

# MINUTES FROM 08/22/2017 SELECTBOARD MEETING

**PRESENT:** Chairman, Tyler Gotshall, Alton Brusco, Lee Kimball, Chuck Pease, Cheryle Moomey, Clerk, Donna L. Bohannon

**GUESTS:** Jr. Cameron, Rodney James, Michael Florio, Billy Duchaine, Leeann Porto, Renee Creller, Taylor Newton (Northwest Regional Planning Commission), Carol Behrman

## 7:00pm - OPEN REGULAR MEETING:

- Chairman Tyler Gotshall opened the meeting at 7pm

## ADJUST AGENDA (if needed):

- Two adjustments requested
  - **Adjustment #1:** Rodney James and William Duchaine will be attending
  - **Adjustment #2:** Streetscape update from VTRANS

## NEW BUSINESS:

- **Adjustment #1:** Rodney James and William Duchaine will be attending
  - Alton expressed that things have been going well with the changes that have taken place in the Highway Department.
  - Rodney and Billy have been handling most aspects of the day to day activities.
  - If there are specific complaints that need to be addressed, Alton, as Road Commissioner will handle them.
  - Tyler thanked both Rodney and Billy for taking on the responsibilities at the garage.
  - The Selectboard will hire a seasonal person to help plow roads and take care of the roads through the winter.
  - Rodney and Billy were both informed that if they wanted to be involved in the hiring of the part time person that the Board would like to have their input.
  - Billy stated that the new hire could be responsible for maintaining the Village Roads while he took care of the longer roads in Town.

- The hope is that the successful candidate will have some mechanical abilities and the know how to perform small repairs to the equipment if needed.
- Alton will inform Rodney and Billy of the interview dates so they may attend if they want to.
- Alburgh Planning Commission & Taylor Newton –
  - Taylor Newton was present to talk to the Board about two things; #1 Municipal Planning Grant and #2 Zoning by-laws.
  - The Municipal Planning Grant could be used to come up with some zoning by laws.
  - The Planning Commission would like to see zoning added to the ballot for the March 2018 election. If they wait for grant work to be done, the time frame for being on the spring ballot would not work.
  - #1 A planning grant could also be used for a Village Master Plan.
  - A Village master plan would help to restructure the Village with the intent of attracting more businesses to Alburgh.
  - NRPC could do the work and it would be less expensive than hiring an outside company.
  - A Village master plan would focus on a couple of key areas such as capital improvements, zoning recommendations, implementation and marketing/branding.
  - The two areas that the Planning Commission would like to address are capital improvements planning which could mean sidewalks, lighting, etc. and marketing/branding which would consist of creating an image for downtown Alburgh that would attract new businesses and consumers to the area.
  - A Municipal Plan will help to plan what Alburgh could look like in 5 years/10 years.
  - Taylor will take back to NRPC what Alburgh wants in its Municipal Plan – marketing and branding and capital improvements.
  - Scope of work will be done and to the Planning Commission by the 19<sup>th</sup> of September for the Planning Commission meeting on that date.
  - The Planning Commission will bring it to the Selectboard at the September 26<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meeting.
  - Resolution will be resolved at the Selectboard meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

- #2 If the Board wants to add zoning by-laws to the March ballot, there would not be enough time to apply for the Municipal Planning Grant, therefore they would have to add it to the ballot without a great amount of planning going into the proposal.
- NRPC could make some changes to the 2009 zoning proposal and that could be presented to the Town. The fee for this would be \$4,000. The Planning Commission
- They could also introduce the zoning proposal to the voters of the Town so it is clear to the voters what the zoning regulation will include.
- The Selectboard and the Planning Commission Board are in agreement that the zoning proposal needs to be simple zoning.
- It was clarified that if zoning does pass, any new amendments would have to go to vote also. The Selectboard cannot add any amendments to the zoning by-laws without the consent of the voters.
- NRPC would help present and promote simple zoning.
- Lenny James – trapping raccoons on Vantine Ave.-
  - Selectboard were informed that there is trapping of raccoons happening on Vantine Avenue. It was not at the request of the Selectboard therefore there is no action being taken.

#### **OLD BUSINESS / UPDATES / TABLED TOPICS AND / OR WAITING RESULTS:**

- Florio's at 4 Greenwoods Rd.- update –
  - Michael Florio is making good progress on the cleanup of his property and the septic issues are being taken care of as quickly as they can.
- Town wide reappraisal –
  - *Lee Kimball motioned that the Clerk will get some estimates for the cost of a Town wide reappraisal – seconded by Cheryl Moomey – all in favor – motion carried.*
- Transfer Station – lean to needed – update –
  - No update at this time.
  - Tabled until the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 09/12/2017.
- Garbage complaint from 04/11/2017 meeting – Vantine Ave. – update –
  - The dump truck has been removed as has the garbage in and around it.
- Larry and Wendy Benjamin – next step – update –

- The junk at the end of Henry Road is being removed. At least half of the pile appears to have been taken care of.

**VISITOR INPUT:**

- Renee Creller explained the Bob Parro has resigned from the Planning Commission and that there is now an empty seat.
  - Clerk will post the vacant seat on Facebook, Front Porch Forum and in the Islander.
- Renee would also like to establish some by laws for a no smoking policy on Town property.
  - She will present at the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 09/12/2017.
- *Lee Kimball motioned that Carol Behrman be appointed as code enforcement officer - seconded by Cheryl Moomey – all in favor – motion carried.*

**APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MEETING MINUTES:**

- **08/08/2017 SELECTBOARD MEETING**
  - *Chuck Pease motioned to approve the minutes from the 08/08/2017 Selectboard meeting – seconded by Cheryl Moomey – all in favor – motion carried.*

**APPROVE INVOICES AND / OR OVERWEIGHT PERMITS:**

- No overweight permits
- All invoices approved and signed.

**ADJOURN:**

- *At 9:21pm Chuck Pease motioned to adjourn – seconded by Tyler Gotshall – all in favor – motion carried – meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted, Donna L. Bohannon Alburgh Town Clerk

Please note the above minutes HAVE NOT been approved. Approval or changes to the minutes will be addressed at the next regular meeting, currently scheduled for 09/12/2017