

Board of Selectmen
May 20, 2019
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Present: Select Board Members Present – Robert Berti, Ed Haskell, George Bonfiglio
Town Administrator - Joe Chivell

6:30 PM Meeting opened by Selectman, Robert Berti.
Payroll and accounts payable checks reviewed for signature.

Chief Miller met with the Board to give the department update. He provided the Board with the department's activity for the past two weeks. Miller reported that he will need to recertify with NHPSTC as a firearms instructor this year. Miller stated that NHPSTC requires the use of frangible ammunition on their range and that he has only been able to find it by the case and that will wipe out his line item for the year. Selectman, Ed Haskell, asked how long frangible ammo has been required. The Chief replied, "for a little while". Haskell asked if he could share the purchase with another small town. Chief Miller stated he wasn't sure how he could go about doing that.

Chief Miller reported that the radar sign should be in going up soon. Miller stated that he will try to take Wednesday off and work Friday and Saturday night of Memorial Weekend.

A parade permit application had been submitted by the Old Home Day Committee. The application required the signature of either the Chief of Police or the Board of Selectmen. Chief Miller stated that he reviewed and signed the application. It can now be forwarded to the State. The parade will follow the same route as years past.

Selectman, George Bonfiglio, commented on Chief Miller's post on Facebook concerning Buffalo Road parking and pedestrian traffic. Selectman, Bob Berti, reminded the Chief that the Board supports the police departments efforts to enforce the "No Parking" area along Buffalo Road as it is a safety issue. Berti also reflected on other hiking trails in other communities that did not enforce parking issues and have since lost almost all the available parking space.

6:45 PM Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Lila Williams, met with the Board to discuss tax abatements. The abatements were on camper trailers that: showed that they had been properly registered, or campers that had been lost in the October flood of 2017, or inventory penalties that were incorrectly assessed on vacant campsites. A total of nine abatements were signed.

Williams reported that during the month between the "Notice to Lien" was mailed and the "Notice of Lien" was mailed the town collected approximately

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\$24,500.00 of the past due 2018 taxes. The total due, as of today, of unpaid 2018 taxes is \$134,376.00.

7:00 PM Public Hearing – Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to suspend the Rumney Board of Selectmen Meeting and Open a Public Hearing to discuss the use of funds from the Facility Improvement Capital Reserve Fund. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, explained that a project had been proposed to change the lighting of the Rumney Town Highway Garage from florescent tube lighting to LED strip lighting. The project would be eligible for a 50% refund from the NH Electric CO-OP. The total cost of the project is \$4,500.00. The project was approved by the Board of Selectmen during the May 6, 2019 Board meeting. The public hearing today is to discuss the funding of the project and the use of funds from the Facility Improvement Capital Reserve Fund. Chivell explained that if the total amount of the project cost, \$4,500.00, was taken out of the capital reserve fund, the \$2,250.00 refund cannot be directly returned to the capital reserve fund. The refund will be returned to the general fund.

Selectman, Ed Haskell, recommended using \$2,250.00 from the Facility Improvement fund and withdraw \$2,250.00 from the general fund. This limits the impact on the capital reserve fund and the general fund money will be covered by the refund.

There was no input from the public present. Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to withdraw \$2,250.00 from the Facility Improvement fund and withdraw \$2,250.00 from the general fund to pay for the Town of Rumney Highway Garage LED Light Project. Selectman, Ed Haskell, seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

7:10 PM Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to close the public hearing and to reopen the regularly scheduled Rumney Board of Selectmen meeting. Selectman, Ed Haskell, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Selectman, Bob Berti, and Road Agent, Nick Coursey had viewed items available at the State Auction that was held May 18, 2019. The primary item of interest were the three graders that were being auctioned. It was determined that comparing the price and condition of the graders there would be no benefit to the town on attempting to purchase any of the graders during the State auction.

Road Agent, Nick Coursey, requested to change the Highway Department over to the summer schedule, four ten-hour days Monday through Thursday, starting June 2, until Labor Day. It was assured that if an emergency were to occur, they would be able to respond as needed. The Board approved the change over to ten-hour

days for the summer months.

Coursey reported that the new backhoe is at Nortrax. It will be delivered in a week or two.

7:25 PM Rumney Rest Area Tour – Janice Mulherin, Chair of the Conservation Commission, gave an overview of the floor plan of the Rest Area Building and shared pictures of the inside of the building. The building is 36' X 26' on a full unfinished basement and sits on 6.3 acres. It has a septic system and a drilled well. The ground level floor has an open concept cathedral ceiling, approximately 26' X 26', with the remaining area being used for two bathrooms and a stairway to the basement. The building and basement are dry and in good condition. The advantage of the town pursuing the purchase of the property: for the conservation commission it is river front and good access for canoes. The parking lot could be open again for winter snowmobile trailer parking. For the town it would free up space in the town office by possibly moving the police department into the building and using the basement for storage.

One difficult issue is the State owning the roadway in that area. In this case the roadway and the land with the building are one parcel. There would need to be a subdivision worked out with the state.

The State would require a letter of interest from the town to start the process to obtain the property. Upon receipt of the letter, the State will begin the value assessment of the property and move it through the levels of State Government ending with the Governor's Council. The entire process could take up to eighteen months.

The Board directed the Town Administrator to draft a letter of interest to the State so that the process can be started. Once the assessed value is determined the town will then determine if it is worth moving forward.

Selectman, George Bonfiglio, asked Janice Mulherin about the status of the Paley property on Main Street. Bonfiglio indicated he has been told that someone is attempting to sell the development rights to the property. Mulherin stated that the development rights had already been purchased and are under a conservation restriction and can not be sold again. Mulherin stated she will clarify that with the current owners of the property.

7:45 PM The 2019 Part 1 Property Tax Warrant was given to the Board for review and signatures. The Warrant was signed and will be forwarded to the Tax Collector to issue the tax bills. Tax bills will go out May 23, 2019 and will be due no later than July 1, 2019.

7:50 PM Town Administrator Report

- The Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported that he and the Road

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Agent, Nick Coursey, had forwarded information to NH DES concerning the erosion issue at 02-03-24. Upon review of the information, NH DES will begin an investigation into a violation of Alteration of Terrain.

- Intent to Cut on 13-02-11 was reviewed and signed.
- A draft of a letter to be sent to the National Forest Service, regarding the drainage and erosion on Buffalo Road was reviewed. With some additional information about runoff going into the Baker River being added the letter will be sent.
- Facility Use Request Form submitted by the Rumney Softball League was submitted. The Board reviewed and signed the request of use form.
- All Departments Operational budgets through May 1, 2019 was available for review.
- The 5-year revaluation will take place this summer. The Town Administrator met with members of the town's Assessing Company, CNP, and members of NH DRA who will be the on-site representatives for the State. Timelines and requirements were discussed. A major project that needs to be completed is updating Current Use and Land Management properties. The Board will allow paying someone to assist with the project.
- The Town Administrator explained that FEMA will be conducting an onsite review of the Clark Brook project and the damage that resulted from the October 2017 flood. A Wetland Application Permit had been submitted to allow work to be done in this area, but the application had been returned by NH DES for additional work that was beyond the capabilities of the staff in the Town Office. An RFP had been sent out to complete the application. Chivell was concerned with the lack of response to the RFP and was further concerned with the report that NH DES had recently denied applications like the one Rumney is requesting. Chivell was also concerned with the initial comments from FEMA representatives and the recommendations they may make. Chivell requested the authority to hire HEB Engineers, who the town has a good track record with, on a short-term basis to assist the Town with the FEMA onsite visit and follow up. Road Agent, Nick Coursey, agreed that it would be beneficial to have HEB representation during and after the FEMA onsite. The Board authorized Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, to enter into an agreement with HEB on the behalf of the Town of Rumney.
- A copy of a Blasting Permit, signed by the Rumney Fire Chief, was available for review.
- Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, commented that he had begun working on a Special Events Ordinance.

- 8:15 PM New Business –
- The Rumney Fire Department submitted a request to appoint Fire Wards. The Board reviewed and signed the appointment request.
 - Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, requested authority to have work done at the Quincy Athletic Field. Chivell requested to replace the planks on the bleachers and to replace the out-field fence holders. He asked to use funds for the Park and Recreation account. The Board authorized the work.

- 8:20 PM Old Business –
- The Selectmen’s Office has not received a response from the Trustee concerning the missing scholarship payment. The Board directed the Town Administrator to send a second letter inquiring of the status.
 - 8:21 PM Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to enter into nonpublic session, under NH RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.
 - 8:55 PM Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.
 - Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to indefinitely seal the nonpublic meeting minutes as they could adversely affect the reputation of any person other than a member of the Board. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

8:57 PM Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman, George Bonfiglio. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Sincerely submitted

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator
Rumney, NH