

RUMNEY PLANNING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2015

Present: Jerry Thibodeau, David Coursey, David Saad, Steve Weber and alternate Ken Weinig sitting for Brian Flynn

Selectmen present: Cheryl Lewis, PB liaison and Dan Kimble
Cemetery Trustees present: Kathy Sobetzer and Dwight Lyons
Conservation Committee: Janice Mulherin
Excused: Brian Flynn and Cam Brown
Absent: Carl Spring

Chairman Jerry Thibodeau opened the meeting at 7:00 pm having Kathy Sobetzer lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of March 31st were approved with a correction.
The minutes of April 14th were approved with a change.

CIP – Cemetery Trustees – Kathy Sobetzer and Dwight Lyons presented a spreadsheet through the year 2023 of anticipated expenditures to maintain the cemeteries. The granite walls at Highland North are failing, with some rock already down and sections bowing out. This project has been broken out into five sections, with the intent to do the first section this year. There is also wall repair needed at Highland South.

Tree removal and fence/gate work needs to be done at all five town maintained cemeteries. This has been spread out over a five year span. There is also a washout on the east side of Highland South that happened during hurricane Irene. The work involved and cost is unknown at this time as are the necessary permits from the State of NH.

Kathy provided a lot of valuable information to the Board regarding the yearly maintenance, costs, usage of perpetual care funds and background for the projects they are projecting.

Conservation Commission – Janice Mulherin presented information to the Board as to how they derive their monies. They have a warrant article yearly for about \$1500 to pay for dues, subscriptions, and other miscellaneous issues. The bulk of money used by the Conservation Commission comes from the penalty for taking land out of current use. One half of this money goes to the Conservation Commission Trust Fund and the other half goes into the town general fund. Their Trust Fund has very restricted usage.

The Trust funds are used to purchase property for the town (such as the Darling property) and to assist with the cost of conservation easements. The town does not hold easements, but the committee works with citizens creating easements. The easements provide a better tax rate under the current use program, however, the owners can still farm, log or otherwise use their property. The easement does prevent subdivision and development of the land and follows the deed.

The long range plans for the Conservation Committee include acquiring an access to Stinson Lake, such as the Darling property provided to the Baker River, and to continue to aid with easement costs.

The budget changes as of the end of March were reviewed.

One septic construction approval was received. One request from DES for a Shoreland Protection Permit was reviewed on another septic project.

Chairman Thibodeau followed up on the two CIP meetings stating the Planning Board does not advocate for any of these projects. There was very good discussion and information provided by both attendees tonight. Should the budget committee be involved in this project? Dan stated that he thought not – they review the annual budgets whereas this is strictly long-range planning.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Kindell
Clerk