

APPROVED 1.08.2018
TOWN OF CUSHING
BOARD OF
SELECTMEN

Minutes of Meeting

December 11, 2017
Cushing Community Center

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

Selectmen Absent: none

Staff Present: Cushing Town Clerk Lisa Young

Public Present: Cushing taxpayer T. R. Jackson, Cushing Ordinance Committee Chair Claus Metzner, and Ordinance Committee Member William Aboud

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 Danny Staples made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martha Marchut, to approve Warrants 50, 51, 52, and 53.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

4. Approve Minutes of the 11/27/17 Meeting:

ACTION: Selectman Laurie Haynes made a motion, seconded by Selectman Heidi Alley, to approve the Minutes of the 11/27/17 meeting.

Discussion: Select Board Chair Alton Grover recommended correcting a date error in the draft minutes.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

5. Additions and Changes to the Agenda:

5a. Discussion of 2015 Foreclosures

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: Cushing Treasurer Lisa Young summarized the situation regarding recent 2015 foreclosures.

5b. Moving Funds to Snow Plowing Account from Undesignated Funds

ACTION: Selectmen Dan Staples made a motion to move \$6,000.00 from Undesignated Funds to Cushing Snow Plow. Martha Marchut seconded.

Discussion: Select Board Chair Alton Grover explained that the Snow Plow account would be overdrawn shortly due to a too-strict budget unless the Selectmen agreed to move funds from another account. He added that the Snow Plow and General Assistance accounts were the only ones that were allowed to be overdrawn by as much as 15%. He said he did not want the account to be overdrawn.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

6. Unfinished Business:

6a. Culvert for Good Neighbor Park

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: Select Board Chair Alton Grover told the selectmen that Kristi Niedermann had asked when the Selectmen would bid the culvert job for Good Neighbor Park. The Selectmen said that the Park's account had just enough money to cover the cost. An offer of matching funds was mentioned, but the Selectmen did not know more. Dan Staples and Laurie Haynes commented that winter was not a good time to put in a culvert and a parking lot, which would then have to be plowed, adding additional costs. He suggested that the Selectmen wait until Spring. Martha Marchut asked how much would be left in the account once the culvert and parking lot had been paid for. She wondered if the matching funds were contingent on the putting in of the culvert and parking lot. The Selectmen did not have this information. Chair Alton Grover suggested not bidding the culvert at this time.

6b. Offshore Wind, Power Lines Strung Onshore, and Possible Moratorium

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: At the previous meeting of the Selectmen, there had been talk of placing a moratorium to prevent offshore wind power cables from being brought ashore along coastal areas in Cushing. Dan Staples reported that he had discussed the issue with MMA, who had advised him that it would be better to address the issue through either the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance or the Site Plan Review Ordinance.

7. New Business:

7a. Cleaning the Town Office

ACTION: [Informal] Town Clerk Lisa Young agreed to contact Doreen Bickford about cleaning the Town Office in Sandy Blanchard's absence.

Discussion: Town Clerk said that Sandy Blanchard would temporarily be unavailable to clean the Town Office.

7b. Report on Meeting of the Cushing Ordinance Committee

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: Cushing Ordinance Committee Chair Claus Metzner and liaison Bill Aboud addressed the Board regarding a recent meeting of the committee. They wanted to survey Cushing residents' attitudes on aspects of retail marijuana sales, including marijuana growing, use, storage, and other issues. The survey could help them craft moratorium language. Discussion followed about how to disseminate the survey effectively. Posting via the Cushing email, leaving forms at the Town Office, and using so-called "survey monkeys" (electronic tabulation of survey information) were considered. Procedure was reviewed. Chair Alton Grover said an ongoing problem was who would enforce the ordinance. Bill Aboud said people statewide had this problem. Dan Staples pointed out that, since ordinances are voted on in the Fall, the committee would have time to develop one. Martha Marchut advised keeping the survey process simple. The Selectmen said it should be clear that it is a nonbinding survey.

8. Comments from Citizens none

9. Adjournment:

ACTION: Alton Grover motioned, and Danny Staples seconded, to adjourn at 6:50 p.m.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Hoyt, Deputy Town Clerk