

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 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, Kathleen Hastings, Tim Pearse

Others Present: Jon Duke, Susan Pushaw, John Entwistle, Lew McGregor, Tim Higbee

I. Call the Meeting to Order

Tim Pearse called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

II. Minutes

a. Minutes of the March 22nd meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Tim Pearse moved, and Mike Ames seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22nd meeting of the Board of Selectmen as modified. **Motion passed 3-0-2. (Hastings and Bentley abstained)**

III. Town Administrator's Report

- Susan Pushaw has submitted a petition, which was subsequently verified by Mary, that would ask the Selectmen to place an item on an upcoming town meeting warrant to permit sale of alcohol in the Town of Hope. Much like Brian O'Neil's request to serve alcohol on premise at the Hatchet Mountain Publick House, the town must approve via town meeting vote the ability for the state to issue licenses for this form of alcohol sales. Pushaw's Trading Post is hoping to sell liquor at the store if the town approves this vote, and would return to the Board of Selectmen for approval of a liquor license when and if the time came.
- The service which allows online payment of property taxes should be live by the end of the coming week. Jon and Katie have been working with the individuals at Official Payments and now the town is only waiting for the initial deposit to go through before the service is turned on to taxpayers.
- The Bureau of Motor Vehicles has recently undertaken an extensive update of their database which will cause changes to the TRIO software and require further training for Mary, Katie, and Molly. We don't expect this update to impact service in any way.

IV. Selectmen's Roundtable

- Next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will take place Tuesday, April 26th at 6:30pm at the Hope Town Office.
- Jon and Eric Campbell conducted a "drive around" last week to check out the status of various building projects, road conditions, and goings on around town. Being so early in the building season and a relatively late start for spring, there wasn't much to report.

- A ditch at the end of Grassow Loop was built on the Van Tlissingen property that may encroach on the state's right of way along Route 235. To Jon's knowledge no complaints from DOT have been registered about this ditch.
- Lew McGregor spoke to the Board regarding the PACE program. PACE allows homeowners to secure low interest financing on projects which enhance their home's energy efficiency. Numerous municipalities across the state have tapped into PACE including such local towns as Rockland, Belfast, Vinalhaven, and North Haven. Municipalities which wish to take part must adopt a PACE ordinance and subsequently sign a contract with Efficiency Maine to administer the project. Due to the fact that this may impact the lien status or valuation of a proportion Jon will have Vern review the draft ordinance and discuss the issues at place with other towns Vern works with.

V. Unfinished Business

a. FY 2012 Budget Discussion

Eric Campbell noted the amount unspent on road salt and sand and suggested that the town could buy enough to use up the remaining salt and sand funds in the FY 11 budget which could reduce the amount needed in the FY 12 budget for winter maintenance needs. The Board agreed to purchase \$20,000 of salt and sand out of the FY 11 budget and reduce the FY 12 budget in that same line by an identical amount.

VI. New Business

a. Wind Turbine Moratorium

Jon spoke with the Board regarding the need for a moratorium to restrict the development of industrial wind farms in Hope. Third hand conversations Jon has had with residents has indicated there is interest in developing parcels in Hope for this purpose, and with the town lacking ordinances to set the ground rules for such development, it may leave the town without a great deal of control in the approval of such a project. Many area towns have adopted ordinances to control industrial wind turbine development and could be used as a model from which an eventual Hope ordinance would be created. The Board asked Jon to have the Town Attorney draft a moratorium ordinance and schedule the Public Hearing for such a moratorium on the same evening as the other items on the Town Meeting warrant requiring a hearing.

b. 2011 Town Meeting Warrant discussion

The Board discussed the 2011 Town Meeting Warrant and which items may need to be prepared to be included on this warrant. Clarence Keller has asked that amendments to the Addressing Ordinance be included to provide him more flexibility as Addressing Officer to deal with changes in road names and inappropriate requests for road names. Susan Pushaw submitted a qualified petition to place two questions on the ballot which relate to the sales of alcohol. Area residents concerned with the development of industrial wind power sites in Hope have asked that the town adopt a moratorium preventing their construction.

c. Portable Toilet Bid

Tim Pearse made a motion to accept the bid from Handy Portable Toilets in the amount of \$1145. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 4-0-1 (Campbell abstained)**

d. Annual Town Report Bid

The Town received five bids for the Annual Town Report bid from Lincoln County Publishing Co., Snowman Printing, Marks Printing House, Downeast Graphics & Printing, and Bangor Letter Shop. The prices for 72 pages with color pages for the Town Meeting Warrant ranged from \$1525 to \$2990.

Tim Pearse made a motion to accept the bid from Lincoln County Publishing. Kathleen Hastings seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

e. Approval of Warrants

Tim Pearse moved, and Mike Ames seconded, a motion to approve warrants 71-74. **Motion approved 5-0.**

VIII. Adjournment

Eric Campbell moved to adjourn at 10:45 pm. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**