

**TOWN OF CUSHING  
SELECTMEN MEETING  
July 09, 2007  
CUSHING COMMUNITY CENTER**

**Selectmen Present:** Alton Grover, Peter Haviland, Randolph Robbins, Kim Young, and Robert Worthing.

**Staff Present:** Town Clerk Lisa Young

Board approved Warrant # 34

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM.

Peter Haviland motioned, Kim Young seconded, to approve the July 11, 2007 minutes as written. The motion passed.

**Board Approved 5-0-0**

**Changes to the Agenda**

The Board signed the Urban Rural Initiative Program certification form which certifies that the Rural Initiative funds received from the State will be used only for capital improvement of public roads. It is estimated that the Town of Cushing will receive \$26,520.

Resident Mark McGuirl presented the Board a letter addressed to the Chairman of the Board, asking for action to be taken immediately. The letter expresses his concern, and he believes many others in town share this concern, that members of the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board have been fraternizing and partying with a subdivision applicant that at the present time the town is in litigation with. He requested that Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Alton Grover, and Planning Board members Robert Ellis and Frank Muddle recuse themselves from any matter before the Board pertaining to the said applicant. Mr. McGuirl stated that he has discussed this issue with Chairman of the Planning Board Daniel Remian and will be sending copies of the letter to the other Board members.

Selectman Kim Young noted that she has received several phone calls from residents questioning the actions of some of the Board members. Chairman Alton Grover and Mr. Muddle, who were in attendance, denied the accusations. Mr. Muddle asked that Mr. McGuirl go back and read the minutes of the Planning Board Meetings. A discussion ensued on conflict of interest. Selectman Robert Worthing felt that they were confusing conflict of interest, which is a legal situation. He went on to state that it is impropriety which can be perceived and this perception becomes reality. He questioned how the Town perceived the situation. Board members must be very careful. The people have to have faith in the people they elected. Selectman Peter Haviland stated for the record that his perspective is that the Board has not done anything wrong. He is comfortable that the

Board has behaved honorably and in good faith. He stated that the Board does need to be careful with some of the joking at meetings due to the risk of giving the wrong impression. A decision was made to let Chairman of the Planning Board, Daniel Remian, discuss it with his Board members and then get together to make a decision.

Resident and Town Assessor Carole Leporati voiced her concern that there is a general disrespect for those sitting on boards especially female members. She requested that the Board of Selectmen draft a written statement against the disrespect. Selectman Kim Young volunteered to write a statement.

Chairman Alton Grover reported that he had talked to Guy Barter who works at the prison and that the Town of Cushing is on the list for getting the sides of the town roads mowed.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Grange Hall Hill-** Chairman Alton Grover is still waiting for the company from Topsham to come down to view the area.

**Planning Board Fees-** Robert Worthing motioned, Peter Haviland seconded, to accept the Planning Board Fees and Escrow Funds as presented. The motion passed.

**Board Approved 5-0-0**

**Attorney Fees-** Chariman Alton Grover announced that the Town had received a May invoice from the Town's attorney and that in order to pay for it the Professional Service Account would be overdrawn. He stated that a special town meeting would have to be scheduled. Alton Grover motioned, Randy Robbins seconded, to schedule a Special Town Meeting on July 23, 2007 at 6:00 pm at the Cushing Community Center. The motion passed.

**Board Approved 5-0-0**

**Ordinance Committee-** Three residents showed interest in becoming a member of the Ordinance Committee. Chairperson Marilyn Barnum made a request for the Selectmen to interview those interested and make a decision as soon as possible. Selectman Kim Young voiced her concern that she is not convinced that the problems have been resolved and questioned whether adding new members at this time was a good idea. Marilyn stressed that the committee had a lot of work that needed to get done and that it would be good to have two new members. After a brief discussion it was decided that Selectman Kim Young and Peter Haviland will interview the candidates.

### **New Business**

**Municipal Official to be on consolidation committee-** Selectman Kim Young motioned, Alton Grover seconded, that Selectman Robert Worthing will be the municipal official to serve on the consolidation committee. The motion passed.

**Board Approved 4-0-1**

Chairman Alton Grover announced that he had received three bids for sand for winter roads. The three bidders are: Hartland, Inc., George C. Hall, and D.R. Flagg and Son. He informed the Board that he would have to contact each bidder to find out if the price included a bulldozer to put the sand in the sand shed. He will contact them and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Chairman Alton Grover reported that he had contacted Kalloch fuel to check on the price of heating oil for the 2007/2008 winter season. The price to lock in at this time is \$2.49. He also tried to get a price form Maritime but has not received one yet. He will research prices and report back to the Board.

Chairman Alton Grover motioned, Robert Worthing, seconded to adjourn at 7:45 PM. The motion passed.

**Board Approved 5-0-0**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Young  
Recording Secretary  
Town Clerk