

**TOWN OF CUSHING
SELECTMEN MEETING**

July 27, 2009

CUSHING COMMUNITY CENTER

Selectmen Present: Alton Grover, Randy Robbins, Robert Stackpole, Daniel Staples, and Robert Worthing.

Staff Present: Town Clerk Lisa Young

Board approved Warrant #27& #28

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

Selectman Robert Stackpole motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to approve the July 13, 2009 minutes as written. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Additions and changes to the agenda

Chairman Alton Grover announced that due to moving out of the area Animal Control Officer Catherine Virgie has resigned. Selectman Robert Stackpole inquired if there are any potential prospects. Alton informed the Board that Cathy Virgie knows someone that may be interested in the position. Selectman Daniel Staples noted that at the last County meeting he attended the subject came up on trying to coordinate sharing an Animal Control Officer with other towns. Chairman Grover noted that Cathy was Animal Control Officer for around five towns. The Board directed Chairman Alton Grover to talk to Catherine Virgie to find out more information on the person who may be interested in filling the vacancy of Animal Control Officer.

Selectman Randolph Robbins motioned, Robert Stackpole seconded, to accept Animal Control Officer Catherine Virgie's resignation. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Selectman Daniel Staples noted that the Town could also join with other towns in the county to take part in the oil bidding which could save money.

Selectman Robert Worthing reminded the Board that Treasurer Janet Plona had given them a Management's Discussion and Analysis letter to look over. This letter is required as part of the audit report. Mr. Worthing noted a significant error in the percent of increase. The Board directed the Town Clerk to go over it with Treasurer Janet Plona.

Chairman Alton Grover asked Robert Worthing how the foreclosure process is going. Selectman Worthing reported that at this time nothing has been done. He noted that it is now up to the Board. Robert Worthing looked at the list of foreclosures and it was

determined that some had paid. The Board will request an updated list from the Treasurer.

Following up from last meeting Chairman Alton Grover reported that he has had three people look at the Modine heater at the Fire Station. Two of the three that looked at the heater felt the entire heater should be replaced. JR of Charles Oliver Plumbing would like to get permission from the Board to take the Modine apart to see if it would be worthwhile to fix it or if they should replace the entire unit. He also asked to look at the chimney. Robert Stackpole motioned, Daniel Staples seconded, to have JR of Charles Oliver Plumbing look at the Modine heater and check the chimney. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Unfinished Business

Roads- Chairman Alton Grover announced that he has received several complaints in regard to pot holes on town owned roads: Stones Point, Hathorne Point Road, and the dirt portion only, on Killeran Lane, and McCarter Point Road. He noted that in the past he hired Nick Martin to help fill the pot holes with cold patch on the hot topped roads and on the dirt roads he has used his grader to grade the areas, and if needed, he ordered a small amount of gravel to fill in the holes. Selectman Daniel Staples stated that for such a small job he feels it should be taken care of as before.

Selectman Daniel Staples motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to direct Chairman Alton Grover to check and patch the pot holes on all of the Town Roads, to hire Nick Martin to help, and if needed to order gravel. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Selectman Robert Stackpole reported that it is his observation that on Spear Mill Road the only way to keep the water from staying in the road would be to have the hill crowned. A brief discussion ensued but no decision was made.

Chairman Alton Grover inquired how the specifications for the culverts on Spear Mill were coming. Selectman Stackpole stated that he will get on it.

Chairman Grover announced that the State will be putting hot top over the culvert area by Robinson's Lane, fixing the culvert by Kalloch Lane, and working on 97.

Chairman Grover inquired if the Board would like him to contact the Prison Farm to put our name on the list to hire the brush cutting crew for next year. In years past they have been so busy that they recommended that Alton Grover along with Arthur Kiskila oversee the prisoners. He noted that by putting our name in early enough this could eliminate the need for hiring Arthur Kiskila and Alton Grover. Selectman Robert Stackpole stated that it cost the Town \$9000.00 last year which he felt was too much. He felt that it was not necessary to hire a man and a chipper along with a bucket truck. He noted that at times the chipper just sat there not being used and that it was his opinion that they could reach branches to cut in a dump truck just as easy as a bucket truck.

Chairman Grover noted that when anyone was in the bucket truck they had special safety gear on and that they were fastened in so they would not fall out. After a brief discussion, Selectman Robert Stackpole motioned, Randolph Robbins seconded, to direct Chairman Alton Grover to contact the Prison to put the Towns' name on the list to schedule the brush cutting crew for next year. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Personnel Policy- Selectman Robert Worthing reported that they are using the South Thomaston's policy as a starting point for a discussion only. He felt that there is no point in reinventing the wheel. Selectman Daniel Staples recommended having the Selectmen meet in a workshop to discuss the Personnel Policy. The Board agreed and scheduled a workshop for August 4, 2009 at 6:00PM at the Cushing Community Center.

New Business

Recording Secretary Fees- Chairman Alton Grover announced that Deborah Sealey, recording secretary for the Planning Board, has increased her fee to \$20.00 per hour. She has been charging this fee to other towns but had not in Cushing due to in the past there has been so much activity with the Planning Board. She was paid \$16.00. Selectman Robert Worthing motioned, Robert Stackpole seconded, to approve the increase for Deborah Sealey from \$16.00 to \$20.00 per hour. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Planning Board Fees- The Board will go over these Fees at the next meeting and make sure someone from the Planning Board is present to explain the changes.

Comments from Citizens -

Resident William Payson wanted to inform the Board of the cat problem on Hathorne Point Road. Chairman Alton Grover was already aware of the situation and had attended a meeting that former Animal Control Officer Cathy Virgie had set up. Some questions that came up were if the Town has a contract with the Knox County Humane Society how can they refuse to accept an animal, and what is the Animal Control Officers job description. Town Clerk Lisa Young will check the contract and the job description and let the selectmen know.

Selectman Daniel Staples motioned, Selectman Randolph Robbins seconded, to adjourn at 7:45 PM. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa M. Young
Town Clerk

