

**TOWN OF CUSHING
SELECTMEN MEETING
September 14, 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 #34& #35

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Selectman Daniel Staples motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to approve the August 24, 2009 minutes as written. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Additions and changes to the agenda

Planning Board Chairman Daniel Remian made a request that the Board approve having the towns' attorney write up a letter of credit. A letter of credit would protect the town if a developer in a subdivision fails to complete required improvements in a timely fashion. He noted that that the attorney estimated that it would take one to one and a half hours at \$160.00 per hour not to exceed \$300.00. Selectman Robert Worthing motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to approve expending not more than \$300.00 to prepare the letter of credit. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Chairman Alton Grover announced that there are two properties that have been foreclosed on and are now town property. Alton inquired if the Board would like to put the property out to bid. Selectman Randy Robbins motioned, Daniel Staples seconded, to put the property that has been foreclosed on out to bid. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Chairman Alton Grover read a resignation letter from Mark Ames resigning from the Ordinance Committee, Building and Grounds Committee, and the Harbor Master position. Selectman Robert Stackpole motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to regretfully accept his resignation. The motion passed.

Board approved 5-0-0

Selectman Robert Worthing motioned, Robert Stackpole seconded, that the Cushing Board of Selectmen direct Danny Staples, as former Harbor Master, to deliver to the Board all records, materials, and implements in his possession which are relative to the Harbor Master position. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Unfinished Business

Schedule Public Hearing for Cemetery Ordinance- Robert Worthing motioned, Robert Stackpole seconded, to schedule a public hearing to hear public comment on the Cemetery Ordinance on Monday, September 28, 2009 at the Cushing Community Center at 6:00PM preceding the Selectmen's Meeting. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Selectman Robert Worthing reported that there are two or three lots at the Pleasant View Cemetery that are the standard size but are only 18'' deep. David Glidden recommended that the lots be divided into three lots 5' x 15' and designate them as cremation sites only, and charge the same fee as a regular lot which is \$500.00 per lot. Selectman Worthing noted that the Cemetery Committee felt that the fee was steep and recommended charging \$300.00 per lot. Selectman Daniel Staples motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to approve the Cemetery Committees recommendation and divide the lots into three cremation only lots and charge a fee of \$300.00. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Open Septic Bids- Chairman Alton Grover opened eight bids that the Town has received for the Septic replacement at 509 Pleasant Point Rd. The amounts are as follows: Donald Meklin & Sons-\$6,800, Doug Fales-\$8,900, Dean Enterprises-\$ 10,650, Larry Sukeforth-\$9,000, Tom Harriman- \$13,500, Santana Excavation-\$8,500, Martin Excavation-\$ 9,200, and George C. Hall- \$ 11,000. Selectman Robert Stackpole motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to accept Donald Meklin & Sons bid for a fee of \$6,800 contingent upon the Department of Environmental Protections approval. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Open community Center Roof Bids- Chairman Alton Grover announced that there are some discrepancies between the specifications and the blue prints. The problem is with the shingles and the roof vents. After a lengthy discussion, Selectman Robert Worthing moved that the Board delay opening bids until they clear the discrepancies with the architect and contact all of the bidders. Chairman Alton Grover will contact John Hansen and contact all of the bidders.

Animal Control Officer- To be discussed in executive session.

Mowing field at Pleasant View Cemetery- Chairman Alton Grover opened the one estimate the Town has received for the mowing. Dean Enterprises will mow the field for a fee of \$300.00. Selectman Daniel Staples motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to hire Deane Enterprises to mow the Pleasant View Cemetery field for \$300.00. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

New Business-

Ordinance Committee (assigning a selectman to cover when liaison Randolph Robbins is away)- Robert Stackpole motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to direct Chairman Alton Grover to attend the Ordinance Committee meetings scheduled for October 5th and 19th to fill in for liaison Randy Robbins. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Resident Robert Ellis noted that the Ordinance Committee seems to still have a problem keeping members on the committee. He noted that if the committee is always adding new members, due to the learning curve, it is difficult to have an efficient board. He recommends that the Board of Selectmen make a motion to dissolve the committee. He feels that the Planning Board can handle the work. He stated that he is speaking for himself not the Planning Board. Liaison to the Ordinance Committee Randy Robbins stated that that was a “bad shot” on the committee. Robert Ellis stated that he is not talking about the work but about the hard time they are having keeping the committee staffed.

Member of the Planning Board and Ordinance Committee, David Cobey, stated that he feels it is healthy to have ordinances prepared by different people than those who must implement them.

When asked for his opinion, Chairman of the Planning Board, Daniel Remian, stated if there is not much work going on for the Planning Board that he has no problem with working on ordinances.

Code Enforcement Officer, Scott Bickford, stated that seeing it from the outside that it seems like chaos and that the committee has been subject to too much outside influence. He stressed that any work that the Ordinance Committee works on should come from the Selectmen.

Selectman Robert Stackpole went over an old list that Eric Anderson had given them and noted that there doesn't seem to be anything that the committee needs to work on. Selectman Robert Worthing reminded the Board that Chairman Eric Anderson will be bringing an updated list of items to work on to the Selectmen and suggested that the Board wait until they see the list. The Board decided before making any decisions to wait until they receive the new list from Eric.

Bidding out backhoe work- Selectman Robert Stackpole stated that he feels that the Board should put the backhoe work for the winter sand out to bid to get a more competitive price. At this time the Town has been using Alton Grover's for a fee of \$300.00/wk. Chairman Alton Grover wanted to clarify things. He stated that several times the town put the work out to bid but there were no bidders, so the Town rented his backhoe and has ever since. He went on to say that last year he went to several meetings, at no charge to the town, in regard to a FEMA grant and worked with a FEMA agent and received \$18,491.20 for the Snow Removal Account, that he along with Mike Myrick use their own trucks to plow the town properties but do not charge for the use of their trucks but charge only their hourly wage, and that he pays for the fuel and insurance on the backhoe. He stated does anyone feel there is a conflict of interest? Selectman Danny Staples stressed that it is his opinion that nobody in the Town of Cushing saves the Town more money than Alton.

Selectman Stackpole reported that he had gotten two prices last year on new backhoe rentals: one for \$1,500 from Caterpillar and another for \$1,200/mth from a rental company. This price did not include fuel or insurance. Selectman Stackpole motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to bid out the backhoe rental for the 2009/2010 snow season. The motion failed.

**Robert Stackpole for Robert Worthing & Daniel Staples opposed
Alton Grover & Randy Robbins abstained**

Culvert Stones Point Road- Chairman Alton Grover reported that the second house on the right on Stones Point Road needs a new culvert. The Board agreed to have Alton put the work out to bid. Alton will write out the working order.

Selectman Randy Robbins reported that he talked to Robert Haskell and that Robert is pleased with the culvert but made a request that the Town pave over the culvert like it was originally. Randy showed the Board pictures of the area. Selectman Robert Stackpole noted that we should not spend over \$400.00. Selectman Randy Robbins motioned, Robert Stackpole seconded, that the Town pave over the culvert at Haskell's on Spear Mill Road the way it originally was. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Comments from Citizens - No comments.

Chairman Alton Grover motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (A) to discuss a personnel matter at 7:50 PM. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Selectman Robert Worthing motioned, Robert Stackpole seconded, to return to the regular scheduled meeting at 8:10PM. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Selectman Daniel Staples motioned, Robert Worthing seconded, to appoint Stephen Stimpson Animal Control Officer. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Selectman Robert Stackpole motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to adjourn at 8:15 PM. The motion passed.

Board Approved 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa M. Young
Town Clerk

