

TOWN OF ALSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Select Board

Approved Minutes for Meeting of November 13, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Town Offices, 15 Mechanic Street, Alstead, NH 03602

Minutes prepared by Mr. McCarty –

Alstead Selectboard met in open session at 10:30a, Wednesday 11/13/2024 with all three Selectmen on board. After the Pledge, the Board entered a Non-Public session at the request of an employee, pursuant to 91-A:3, II (a)

Open session resumed at 10:44, in attendance: Chief Steve, Bobbie Wilson, Corporal Wendy, Rich Berringer, Jesse Moore, Joe Levesque, Barbara Vigner and Judith Willis.

No guests.

Minutes approved with one tiny typo corrected.

Matt Saxton ran the agenda from here.

Washout glass - Matt will make another call.

Bridges and dams - covered thoroughly in the Public Hearing of 11/12/24

there followed a protracted discussion of the proposed detour.

There is no news concerning the Boucher property

SB is looking for the Health Care rate notice to approve.

There is no news regarding 210 Gilsum Mine Rd

There was a wide-ranging discussion of the Complete Streets program and its many facets and opportunities. SB considered a proposal to provide SWRPC with 3-5 K\$ to launch preliminary engineering for the Vilas School to Shedd-Porter Library sidewalk core project. After discussion, SB approved use of ARRPA funds in 2024 to jump start this endeavor (and so as not to lose access to other sources of funding).

The Fire Chief Search Committee is off to a rough start - Matt is following a couple of leads for additional members.

SB received 2025 budget request from the Supervisors via Bobbie Wilson. Handed off to Joe Levesque to be entered in the budget spreadsheet.

PD is a 946 calls, and would like to thank the AMB and FD for all their support around Halloween/Trunk or Treat, which was a success by any measure. Perhaps 175 kids swept through.

Corporal Wendy was the first place fund raiser for the Cheshire County Child Advocacy Center. Confusingly, the fundraising effort had something to do with her coloring her hair, NOT, it is noted, in her growing a beard, which is apparently what it used to involve, somehow.

Chief Steve wonders if ARPA funds could be used for the anticipated new cruiser in 2025. Approval in concept. Research to follow.

Chief Steve inquires as to the Wage and Hour survey component specific to Land Use Clerk. Joel will inquire of Maryann.

Jesse Moore reports finding an enclosed trailer appropriate to store EMS supplies for emergencies @ \$6K, and urges us to buy something similar for the Park and Recs equipment, currently stored under tarps.

The community notes with sadness the passing of Paula Gallagher, veteran, RN, longtime EMS trainer and Alstead Ambulance member. We are grateful for her service. Joel had received a testimonial to her inspirational teaching from a now-retired, Alstead resident, EMT/Paramedic. Jesse Moore will attend Visiting Hours (Thursday) and the Memorial Mass (Friday).

Jesse Moore notes that the transfer station has been gifted a 1,000 gallon tank that in his estimation might for the basis of the fire suppression system we would need to resume burning brush. It could also serve to permit fair-weather washing of equipment. Jesse will consult with the NH Forest Ranger.

Jesse and Joe discussed new containers for the Transfer Station and possible funding from America The Beautiful and/or ARPA. Numbers available soon.

Jesse Moore wants Alstead to join the regional Dive Team, and he will provide costs and benefits at a future meeting.

Bobbie Wilson reports on behalf of the Supervisors of the Checklist that NH has enacted a statute on 11/11/24 that compels anyone who wishes to register to vote in any tow, state or federal election to provide either an original birth certificate or a valid US passport. This announcement produced expressions of various levels of outrage around the room, and sufficient speculation about the Legislature and Governor's motivation that the Chair felt compelled to remind folks that Bobbie is but the messenger, and did not actually write the law herself.

Rich Berringer announced that the FD has appointed new officers for this cycle, and provided those names to the Board as required.

Much discussion of the volume of the EMS scanner in the Town Hall. Resolved.

Discussion regarding the parking of the Transfer Station dumptruck during Town Hall events. Resolved, perhaps.

Gordon Kemp reports that he is chugging along with Misty on the MS 434 and MS 535, both of which are overdue. The Auditor is in the loop.

Protracted discussion regarding a non-existent driveway permit for a non-existent subdivision on Hill Road - neither heat nor light was produced.

Bobbie Wilson will attend a MSTeams meeting with DOT highway design to discuss impacts to the Vilas Pool Park from an anticipated closure of 123A in 2026.

Supervisors are getting a new state electronic reporting system on January 5th. Much heartburn is anticipated.

Fire Chief Selection process is rocky and "unpleasant". Committee is down to three. A couple of likely recruits were identified, Matt is all over it.

Next SB Meeting is a 5pm, Tuesday 11/19/24, Comfy Chairs.

Adjourn 12 noon.