

TOWN OF RUMNEY
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SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
12/10/12

Selectmen: Mark Andrew, Cheryl Lewis, Ed Haskell
Administrative Assistant: Anne Dow

Chairman Mark Andrew opened the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Appointments

7:15 The Grafton County Commissioners, at their request, met with the Board to discuss the unpaid balance for dispatch services they feel the Town owes the County. Present were Commissioners Ray Burton and Omer Ahern, High Sheriff Doug Dutile, Tom Andross, Director of Communications and Chief Bill Main. In June the Town made the decision to change from Grafton County's dispatch service to Plymouth's effective July 1, 2012.

Chairman Andrew recapped the events that led up to this discussion. He noted the Commissioners' minutes of August 28th and said the Board was not pleased with their comments. The grounds for making the change were not just monetary; there were concerns over the service the department, the officers and residents were receiving as well. A number of these detailed issues had been previously provided to the Commissioners. The town has paid for the days of service they used in July until the change was made. The amount remaining for the 3rd quarter is \$2,184.34.

Sheriff Dutile pointed out that if Rumney pulls out without paying their share, what about other towns? These types of situations affect all of the taxpayers in the County, not just Rumney. He also stated that as far as service, the fact that Rumney has switched to Plymouth dispatch will have no affect on the service the depa _____'s Department.

Commissioner Burton asked the Board and Chief Main if they had checked to make sure all their radios were working properly, been calibrated, and that the radio towers were working properly. Chief Main said he did not know of any issues with any of those things.

Chairman Andrew asked the Commissioners to reconsider their decision. The Commissioners have a scheduled meeting on Tuesday, December 11th. They said they would discuss it at their meeting and will get back to the Board with their decision.

7:45 **Sonny Ouellette, Transfer Station Superintendent** and **Mike Viani, President of NCES**, met with the Board to discuss the Board's concerns over the 10-year contract for solid waste disposal with NCES and the Pemi-Baker Solid Waste district. Ms. Lewis said her main concern was committing the town to a ten-year obligation. She said a lot of things can change over the course of ten years. Mr. Viani explained the benefits of staying with the long-term commitment. One of those is a \$5,000 contribution towards the Hazardous Waste Day each year for the next 10 years.

There is an escape clause in the contract that would allow the town to get out of the contract for "cause". Mark asked if Mr. Viani would consider including in the contract a clause that stated: If Casella, Inc's ownership changes to something other than Cassella, Inc., the contract is available to be reviewed in a 90-day timeframe. Mr. Viani said he would consider it.

Carl Spring suggested entering into a five year contract and revisiting it at the end of the five years. Roger Daniels said he would support the Cassella contract because over the long term it would save the town money. The Board would like to take another week and read over the contract again before making their decision.

Privilege of the Floor - None

Administrative

1. Generator warrant article – The Board had planned to encumber the \$28,000 raised earlier this year for the generator. However, the DRA deducted that amount from the bottomline when it figured the tax rate so there are no funds to encumber. Anne will invite Ray Valentin to meet with the Board next week to finalize this article for the warrant.

Selectmen's Issues

1. The minutes of 11-26-12 were accepted with a correction; the minutes of 12-03-12 were accepted as written.
2. Cheryl Lewis recused herself from her position as selectperson and spoke as a resident. The Board drafted a letter to Groton Wind as a follow-up to the cold patch repairs they did on Groton Hollow Road.
3. The Board drafted a second letter to the SEC regarding several issues with the Wind Farm.
4. The Board is considering a policy on "The Use of Town Vehicles". They looked over several samples from other towns but no discussion took place. Anne will draft one for their review next week.
5. The Board went over the budget, made a few changes and had a few questions:
 - a. Chief Main provided the Board with a list of the town cases that have been handled by the Prosecutor's office. The Board would like more of a breakdown of that information. How many cases were Rumney's? How many are still pending? How is the prosecutor paid? Anne will ask the Chief to follow-up on the Board's questions.
 - b. Question – Do both the Town and the Employee pay into NH Retirement when they work a special detail? Anne will check into it.
 - c. Street Lights – Because the police officers are out on patrol at night, they are the ones who can best see what lights could be safely eliminated. The Board asked Anne to provide a list of the street lights for the department and ask if they would take a look at them and determine if any could be eliminated safely in an attempt to lower the annual cost of the lights.
 - d. The Board agreed to have a separate warrant article for Old Home Day.
 - e. Church/Library property line – John Bagley told Roger Daniels the Planning Board could take care of a lot line adjustment and avoid the cost of a lawyer.
 - f. Roger Daniels, Advisory Committee member, did not have any comments tonight; Carl Spring had several questions on various line items. The Board explained the reasons why the amounts were budgeted.
 - g. The Board will invite the Advisory Committee to the January 7th meeting to go over the budget together.

6. The Board reviewed a summary of salaries and wages from the LGC 2011 Wage and Benefit Survey.
7. The Board reminded those present that the School Board's informational hearing for the school's proposed heating system is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12th at 7:00 at the Russell School.

Signed: Checks; Supplemental Intent to Cut – G. Carr, G. Kenneson;

Upcoming: 12/12 Informational Hearing – School Heating System 7:00 at the RES
12/17 Selectmen's Meeting
12/18 Planning Board
12/24 Town Office closing at 12:00; no Selectmen's meeting
12/31 No Selectmen's meeting
12/07 Selectmen's Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow
Administrative Assistant