

**MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2010
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, Tim Pearse, Eric Campbell, Barbara Bentley
Kathleen Hastings

Others Present: Jon Duke, Alex Ludwig, Leslie Robinson

I. Call the Meeting to Order

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

II. Minutes

a. Minutes of the August 10th meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Eric Campbell moved, and Mike Ames seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the August 24th meeting of the Board of Selectmen as modified. **Motion passed 5-0.**

III. Selectmen's Roundtable

- Next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is Tuesday, September 14th at 6:30PM at the Town Office
- South Hope Cell Tower Informational Meeting is Tuesday, August 31st at 7PM at the Hope Elementary School

IV. Town Administrator's Report

- Jon Duke informed the Board of a failed septic system in town that will need to be addressed immediately. The owner of the property is interested in seeing the situation resolved, but lacks the funds to construct a system. State law provides communities the ability to construct septic systems on an individual's property once the plumbing inspector has found that the system had failed. All costs associated with this would be then transformed into a "Special Tax" that is committed to the property owner. The tax then must be paid within 60 days or interest will begin to accrue. This tax can be liened and potentially provide the town to automatically foreclose on the property if the owner does not pay the tax in full. Jon will issue the necessary Notice of Violation on the property, touch base with the owner once again to inform her of her rights, and then begin work on resolving the septic issue before cold weather sets in.
- The fire station grounds have filled in quite well with grass cover since the Board last discussed the issue in early July. The Penobscot Company has pledged to have George Hall Construction return to the site to rake out of the ponds all of the excess bark mulch and place more seed on the ground where needed. Assuming this process works, the Board will likely be asked to release all remaining funds on the construction contract.

- The Town Office ADA Renovation Design RFP has gone out and ads have been placed in the paper to request proposals on the project
- The two new workstations in the office have been installed and are working fantastically. While there is a bit of a learning curve, Mary and Katie have picked up the new operating system well.
- The Regional Planning Committee that is looking at the consolidation of the local schools has seemingly set on a new funding formula for the proposed new Regional School Unit. The formula is based in part on property valuation and town population, but with debt service incurred by each community in prior years to be the responsibility of that community.
- The lease for Union 69's use of the town office space has been signed. The lease is a one year agreement that ends June 30, 2011 for \$10,500.

V. Unfinished Business

a. Roads

The Board requested that the Town Administrator and Road Commissioner meet with interested citizens to provide the Selectmen with a recommendation as to the future of roads and the road commissioner position.

VI. New Business

a. Wind Power Proposal – Ragged Mountain

The Town Administrator updated the Board on what little is currently known regarding the proposal to place wind turbines on Ragged Mountain. The committee in Camden that has investigated this proposal to this point has suggested creating a committee with representation from Hope, Camden, and Rockport that roughly corresponds to the size of each community. This committee would be charged with determining the feasibility of a small wind farm on a site that includes land in all three towns. However to this point, the Town of Hope has yet to receive a formal invitation from the Town of Camden to join this committee and seek citizens to be appointed.

b. FY 2010 Carry Forward

Tim Pearse made a motion to carry forward the following funds from the FY 2010 budget to same lines in the FY 2011 budget: \$2305 – Cemeteries, \$900 – General Administration, \$3500 – Municipal Buildings. Kathleen Hastings seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

c. Committee Appointments _MCSWC

Tim Pearse made a motion to appoint Walter Campbell to the Midcoast Solid Waste Corporation. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion approved 5-0.**

d. Approval of Warrants

Eric Campbell moved, and Kathleen Hastings seconded, a motion to approve warrants 12-16. **Motion approved 5-0.**

Mike Ames made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Selectmen and convene as the Board of Assessors. Tim Pearse seconded. **Motion passed 5-0**

VII. Board of Assessors

a. Knox County Assessors Return

Tim Pearse made a motion to sign the Knox County Assessors Return. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

Tim Pearse made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Assessors and re-convene as the Board of Selectmen. Mike Ames seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**

VIII. Adjournment

Eric Campbell moved to adjourn at 9:20 pm. Kathleen Hastings seconded. **Motion passed 5-0.**