

TOWN OF RUMNEY
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SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
03/05/12

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

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES – The minutes were tabled until next week.

APPOINTMENTS

7: 00 The first individual was present to meet with the Board. Janice made a motion to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3, II(c) seconded by Cheryl. The Board voted 3-0 to enter nonpublic session at 7:05 p.m. Terms of an arrangement were discussed. Mark made a motion to leave nonpublic session at 7:20 p.m. seconded by Janice.

Groton Wind – (Ms. Lewis recused herself at 7:22 and moved to sit in the audience). Several Groton Hollow Road residents were present also.

Kelly Revel had contacted the Selectmen's office Friday afternoon (3/2/12) to ask permission to work at night on the Groton Wind Project in order to maintain their work schedule and help alleviate the problems associated with blocking the road during normal work hours. Kelly was at the meeting tonight with several representatives from Iberdrola and their contractors.

Mark asked why the night shift? Kelly explained that they lost quite a bit of time this winter due to the warmer than usual winter temperatures, and they have numerous culverts that need to be installed. These conditions have caused a lot of excess water which has kept their production down. Kelly pointed out the areas they would be working on over the town line into the project area. The shift would run from 6 p.m. to approximately 6 a.m. They would be using a couple of excavators, a loader and several trucks. They would remain up in the project area during the night; no traffic would be on the road due to this activity. They estimate this work going on for approximately two months. In order to meet deadlines a few months away, they need to get this work done. Cheryl Lewis stated that the process with the Site Evaluation was delayed, on their part, for approximately six months.

Janice brought up her concerns about the EMT volunteers that might have to respond to a call up there in the middle of the night. She suggested starting the work at the far end and working towards the gate area.

It was agreed to allow them to give the work a try. If there were any complaints by residents for noise, inconvenience, etc. then the work would have to stop. Mark suggested a two-week trial period. They will notify the office when they plan to begin work and then after two weeks they will meet with the Board again to get feedback from the Groton Hollow Road residents as to the impact, if any, from this shift.

Cheryl rejoined the Board at 7:50 p.m.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR - None

SELECTMEN'S ISSUES

HB #121 – Senator Forrester forwarded the bill to the Board asking for feedback. The committee's amendment raises concerns. It would change RSA 72:37-b to permit the disabled property tax exemption to be extended to taxpayers who meet the eligibility requirements for social security disability benefits, but who for one reason or another do not actually collect such benefits. The language of the bill states that any person who is *or would be determined to be* eligible for benefits shall receive the exemption.

Although the intent of this change is certainly laudable, it would require the selectmen to become conversant in the eligibility requirements of Title II and Title XVI of the Social Security Act in order to decide who "would be determined" to be eligible. Social Security determinations obviously are not within the expertise of most local officials, and it is difficult to imagine how these determinations can be made with any confidence.

The Board agreed they did not have the knowledge to make such decisions; Anne will forward the Board's decision to Senator Forrester.

Investment Policy – The Board reviewed the draft policy. They had several questions concerning the diversification, the sweep account, quarterly reports, etc. Anne will get some answers for them for next week.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Buffalo Road Bridge – Hazard Mitigation Grant Application – Bergeron notified the Board that the BCA indicated the town could apply for assistance. The cost for them to complete the application is \$3,250. The Board agreed to move forward with the application. They will amend the Highway budget from the floor at town meeting.

Abatement received after March 1 deadline – The Board voted to deny an abatement that was submitted today, four days after the March 1st deadline.

CNP Reval/Updates – The Board discussed the upcoming assessing for the year. They did agree to have changes made to properties if they are found during the measure and listing; however, no values will be changed until 2014.

Current Use – Janice will continue to help Anne with the updates.

SIGNED: Checks;

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow
Administrative Assistant