

TOWN OF RUMNEY
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SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
4/5/2010

Selectmen Present: Mark Andrew, John Fucci , Janice Mulherin
Administrative Assistant: Anne Dow
Secretary: Janet Sherburne
Public: Jerry Thibodeau, Roger Daniels, Robin Bagley

The Meeting opened at 7:00pm.

Minutes: The minutes of 3-29-2010 were approved.

CNP – Phil Bodwell: Phil Bodwell met with the board to discuss abatements that the board had reviewed and had questions on. Several abatements were reviewed and the board asked Phil to contact the property owners and ask for access into the house so information can be verified. The board will review the information again after the information has been verified.

Procedural Review: John Fucci presented the board with the following written statement:

First I would like to express my appreciation to all the good folks in Rumney and thank you all for your support during the last three plus years. It has been my pleasure to get to know you and serve as your Selectman.

You have made it possible for Rumney volunteers and I to help with the repairs and improvements made to the West Rumney Fire House, publish and edit the Rumney Register, establish several Beautification Weeks, and conduct an Amnesty Day at the Transfer Station. You helped me promote Town wide junk and trash cleanup, you helped establish support for Junk Yard Registration, and we finished off the interior of the Transfer Station Shed prior to cold weather. We also received a Lap Top Computer and several monetary donations for Baker Field, with good will from residents at Stinson Lake because they are appreciative of the opportunity to interact with you.

So many people have asked:

“Why are you preparing to resign from your position as Selectman, at this time”?

My reply is as follows:

A commitment was made to me in March 2007: the night that I was initially sworn in. Janice and Mark have decided that they will not honor that commitment. Instead, they have decided to throw aside past practices and not offer me the same opportunity that all third year Selectmen have been offered, going back at least 6 years, as Mark explained to me that initial night.

Most of you are aware, that I am currently beginning my fourth year as Selectman. I have done my best to earn your trust and appreciation. I have attempted to demonstrate the highest ideals of honor and integrity in all public and personal relationships, to merit the respect, trust and confidence of other public officials, town employees, and the public. I have worked hard for you every day.

Some background:

The first night after I was sworn in I was presented with a complete explanation regarding the Selection of a Board Chairman, and a detailed description of past practices. I had won the election to fill a one-year term for the Selectman that was moving to another town. It was his turn to serve as chairman.

Since I was new to the position I was encouraged to defer the appointment to Mark, which I was willing to do, and we were all three agreed, that I would assume the position in the third year of my term if I were elected for a second term. I was agreeable, even though I would only be given that opportunity, if I were re elected.

This is now the third year of my second term. I have won two elections, served as a Selectman for three years (which is one year longer than either Mark or Janice served prior to their Selection as Chairman) and I have indicated my intention to accept the position of Chairperson if and when it is offered. Janice and Mark have closed ranks to block my appointment and in essence, I am being forced to serve in a lame duck capacity.

I wanted to do so much more!

John Fucci

After presenting the statement Selectman Fucci explained that he will resign when an acceptable replacement is found and as soon as the statement is included in the minutes and the minutes are approved. He would like this to be accomplished within two weeks.

Selectman Andrew stated that he did not feel a commitment was made that the Chairman position would be his. There was no further discussion about this matter. The selectmen will prepare a list of possible replacements for next week.

Anne Dow thanked Selectmen Fucci for the donation of a printer, keyboard, mouse and monitor to the town.

Groton Wind Farm: There are 4 volumes of information at the Town Office for the public to look at regarding the project. The board discussed scheduling a follow-up meeting sometime after the public meeting on April 22nd for townspeople to discuss with the board any concerns they have. This meeting would be scheduled on Monday during a Selectmen's meeting. The board discussed their role in this project and will review the contract again after the public meeting on April 22nd.

Policies: The board reviewed a draft Code of Ethics and Computer Use policy. Changes will be made and another draft prepared for review.

Privilege of the Floor: Jerry Thibodeau asked what state law will be followed when the board replaces Selectman Fucci. Mark Andrew explained that at this point the board plans to appoint a replacement and will follow RSA 669:63. Mr. Thibodeau also asked what could be done if no one in Rumney was in favor of the Groton Wind Farm project, how could it be fought. Mark Andrew explained there will be hearings held on the project that the public could attend. Mr. Thibodeau suggested that the town ask for a \$2,000,000 bond from the company. Robin Bagley raised concerns about the value of the property of landowners on Groton Hollow Road and the use of the town road.

Andersen Tree: Last summer Gregor Andersen asked permission to plant a tree in the town common in honor of Ina & Anbarth Andersen. The board told Mr. Andersen they would get back to him this spring. The board will take a look at the common and also ask Frank Simpson to look at the common and see if there is a place to plant a tree.

Hazard Mitigation Project: The board needs to review the proposal of projects and prioritize them. A response is required by April 16th. The board will review for next week.

Correspondence: The board received a copy of an application for a Driveway Permit from the State of NH for a property on Quincy Road. The access will be used for logging.

2010 Goals: Anne Dow noted that the Current Use Update should be added to the list of goals for 2010.

Old Cruiser: The board and Police Chief Main discussed how to best dispose of the old cruiser. The board agreed that if it is put out to bid, the minimum bid should be \$500. Chief Main will check with Pat Coursey about the salvage value and with the White Farm on an auction price.

Inventories: Property Inventories (PA-28) are due at the Town Office on **APRIL 15th**.

Selectmen's Meeting April 12th: The board will meet at the West Rumney Fire Station at 7:00pm on April 12, 2010 for a tour of the building. The meeting will then resume at the Town Office Building.

Signed: Checks; Abatements: Burnham; Carr; Bartlett; Andrew; Joyce; Lightfoot. Surplus Property Program; Department Head Wage & Benefit Summaries;

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet C. Sherburne, Secretary