

TOWN OF RUMNEY
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SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
02/13/12

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

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2012 BUDGET AND WARRANT

Chairman Mark Andrew opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. There were numerous questions and answers throughout the review of the budget. The hearing was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS

8:40 Frank Simpson met with the Board to discuss the anticipated annual mud season and how it will be handled in relation to the Groton Wind project. Frank said he had met earlier in the day with Ed Cherian, Randy Stark and Pat Holland for discussion on this matter. Frank asked how the Board intended to handle the road bans, etc. that are posted during the mud season. Groton Wind's understanding is that they would be exempt from the restrictions because they have the "Agreement" that states they will repair any damage done to the road as well as having a Letter of Credit in the amount of \$200,000 on file for such damages, etc. Frank said they offered to supply any stone that would be needed for the road and they are willing to maintain the road should the town wish them to do so. They explained that trucks with fuel, explosives, etc. still would need to reach the project area and need to continue to be allowed to transport these important supplies.

Selectperson Cheryl Lewis recused herself before discussion began on this matter.

Frank is hoping the "mud season" will wait until after March 1 before roads have to be posted.

Selectperson Lewis spoke from the audience, as a taxpayer, stating that she has concerns about these trucks, especially a truck carrying explosives, being allowed to use the road under the "mud season" conditions. If the trucks become stuck this could cause problems for all involved including the residents of the road.

After some discussion, the Board agreed that the road bans and restrictions (usually 10-ton limit) should apply to Groton Wind and that they not be exempt from these restrictions. The opportunity to haul heavy loads could be done if temperatures were cold enough to allow for safe transport. They felt strongly that the "Agreement" was in place for when the road was used for regular day-to-day travel and not for exceptional times such as "mud season". They stated that there was opportunity for mud season to be discussed specifically during the time the agreement was being negotiated, but neither party did. The Board's position is, as stated above, that the road bans and restrictions do apply to Groton Wind during "mud season".

Frank will pass this on to Mr. Cherian, et al.

Frank also passed on to the Board that he has received numerous calls/complaints about Groton Hollow Road being dusty and one issue was that there was water running into a driveway. He and the crew continue to address these calls the best they can, but residents have to remember that they do live on a public, dirt road.

Selectperson Lewis rejoined the Board at 9:00 p.m.

Frank asked permission to purchase more stone as the expense will exceed \$500; he has allowed for it in his budget. The Selectmen agreed to have him purchase the stone.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – None

SELECTMEN'S ISSUES

MINUTES: The minutes of 02-06-12 were accepted as written.

Hearing on SB #340 – Anne and Janice will attend the scheduled hearing regarding junkyard setbacks tomorrow in Concord.

Complaint/PD – Selectman Andrew said he had received a complaint about the police department; after speaking with Chief Main and the party involved, it was found to be unwarranted. No further action is necessary.

NE Salem/Hunter School/Transfer Station – The Transfer Station will not take “industrial” waste such as the school kitchen, etc. The Board said they would allow the individual houses to bring in their “regular” trash. Transfer Station Superintendent Sonny Ouellette provided the Board with the current policies and a draft of amended policies that would better address this situation in the terms that exist at the transfer station today. The Board agreed that the policies need to be updated and will work with Sonny on them.

Emergency Contracts – There has been no response from Wentworth or Ellsworth regarding the Board's letters and their current status. The Board drafted a letter to be sent to Wentworth stating that if there is no response from them by March 1, the first responder service will be discontinued.

Website – The Board received a suggestion from a taxpayer to have a link to the school on the website after being frustrated the he could not find out when the school budget hearings were being held. The Board will follow-up with this with Chief Main who maintains the website.

SIGNED: Checks; MS-6; Warrant;

UPCOMING:

- 02/14 SB340 – Hearing in Concord – Junkyard Setbacks
- 02/14 Legislative Update with Bernie Waugh @ 7:00 Planning Bd/Selectboard
- 02/20 President's Day – Office closed – no selectmen's meeting
- 02/27 Selectmen's Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow
Administrative Assistant