

**TOWN OF CUSHING
SELECTMEN MEETING**

October 13, 2008

CUSHING COMMUNITY CENTER

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

Board approved Warrant #45 & #46

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

Robert Stackpole motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to approve the September 22, 2008 minutes with one change. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Additions and changes to the agenda

Town Clerk Lisa Young reported that Sandy has noticed tiny ants and wasps in the gym area. Chairman Alton Grover said he will look into the problem.

Town Clerk Lisa Young inquired if the Board would approve printing the commitment book at no charge for the Maine Clammers Association. The Maine Clammers Association would like to send information to coastal land owners concerning potential problems to marine life along the coast from land run off. Robert Stackpole motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to approve printing the commitment book for the Maine Clammers Association at no charge. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Peter Haviland motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to approve the sale of the snow plow truck to Dustin Glidden for \$8,000.00. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Unfinished Business

Chairman Alton Grover announced that a group from St. George will come and talk about the school consolidation on October 15, 2008 at 7:00PM at the Cushing Community Center. Chairman Alton Grover asked St. George to come and talk after several residents from Cushing, that attended a previous meeting held in St. George, asked if a meeting could be scheduled in Cushing.

New Business-

Sign SAD#50 Referendum Election Warrant- The Board signed the SAD #50 Referendum Election Warrant for the November 4th election.

Spear Mill Road driveway/speed limit- Chairman Alton Grover reported that two residents on the Spear Mill Road have made a complaint that where their driveway meets the pavement of the Spear Mill Road the gravel has washed away. They felt it was due to how the hot top was put down and they feel that the Town should fix the problem. Alton said he checked both driveways and found that an apron had been formed by the pavers. He noted that the problem is that both houses are lower than the pavement so there is an incline to drive out of their driveway. The Board determined that it is not the Town's responsibility to fix driveways; it is a driveway maintenance issue.

Chairman Alton Grover reported that he has talked to Dave Allen of the Department of Transportation in regard to the speed limit on Stones Point Road, Spear Mill Road, and Salt Pond Road. Mr. Allen agreed that the speed limit on Salt Pond and Stones Point should be 25 MPH. Mr. Allen recommends that the Town write a letter making an official request to lower the speed limit on Stones Point Road and Salt Pond Road. Alton and Lisa will get a letter out this week.

Culvert Davis Point Road- Peter Haviland motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to put the work for the culvert on Davis Point and the road work on Salt Pond Road out to bid to Cushing contractors. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Robert Stackpole will write out the specifications. The bids will be opened at the October 27, 2008 Selectmen Meeting and bids will be accepted until 4:30PM on the October 27th at the Cushing Town Office.

Robert Stackpole reported that there is a problem on Finntown Road. He is worried that this winter it could be a problem for the Town's snowplow trucks due to a deep furrow half way up the hill. Alton noted that it is a State road and he is afraid that if the Town does any work on the road there might be a problem. Alton said he will contact the State to see if they could fix the problem.

Rail for the Library back door- Joe Smith of the Buildings and Properties Committee reported that the estimate to put a rail up would be around \$40.00. Robert Worthing motioned, Robert Stackpole seconded, to authorize Joe Smith to purchase the rail for the Library back door. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Special Town Meeting- Chairman Alton Grover announced that there is not enough money in the professional services account to pay for two invoices from Bernstein Shur Attorneys at Law and that the Board will need to schedule a Special Town Meeting to see if the Town will approve transferring more funds to the account. This brought up a lengthy discussion on how to best control attorney fees. Robert Stackpole motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, that from now on the only attorney work permissible will be concerning the tax appeal case. Any other attorney work will have to go in front of the Board of Selectmen for approval. Before a vote was taken Robert Worthing stated that the motion is too restrictive. He felt that the Town should contact Bernstein Shur to inform them that they can only accept calls approved by Chairman Alton Grover. Randy

Robbins motioned to amend the first motion to state that Chairman Alton Grover is the only one who can approve any calls to the attorneys. The amendment passed.

Board Approved 4-1-0

Robert Worthing motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to approve the motion as amended, the motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Chairman Grover will contact Bernstein Shur Attorneys at Law to get an estimate of cost for the two day tax appeal case coming up at the end of the month. The Special Town Meeting is scheduled for October 27, 2008 at 6:00pm.

Trio- Robert Worthing reported that personal property bills were sent to businesses and people that have no personal property in Cushing in error. Trio had put the names of these businesses and people in our system in error. The Board will have Assessors' Agent Garnett Robinson contact Trio.

Comments from Citizens

Recreation Department Chairperson Sonia Bates reported that it has come to a point where they feel either a part-time recreation department director needs to be hired, or pay to have Cushing children join the Thomaston Recreation Department. She said due to parents working it is getting harder and harder to find volunteers to help out. Another issue for Cushing is during basketball season they share the Thomaston Grammar School gym with the Thomaston Recreation Department because Cushing School, as with Lura Libby, does not have a full sized gym and games can't be played in their multi-purpose rooms. After a lengthy discussion the Board made a decision to have liaison to the Recreation Department, Robert Stackpole, contact the Thomaston Board of Selectmen to schedule a meeting with the two recreation directors to discuss the possibility of sending Cushing children to Thomaston.

Robert Worthing motioned, Peter Haviland seconded, to adjourn at 8:10PM. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Young

Town Clerk

Minutes taken by Crystal Robinson

