

TOWN OF CUSHING
BOARD OF
SELECTMEN

Minutes of Meeting

April 10, 2017
Cushing Community Center

Selectmen Present: Chair Alton Grover, Martha Marchut, Laurie Haynes, Heidi Alley, and Dan Staples

Selectmen Absent: none

Staff Present: Lisa Young, Municipal Clerk and Special Assistant to the Selectmen

1. Call to Order: Chair Alton Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Approve and Sign the Warrant:

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Selectman Laurie Haynes, to approve Warrants 16 and 17.

Carried 5-0-0

4. Approve Minutes of 03/27/17 [referred to as "3/28"]:

ACTION: Selectman Martha Marchut made a motion, seconded by Selectman Heidi Alley, to approve the minutes of the 03/27/17 meeting.

Carried 3-0-2 [Dan Staples and Heidi Alley abstained, as they had not been present.]

5. Additions or Changes to the Agenda:

5a. Motion to Clarify Wording of Motion to Table Discussion, Made at the 03.13.2017 Meeting:

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Selectman Laurie Haynes, to clarify the intent of the motion he made on 3.13.2017 regarding discussion of Map 28, Lot 18. Staples stated for the record that the intent of the motion was that the Select Board, the Planning Board, the Town Attorney, and the CEO be on the same page before asking the property owner to meet with them.

Discussion: no additional

Carried 5-0-0

6. Unfinished Business:

6a. Motion to hire a new ACO.

ACTION: Select Board Chairman Alton Grover made a motion, seconded by Selectman Laurie Haynes, to appoint Mr. William Demmons of Thomaston as Cushing's Animal Control Officer, beginning May 1, 2017.

Discussion: Chairman Grover explained that, as the discussion had taken place without a full Board, in Executive Session at the 3.27 meeting of the Select Board, he felt that the Board should review their discussion and make a decision at this meeting. The Board summarized previous discussion, outlining Demmons' qualifications, going over how the transfer from the current ACO to the new one would proceed, and explaining why the Knox County Sheriff's Department was not going to take over ACO duties as part of the Shellfish Warden role (basically because the Shellfish Warden is a five-town appointment, whereas each town has its own ACO). Dan Staples wondered where the ACO would start calculating mileage, and the answer was from the Cushing Town Office. (He made a motion to this effect; see below.) The new ACO would be paid in the same way as the former one had been.

Carried 5-0-0

6b. Motion to determine where ACO begins calculating mileage when he works in Cushing.

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Selectman Heidi Alley, that Mr. Demmons begin tallying mileage at the Cushing Town Office (as opposed to his home in Warren).

Discussion: no additional

Carried 5-0-0

7. New Business:

7a. Discuss Planning Board Membership

ACTION: Select Board signed Andrew Blanchard's appointment as full member of the Planning Board.

Discussion: Planning Board Chair Dan Remian discussed members of the Planning Board, the residency status of Board members (they are all residents); and their attendance at meetings. Attendance on this Board is considered important and problematic. Andy Blanchard was signed in as a full-time member of the Planning Board. It was commented that Bill About already is one.

7b. Sand Bids

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Selectman Laurie Haynes, to choose Hartland as Cushing's sand supplier for 2017. Hartland's bid was \$10.50/yard.

Discussion: Hartland was considered reliable.

Carried 5-0-0

7c. Salt Bids

ACTION: Selectman Laurie Haynes made a motion, seconded by Selectman Heidi Alley, to choose New England Salt as Cushing's salt supplier for 2017. New England's bid was \$60.13/ton.

Discussion: New England was considered reliable, and their salt of better quality than the other bidders' (Morton, H.C. Chemical, and Eastern).

Carried 5-0-0

7d. Key Padlock for the Fire Station

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: Sargent quoted Cushing a price of \$650.00 to supply and install new padlock for the fire station. This price was questioned and someone asked if other bids had been considered. Various types

of locks were discussed, including battery-operated ones. (Selectmen wondered what happens when the battery goes dead.) The drawbacks of keyed locks were reviewed (essentially, that you have to re-key everything if you lose an employee). It was agreed informally that more information was necessary.

7e. Review Franchise Agreement Between Charter Communication (Time Warner NE, Llc.) and Cushing

ACTION: signed around

Discussion: Selectman Martha Marchut commented that 15 years seemed like a long time for such an agreement to hold, but that this was standard for such agreements.

7f. The Future of Public Water Access

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: Two Cushing residents addressed the Board regarding a request to set up a search committee to seek out public water access possibilities and advise the Board of Selectmen regarding Article 41 on the 2017 Cushing warrant, "To see if the Town will vote to take \$10,000.00 from Boat Excise Tax for the Public Water Access Account." The Selectmen elaborated on their ongoing search for this property. They welcomed all input from citizens but reserved the right to take all final decisions regarding this issue.

8. Comments from Citizens: no additional

7h. Question Regarding Map 31, Lot 6, Shared Working Dock on Island Lane

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: A Cushing fisherman, Randy Martin, addressed the Board regarding a dock that he shares with several other fishermen in the Gut. Martin thought that each fisherman should get his own tax bill each year. He had not spoken with Cushing's Assessor's Agent because he believed the Select Board was the right place to start. The Board reviewed the issue. Map 31, Lot 6 is one tax parcel and each of the fishermen have "undivided shares" of it. That indicated to the Selectmen that one bill should be sent for the entire parcel, as had been done. Selectman Dan Staples, a fisherman, suggested that the co-owners of Map 31, Lot 6 might consider alternatives for sharing this dock, including forming a nonprofit agency in whose name the owners could put the parcel. Martin rejected this proposal as unworkable for the group of owners he is dealing with.

9. Adjournment:

ACTION: Selectboard Chair Alton Grover made a motion, seconded by Selectman Laurie Haynes, to adjourn at 7:05 P.M.

Carried 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Hoyt,
Deputy Municipal Clerk