

**TOWN OF CUSHING
SELECTMEN MEETING
July 28, 2008**

CUSHING COMMUNITY CENTER

Selectmen Present: Alton Grover, Peter Haviland, Randolph Robbins, Robert Stackpole, and Robert Worthing.

Staff Present: Town Clerk Lisa Young

Board approved Warrant #33 & #34

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM.

Peter Haviland motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to approve the July 14, 2008 minutes as written. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Additions and changes to the agenda-

The Board signed the Urban Rural Initiative Program which is a State program that issues funds to towns that are eligible. To be eligible each municipality must certify that the funds will be used only for capital improvements of public town roads.

Eli Ellis and Will Payson members of the Norton Cemetery Association presented the Board a letter to attempt to provide some historical context and a summary of the current understanding of the accounting between the town, the association, and the plot owners of the Norton Cemetery. An immediate issue the members would like addressed is the outstanding invoice from Guy Barter for the mowing he completed back in May. At the last Selectmen's Meeting the Board didn't feel they could authorize paying the bill due to there was not enough interest from the funds to cover the invoice, and they did not authorize the mowing. A lengthy discussion ensued on how the money was given to the Town to hold, how the Town is responsible for Veterans' lots by State Statute, and how in the future the Norton Cemetery Association can work with the Town on the perpetual care of the cemetery.

Randy Robbins motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to transfer funds from surplus to cover the current outstanding invoice from Guy Barter for \$1,100. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

The Board of Selectmen will work with Treasurer, Janet Plona, to figure out the accounts, and the Norton Cemetery Association will work on an estimate for the perpetual care.

Unfinished Business

Roof Bids- Selectman Robert Stackpole reported that the architectural plans of the Cushing Community Center roof from John Hansen are expected this week.

New Business

Salt Bids- Chairman Alton Grover announced that he has received bids for winter salt and that Mid Atlantic Salt, LLC came in with the lowest bid at \$71.28 per ton. Robert Stackpole motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to accept Mid-Atlantic Salt, LLC bid and order 300 tons for the 08/09 winter season. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

A question came up on water content of the salt. Chairman Alton Grover stated he has never had any problem with the salt but will check on it.

Chairman Alton Grover announced that Arthur Kennedy will mow the Town Roads for \$50.00 more than last year for a fee of \$675.00. The Board had approved the mowing last meeting as long as the fee was within \$100.00 of last year's price.

Chairman Alton Grover reported that he has tried to get in touch with Hartland Inc., in regard to the sand but the person he needs to talk to is away. He will try again and report back at the next meeting.

Audit- Treasurer Janet Plona requested approval from the Board to hire Hollingsworth and Associates to conduct a limited procedures audit of the first quarter to verify that all of the accounts are accurate. Janet Plona was elected Treasurer in March and officially took over April 1, 2008. The fee for the audit is \$1,000.00. Robert Worthing motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to hire Hollingsworth and Associates to conduct a limited procedures audit of the first quarter for a fee of \$1,000.00. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Comments from Citizens- Mr. Tower addressed the Board. He handed each Selectmen copies of two letters sent to Chairman of the Planning Board, Daniel Remian, from Rudman and Winchell Counselors at Law and letters addressed to Scott Bickford from Last Resort Holdings, LLC, a letter addressed to James Tower from CEO Scott Bickford, and two letters from Cushing Holdings, LLC addressed to Scott Bickford, and Daniel Remian. Mr. Tower proceeded to read the letters a loud. According to Mr. Tower he has not received any response to most of his requests, and accuses Daniel Remian and Evelyn Kalloch as being prejudiced and biased and that they should be recusing themselves at Planning Board Meetings due to both being on the Board of Assessors and the pending abatement issue. He stated that the Planning Board and the CEO is responsible to the Board of Selectmen and he requests that the Board take what action they feel is reasonable to make sure that the CEO and the Planning Board does their job according to the rules. Selectman Peter Haviland noted that this is a serious condition and that they should engage the Towns' attorneys. Selectman Robert Stackpole stated that it is apparent that the Board needs to check with Code Enforcement Officer Scott Bickford

first. Selectman Randy Robbins stated Mr. Tower should have received a response from CEO Scott Bickford within the required 35 days and questioned why there has been no response. He went on to state that he attended a Planning Board meeting and didn't feel Mr. Tower was treated "Special". Resident Will Payson expressed strong concern over Mr. Tower's allegations of bias and prejudice.

Chairman Alton Grover motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (A) Personnel Matters at 8:06PM. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Selectman Peter Haviland motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to return to the regular scheduled meeting at 8:45PM. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Selectman Randy Robbins motioned, Robert Stackpole seconded, to adjourn at 8:46PM. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Young
Recording Secretary
Town Clerk