

TOWN OF RUMNEY  
[www.rumneynh.org](http://www.rumneynh.org)  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
MINUTES  
08-29-2011

TROPICAL STORM IRENE RECAP

Selectmen Present: Cheryl Lewis, Janice Mulherin, Mark Andrew

Administrative Assistant: Anne Dow

Department Heads: Frank Simpson, Highway; Bill Taffe, EMS and Emergency Management; Bill Main, Police and Ken Ward, Fire

Due to Tropical Storm Irene that hit over the weekend, the Board cancelled their regular meeting in order to meet with department heads for a recap of the weekend events. Their regular meeting was going to include a meeting with the Groton Hollow Road residents. The meeting with them has been rescheduled for September 12 at 7:00.

The meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m.

Each department reported on their activities over the weekend and the status of things as of tonight.

Emergency Management – Mr. Taffe reported that that after a few days of preparation with Assistant Emergency Management Director Ray Valentin, he opened the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at the town office Sunday morning, August 28<sup>th</sup>. It remained open until about 2:00 this morning. The power went out around 1:00 in the morning, came back on about 2:00 this afternoon. There was a shelter set up in Plymouth but it was not needed by any Rumney residents.

He reported that he was able to stay in contact with most other departments throughout the event although there continues to be issues with the radios in this building, problems with the reception. He did budget money this year for this problem and will coordinate with Chief Main to have the problem looked into. He kept in contact through cell phones and landlines and also with the State's WebEOC online.

Emergency Medical Services – There was manpower available; they performed three checks on people but no medical emergencies were necessary.

Fire – Chief Ward said the department reported to multiple calls including trees down, wires down, road closures, etc. They had a mutual aid call and covered for Campton; he reported he had adequate preparations, manpower and coverage.

Highway – Frank reported that Doetown Road is closed at Wunnegan Hill due to a bridge washout and Groton Hollow Road now has one lane open. There is a lot of damage on Groton Hollow Road and some other minor damage on several roads throughout town.

Police – Chief Main reported they had two officers on duty throughout the day and night. At one time the “village” was cut off from emergency services due to water over the roads.

Recommendations/Concerns

1. There is a need for additional signage, cones, sawhorses, etc. for all departments.
2. The need for centralized communication from all departments is important
3. Concerns about the village being "cut off" from emergency care were raised; something to consider another time, maybe better planning.

The Selectmen thanked the department heads and crews for all their hard work during this weather event.

Frank stayed to discuss other highway issues:

1. A letter of intent was signed for the HMGP for Keniston's washout with an estimate of \$12,500.
2. Winter Sand – Frank gave the Board several prices for sand; the Board agreed to go with Rumney Sand & Gravel with a price of \$5.45/yd.
3. Plate Compactor
  - A. Budgeted \$2,000
  - B. Has quotes from two vendors, waiting for a third
  - C. Board gave permission to order compactor
4. Road Repairs – Frank is checking around to see who and what is available to help out with repairs on Groton Hollow Road and with the Doetown Road washout.
5. Emergency Permitting
  - A. Anne will look into emergency permitting with DES for townwide problems resulting from the storm.

MINUTES: The minutes of 08-15-2011 were accepted as written.

SELECTMEN'S ISSUES

US ACE – The Army Corps of Engineers is leading the Section 106 NHPA process to take into account any potential effects of the Groton Wind project on eligible historic resources which might be effected by the development of the project. The Corp has scheduled a meeting tomorrow night, August 30<sup>th</sup>, at Russell School to discuss possible mitigation options for the town.

Facilities' Committee – Janice reported the committee will be meeting at the Historical Society on September 1.

MRI Meeting/Jeanie Forester – Friday Janice and Anne met with Senator Jeanie Forrester and Ken Knowlton, MRI Consultant, to request a change to RSA 239:118 by eliminating the setback requirements for *un-zoned* towns. Ms. Forrester is willing to work with Ken and the town to sponsor a bill this fall to try to change this law. By doing so, it would allow two of the facilities in town to become legally licensed junkyards, a goal of theirs for several years. However, due to the lack of zoning in town and the wording of the RSA, neither of the properties can be licensed and therefore are actually operating illegally.

Selectmen's Meeting  
August 29, 2011  
Page 3

#### ADMINISTRATIVE

Rest Area Meeting – A meeting will be set-up in the near future at the Rumney Town Office to give neighboring towns, businesses, snowmobile clubs and others an opportunity to explore some options for keeping the facility open to the general public.

Cartographics contacted the office to inquire whether or not the Town is planning to move forward digitizing the town tax maps in 2012. The Board said they do not plan to address this matter next year.

Energy Audit – Representatives from Energy Technical Assistance & Planning for NH Communities (ETAP) will be here Wednesday, August 31 to take a look at the town buildings.

Driveways – No permit has been issued yet for the USFS driveway; the Board suggested the Planning Board send a letter to them outlining the deficiencies and the need to move forward to get this phase of the process completed. Shilansky and Rumney Ecological Systems also have permits pending.

SIGNED: Checks; MS-1 & 4; Letter of Intent for HMES-Keniston; 2011-12 Timber Tax Warrant I.

UPCOMING: 8/30 Planning Board – Town Office; ACE Meeting – Russell School  
9/01 Facilities Committee at the Rumney Historical Society  
9/05 Labor Day – Town Offices closed, no meeting  
9/12 Selectmen's Meeting w/Groton Hollow Road residents

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow  
Administrative Assistant

