

TOWN OF ALSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Select Board
Approved Minutes for Meeting of May 31, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 9 Main Street, Alstead, NH 03602

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Joe Levesque, Joel McCarty, Matt Saxton

STAFF PRESENT: In person: Jesse Moore, Ambulance Chief; Steve Murrell, Police Chief; Mary Schoppmeyer, Office Administrator. **Google Meet:** None.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: In person: Ben Howard, Marge Noonan, Rich Nalevanko, Barbara Viegener, Judith Willis. **Google Meet:** None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER: The Board Chair called the Select Board meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS: Sign payroll liability for the 6/3 payroll. Signed 3 cemetery purchase orders. Sign 5 Vilas Pool summer expenditures. Initial 2 It infrastructure improvement emails and sign 1 website domain request.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Minutes of May 24, 2022: No changes requested. NPS Minutes of May 24, 2022: Approved and signed on May 24. On a motion made by Matt and seconded by Joel, ***the Board voted to approve the public and non-public minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.***

Matt raised a question about one of the 3 cemetery purchase orders, which is for \$3600 to repair 1 monument and 1 headstone (multi-section monument at Alstead Center and one large headstone at west cemetery).

AMBULANCE SQUAD: Jesse reported that the ambulance is fixed. While they had the engine out, they found a leak in the oil pump and repaired that as well, preventing a second expensive repair. He noted that there has been a high rate of calls for heat-related ailments. He reported that the crew is well staffed, with about 23 emergency responders on the roster, 10 very active members and the remaining number who sprinkle in when needed. He reported that the state has decided to help with training and retention. The Board expressed its pleasure with the crew and their performance. In addition, Jesse suggested that a town could benefit from adding a position for a Town Nurse to help fill social services gaps that the ambulance crew and police department often encounter. There was more discussion about this idea that included speculation about whether Southwest Community Services could help with the increasing need for social service assistance versus medical intervention assistance. The board asked for the names of some towns that have town nurses.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Steve reported that the Memorial Day ceremonies were well attended despite last minute time changes. He expressed appreciation for the band's performance. He reported collaboration with the Ambulance Chief that allowed them to respond appropriately to connect a resident in need with appropriate services. The chief also thanked Joe for his work on submitting the grant for the sign trailers and radio equipment.

SELECT BOARD: Joel reported a remarkably productive Emergency Management Homeland Security meeting and commended the enthusiasm of the contact with whom they met. He expressed frustration with the lack of contact with the owner of the unauthorized trailer at 210 Gilsum Mine Road and dismay at the likelihood of a potentially painful impending resolution to that problem when a reasonable solution seems to be at hand. The Boucher property is in probate and that process is grinding forward slowly. Joel further indicated that Gordon Kemp has volunteered to review the town's multiple Comcast accounts and make recommendations with regard to cleanup and minimizing. Joe reported that the town is being sued by a Bennett Road resident and there would be a non-public session at the end of the meeting. He asked for the other board members' input with regard to posting the complaint on the website and consensus was to ask Mary to seek the advice of the town attorney about that issue. Joe summarized Steve Reynolds' email stemming from the FCC testing meeting last week, recommending the procurement of the last remaining components to complete the emergency amateur radio communications system project for about \$500, and the board indicated its consensus that the equipment should be purchased.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Barb Viegener suggested that a pamphlet listing sources of social services might be helpful. Rich Nalevanko asked about the status of his requests for information pertaining to the Alstead Senior Housing project; Matt responded that the assessor is working to complete town assessment requirements by June 6th and that he would follow

up with the assessors after that. The board greeted Ben Howard, who has returned from Germany and stands ready to help out with town projects for the summer before returning to college in the fall.

INFORMATIONAL: The next regular meeting of the Select Board is scheduled for June 7th, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

On a motion made by Matt and seconded by Joel, ***the Board voted by roll call (Joe – y; Joel – y; Matt – y) to enter non-public session at 5:46 p.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(e) (discussion of pending or threatened legal action).***

On a motion made by Joel and seconded by Matt, ***the Board voted to leave non-public session and return to public session at 5:56 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

On a motion made by Joe and seconded by Joel, ***the Board voted to instruct the Office Administrator to take the following actions pursuant to their discussion during the non-public session:***

- ***Notify the town attorney that he is authorized to accept service on the town's behalf.***
- ***Notify the insurance company of the legal action.***
- ***Ask the town attorney's advice with regard to posting information about the complaint on the town website.***

The motion passed unanimously.

On a motion made by Joel and seconded by Matt, ***the Board voted to adjourn the public meeting at 5:59 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Schoppmeyer, Office Administrator (incoming)