

TOWN OF CUSHING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of Meeting
May 14, 2018
Cushing Community Center

Selectmen Present: Chair Alton Grover, Selectmen Laurie Haynes, Danny Staples, Corey Jones and Martha Marchut

Selectmen Absent: none

Staff Present: Registrar/Clerk Lisa Young

Public Present: Cushing taxpayer Carole Leporati joined the meeting in progress at 6:15 P.M.

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 2018 Warrants 17 and 18.

Discussion: none

Motion Carried 5-0-0

4a. Approve Minutes of the 4/23/18 Meeting:

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Selectman Laurie Haynes, to approve the minutes of the 4/23/18 meeting as they were presented.

Discussion: none

Motion Carried 5-0-0

4b. Approve Minutes of the 4/30/18 Meeting:

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Selectman Laurie Haynes, to approve the minutes of the 4/30/18 meeting as they were presented.

Discussion: none

Motion Carried 4-0-1 [Martha Marchut abstained, as she had not been present on 4/30.]

5. Additions and Changes to the Agenda:

5a. Warrant and Notice of Election for Calling the RSU 13 Budget Validation Referendum

ACTION: Board signed.

Discussion: Registrar Lisa Young commented that, on Thursday, May 24, at 6 p.m. at Oceanside High School East, the articles of the RSU 13 Budget Validation Referendum would be voted on, for those who would like to attend.

6. Unfinished Business:

6a. Making Warrants More Public

ACTION: no additional formal action

Discussion: Selectman Martha Marchut commented that a Cushing resident, Will Payson, had requested that Town Warrant information be made more public. Nick Smith had asked at the previous meeting of the Selectmen if Town warrants could be examined by Cushing taxpayers/residents. The Selectmen agreed that Warrants are public information and can be viewed at the Town Office during office hours, by request, as Smith had done. No additional formal action was taken.

6b. Follow-up on MMA Question

ACTION: no additional formal action

Discussion: Selectman Laurie Haynes asked for follow-up on her motion, made at the April 23rd meeting, to “consult Maine Municipal Association attorneys in writing, and to ask for a response in writing, to be sure that the transfer of money from the Recycling Committee’s funds to Good Neighbor Park had been legitimate, and to review the language in the deed to be sure the Town had not done anything illegal in making the funds transfer that was requested by the Townspeople.” Selectman Dan Staples commented that the request had been made via email, that the Board had received an email response that did not address the question directly but that instead questioned the language in the ordinances themselves. He said a copy of the email was in the Town Office for Selectmen to consult, but that he had not pushed the issue further.

7. New Business

7a. Sand and Salt Bids

ACTION (1): Selectman Dan Staples made a motion to accept Hart’s sand bid, if he is willing to charge \$12.00/cu. yd. Selectman Corey Jones seconded.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

ACTION (2): Selectman Corey Jones made a motion to accept New England’s salt bid, if he is willing to charge \$53.00/ton. Selectman Laurie Haynes seconded.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

Discussion: The two sets of bids were discussed together. Select Board Chair Alton Grover commented that only Hart had bid on sand, and Alton said he would talk to him about price. He said Meklin had delivered sand to Friendship last year at \$11.00/cu. yd. Corey Jones said that the price Hart quoted was inexpensive for screened sand. Of the 4 salt bids, Morton was the cheapest, but Alton found New England out of Searsport reliable with quality product.

SAND BID (There was only one):

1. John Hart	\$12.50/cu. yd.

SALT BIDS:

1. Morton	\$49.75/ton
2. New England	\$55.27/ton
3. Hardco	\$63.76/ton
4. Eastern Salt	\$69.90/ton

7b. Access to Good Neighbor Park

ACTION [Informal]: Lisa Young offered to call MMA about signage to protect the Town from liability.

Discussion: A neighbor had objected to Cushing kids riding ATVs in Good Neighbor Park and had asked for the item to be put on the agenda. She was not in attendance. Alton and Corey felt that no damage had been done to the park. Martha commented that it might not always be possible to tell immediately what damage had been done. Dan Staples said they should check for ruts or tire marks. Carole said the initial idea was passive use, which eliminates ATVs and 4-wheelers—not in winter, but during the seasons when they might disturb nesting birds. She said Terry Dodge, who donated the land, had wanted no motorized vehicles on it. Alton pointed out that this is not in the language of the deed. Dan Staples said it would be too bad if local kids couldn't use a Town park. Discussion of ATV laws.

7c. Change Meeting Date of the Board of Selectmen

ACTION: Dan Staples made a motion to change the date of the next Selectmen's meeting from Monday, May 28, 2018, to Tuesday, May 29, because Monday was Memorial Day. Alton Grover seconded.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

8. Comments from Citizens

Cushing taxpayer Carole Leporati had heard that the Town was considering not putting parking in at Good Neighbor Park. She felt that a designated parking area would be a natural place for signage, both about park restrictions and park history. Cushing taxpayer Patrick Cardon, who is associated with Museum in the Streets, had offered to place a historical sign. Dan Staples suggested they put the parking lot question before the Town. Carole asked if the library or the Rec. Committee had to come before the Board whenever they spent approved money on books or basketballs. Martha Marchut said there was a big difference between basketballs and \$10K for a parking lot. Alton Grover commented that Fire Station heavy equipment purchases go through the Town. Martha had heard that several townspeople wanted as little development as possible of the park. Carole said her suggested changes (parking area, not parking lot) were not intrusive. She hoped they would not have to wait an entire year. She said the money's been appropriated, was donated for that purpose. She reminded the Board about the safety issue of having people park on the shoulder. Corey thought a parking lot could attract drug users and dealers. He said Karl Crute regularly runs drug users out of his park next door.

9. Adjournment:

ACTION: Selectman Alton Grover made a motion, seconded by Laurie Haynes, to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Hoyt,
Deputy Town Clerk