

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2011
HOPE TOWN OFFICE
6:30 P.M.**

Note: These minutes may not be considered an official public record until such time as they are read and accepted by the Board of Selectmen.

Board Members Present: Mike Ames, Barbara Bentley, Eric Campbell, Tim Pearse, Kathleen Hastings

Others Present: Jon Duke, Bryan Austin, Amanda Austin, Alex Ludwig

I. Call the Meeting to Order

Barbara Bentley called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

II. Minutes

a. Minutes of the January 11th meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Tim Pearse moved, and Mike Ames seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the January 11th meeting of the Board of Selectmen as modified. **Motion passed 5-0.**

III. Town Administrator's Report

- Jon relayed the results of the organization meeting for the Budget Committee. The committee elected Jill Lang as chair, John Jensen as vice chair, and Bill Jones as secretary. The Budget Committee is scheduling budget meeting for six consecutive weeks on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm beginning February 23rd.
- The Town Office is continuing to hear complaints about slippery roads and an inability to reach mailboxes from the post office in Camden. It appears the post office mandated that the mail carriers in Hope no longer use 4 x 4 vehicles, but it is unclear why other post offices are allowing heavier duty vehicles deliver mail in surrounding towns. The town has not altered its winter maintenance schedule in any way, but the storms have put heavy burdens on roadside mailboxes. The Town Office is handing out copies of the new damaged mailbox policy in hopes of informing citizens how the process works.
- The meeting with the towns of Union, Appleton, and Washington to discuss the animal control and ambulance service budget will be set soon.
- Jon presented, and the Board adopted, the 2nd Quarter financial statements.

IV. Selectmen's Roundtable

- Next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will take place Tuesday, February 8th at 6:30pm at the Hope Town Office.

V. Unfinished Business

a. Town Office ADA Renovation

Bryan and Amanda Austin of 2A Architects presented to the Selectmen options for renovation of the town office, but due to significant life safety concerns from the State Fire Marshall's office, any proposed renovation would need to meet those codes as well.

The Board asked the architects to continue work on the proposal and begin the design document phase to further flesh out the proposal. The Board asked the administrator to speak with a realtor regarding the resale value of the town office land and building, so that a fair discussion could be had regarding the cost to renovate versus the cost of building an addition onto the fire station.

VI. New Business

a. Approval of Warrants

Eric Campbell moved, and Tim Pearse seconded, a motion to approve warrants 54-56. **Motion approved 5-0.**

Tim Pearse made a motion to go into Executive Session to hear legal advice from the Town Attorney on the matter of the rights and responsibilities of the Town in regards to the shared septic agreement per 1 M.R.S.A. §405 6E. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

VII. Executive Session

a. Consultation with Town Attorney on Rights and Responsibilities for Town Ownership of Shared Septic System

Tim Pearse made a motion to adjourn executive session. Kathleen Hastings seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

VIII. Adjournment

Tim Pearse moved to adjourn at 9:35 pm. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**