The first half of taxes are due on September 30, 2020.

New Business:

- NEMHS August Report: It was noted by Sarah that the report looks good overall but, she noticed that were a few more calls than usual. Brian gave a brief overview of the report. In addition, he commented that all four Towns (Hope, Lincolnville, Rockport, and Camden) all had compliance 100% of the time during August. Brian said he hadn't seen that before. He applauded the ambulance company and stated they must be doing something right.

Old Business:

- None

Other Business:

- Brian wanted to know if the Town would be able to keep the second DS200 voting machine.
- The Select Board moving forward with the Roads Advisory Committee.
- Thom discussed the Broadband Committee survey.
- Brian made a motion to approve publishing the Public Hearing notice in the local

newspaper. It was seconded by Bruce.

Motion passed 4-0

Warrants:

- The Select Board reviewed the warrants. Brian made a motion to approve and sign Warrant #'s 25, 26, 27. Warrant 28 could not be approved because it was not signed by the School Committee. It was seconded by Bruce.

Motion passed 4-0

Adjournment:

- Brian made a motion to adjourn at 7:27 PM. It was seconded by Amy.

Motion passed 4-0

Some of the items were taken out of order.