

TOWN OF RUMNEY
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SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
12/12/2011

Selectmen: Cheryl Lewis, Janice Mulherin, Mark Andrew
Administrative Assistant: Anne Dow

Work Session – The Board met at 6:30 with the Groton Selectmen, Pam Hamel, Administrative Assistant, Fire Chief Roger Thompson, Police Chief Joe Pivarato; Tony Albert, Hebron Selectmen, EMS Director John Fisher and the our Fire Chief Ken Ward, Police Chief Bill Main, EMS Director Bill Taffe and Assistant Director Anthony Reed.

Mark opened the session stating that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the emergency response to incidents that may occur in the Groton Wind Farm area and to make sure all parties were in agreement as to how these would be handled. Groton Selectman Miles Sinclair stated that he didn't see any need for changes with any procedures; should be business as usual.

All parties agreed that Rumney would continue to respond to calls in the areas they have been responding to and any area of the Groton Wind project that may be necessary; Hebron will continue to be the transport unit.

It was agreed that if there was an incident that was out of the ordinary, it would be paid for on an individual basis billed by Rumney. Anything extraordinary Groton Wind will compensate the towns as stated in the agreements they have with both Rumney and Groton.

Presently the amount Groton pays on an annual basis to Rumney for EMS services is based on the previous year's actual EMS expenses and costs. The total costs are then broken down between Rumney and Groton by population and adjusted by the percentage of area covered.

The work session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting was opened at 7:10 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS

Bill Taffe met with the Board to go over the budgets for Emergency Management, EMS and Health Officer.

Health Officer

1. Agreed that the health officer should be the person to make sure the "defib" batteries are current on an annual basis

Emergency Management

1. Stipend – Assistant Director gets ¼ of the \$500 stipend for filling in during Bill's absence in the winter
2. Would like to apply to the State (EMPG Fund) for a generator that would serve both the town office building and the fire station. The grant would be a 50/50 arrangement; the estimate for the generator is \$40,000. The town would be responsible for \$20,000 of which \$4,000 could be "in kind" leaving \$16,000 to be raised by taxes – a separate warrant article will be drawn up for this and would be contingent on receiving the State aid.

3. Jerry Thibodeau, School Board member, reminded the Board that the shelter at the Russell Elementary School is a daytime shelter only.

EMS

1. Stipend is up due to the increased # of people responding to calls
2. Detail costs will be fully paid by fees collected
3. Requesting a Capital Reserve Fund for major equipment due to increasing demands for Quality of Care requiring more sophisticated equipment. The account would help flatten spikes in the annual budget requests since some costly items can be anticipated

8:00 Sonny Ouellette met with the Board. The Board voted to go into non-public session at 8:05 under 91-A:3II (a). The Board voted to seal the minutes of this session for six months. The Board voted to leave non-public session at 8:15.

The tires on the Bobcat were recently replaced and Sonny reported that someone has asked for the old tires. The Board agreed he can have them; however, if he brings them to the Transfer Station for disposal at a future date he will be responsible to pay the going fee to get rid of them.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – Jerry Thibodeau discussed an ongoing issue involving the school board, a property owner and a Right-of-Way over school property. The Board stated that it is and continues to be a school board issue. The Board asked if the school board would provide the Town with a copy of the survey of the school property. Mr. Thibodeau will let the principal know of the Board's request.

8:30 Chief Bill Main met with the Board and explained about Nixle, a communication tool, that is available to the town or any individual. He explained how it works and that he would be responsible for posting various notices that pertain to the town (i.e. Groton Wind information, road closures, etc.). The Board agreed that it would be another good form of communication for the residents. Chief Main will issue a press release about the program. The program is available to anyone; they can check the website for more information.

The Board reviewed the 2003 Chief of Police Duties and Responsibilities; an updated job description will be drafted.

8:45 The Fire Commissioners met the Board to go over the department's proposed budget.

1. Increases in New Breathing Equipment and Protective Clothing are due to efforts to remain in compliance with federal and state regulations.

NOTE: All department budgets will reflect increases due to the addition of the payroll taxes, retirement and health insurance costs being listed for each individual department; in the past these items have been grouped together as "Employee Benefits" separate from the departments' budgets.

SELECTMEN'S ISSUES

Bridge Inspections with DOT - Janice reported on the meeting held last week with Stephen Liakos, a bridge engineer from DOT. Janice, Frank and Frosty Sobetzer viewed all the town bridges with Mr. Liakos. He went over the inspection process and outlined what the town should be looking for during their inspections. He is available to work with towns on developing an inspection program and long-term plans for the bridges.

Energy Audit – As part of the on-going energy audit, Margaret Dillion, representing TRC Solutions, came to the office last week and conducted several diagnostic tests, a thorough building inspection and collected data relating to energy usage of the town office and fire station over the past two years. She expects to have a report completed by the end of January. A presentation on the findings will be conducted sometime in the spring for the public.

Trustees of Trust Funds/Request – The CD's are up for renewal; the Trustees requested permission to reinvest. The Board agreed to the renewals for all the funds except Highway, Facilities and Bridge Repair.

Flu Shots – Board asked if our insurance company offered any kind of flu shot program, etc. Anne will check into this.

Linda Whitcomb, Tax Collector reported that the taxes are 86% collected as of today.

Signed: Checks; CNP General Assessing Contract; Intent to Cut – Patterson, et al; Rumney Ecological Systems; 2011 Ratio Study

Upcoming: 12/14 Safety Committee meeting
12/19 Selectmen's Meeting w/Warren-Wentworth Ambulance Service
12/26 Office Closed; no meeting
12/29 Selectmen will meet to encumber funds, etc.
01/02 Office closed; Selectmen WILL meet at 7:00

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow
Administrative Assistant