

TOWN OF RUMNEY
www.rumneynh.org
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
01/07/13

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

Chairman Mark Andrew opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Mark read a letter (attached) announcing that he will not be running for re-election this year. Due to his increased workload and job commitments he feels he is no longer able to fulfill the requirements of his position on the Board. He has served as a selectman since 2003.

Rumney residents interested in running for an elected position can sign up at the Town Clerk's Office from January 23rd to February 1st.

Residents' Forum – No public comment

Administrative

Fairpoint Appeal/Legal Representation – Gardner, Fulton & Waugh quoted \$8,000 to cover the case for 2013; Donahue, Tucker and Ciandella gave a quote for up to \$5,000 to represent the Town. Both firms are working with numerous towns on the case and therefore are able to offer the representation at a reduced rate. The Board agreed to hire Donahue, Tucker and Ciandella to represent the Town on this case. This firm is currently handling the NH Electric Coop appeal for the Town as well.

NCES Contract (hauling solid waste) – As a result of the Board's meeting December 10th meeting with Sonny Ouellette, Transfer Station Superintendent and Mike Viani, President of NCES, and their discussion about the Board's concerns with such a long term contract, NCES agreed to include a clause stating "If Casella, Inc's ownership changes to something other than Cassella, Inc., the contract is available to be reviewed in a 90-day timeframe". With that in place, the Board agreed to sign the contract. They appreciated the cooperation they received from NCES.

Annual Law Update with Bernie Waugh, Town Attorney – Anne will try to schedule a meeting on February 25th with Bernie and the Planning Board to review the law update.

Vacation Hours Carried to 2013 – There will be no change in the number of vacation hours allowed to be carried over from last year to this year for full-time employees.

Selectmen's Issues

The Board accepted the minutes from 12/20/12 with minor changes. Anne asked for their changes to the minutes from 12/10/12 as she did not attend the 12/20/12 meeting. Cheryl will get those changes to her.

Septic Plans – Finney 16-06-17 – Following the 12/20/12 meeting, Mark talked with the septic designer about their concerns with the plans. After an explanation on the items in question, Mark agreed to sign the plans for the replacement of the failed system.

Cheryl asked Anne if she had checked with Primex regarding liability if a police officer took the cruiser home. The Primex representative Anne talked with said no, there wasn't any liability if that

occurred unless it was miles away from the garage. If the officer is on duty, acting in his/her scope of the regular course and scope of work, and the police chief is okay with it, Primex does not have a problem with it.

Emergency Contracts – Dorchester, Ellsworth and Groton – Anne had the contracts ready to sign, but the Board is considering making some changes to some of the terms and dollar amounts. Ed will be meeting with the Fire Commissioners tomorrow to discuss the contracts with them and what changes they feel should take place. The Board will discuss it again next week.

Appointments

Members of the Advisory Committee, Roger Daniels, Kevin Maes and Mike Lonigro, met with the Board to go through the proposed budget and warrant. Notes:

1. Mark said most employees got a 1.7% pay increase and the full-time employees' percentage they contribute to the health insurance increased from 8% to 10%.
2. General Government Buildings – Mark explained that this line item was kept to a minimum this year and the funds usually used in the buildings will be put towards the necessary improvements to the Heal property if passed at town meeting.
3. Road Improvements – Again, it is the Board's intention to put the funds typically raised for this purpose towards the purchase price of the property if voted in.
4. Health Agencies – There was discussion on several of the individual agencies. Kevin Maes pointed out that Voices against Violence assists the town in many ways during and after these cases. He asked the Board to reconsider their allocation. The organization had asked for \$2,200, and the Board had decided on \$500. Following the discussion the Board agreed to increase the amount to \$850.
5. Highway Garage – Mike Lonigro asked what the plans were for the current highway garage if the article to purchase the Heal property passes. Mark said there are no plans at the present time. They will wait and look into options for the building later on.

Chief Bill Main and Officer Brett Miller – The Board invited them in so they could discuss the overall perception of the department with them and ways that they could improve it. Chief Main asked what the perception was and if the Board had anything specific that was a concern.

1. Visibility - Mark said being seen around town is important, letting people know there is a police presence here.
2. Cheryl would like to see more of the positive things the department does be emphasized and shown.
3. Chief Main said he had assisted someone earlier in the day that had gotten their vehicle stuck.
4. Mark suggested to Bill that he just stop by their meetings periodically to give them a quick update on what's been happening with the department.
5. Bill said he could generate a different type of monthly report focusing on other things (the current report itemizes the types and numbers of calls the department gets); Mark said that more detailed reports would be helpful.
6. Bill mentioned a recent incident that took place and the commendable job Officer Miller did handling it pointing out that Officer Miller put a lot of extra hours in on this case over and above his regular work load.
7. The Board thanked them both for meeting with them.

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Street Lights – Per the Board's request a few weeks ago, Chief Main checked out all the street light around town and reported back to the Board:

1. From a crime prevention point of view, there are quite a few that should probably stay on.
2. A lot of the lights are on State property; Chief Main asked if there was a reason why the Town pays for the lights on State property. The Board did not know why.
3. Should the school start to assume some of the cost for the lights located on their property?
4. Anne will get an updated list from the Coop
5. Get costs for different street light options

At 9:50 pm Mark made a motion to enter into Nonpublic Session, seconded by Ed Haskell, Jr under RSA 91-A-3, II (a) to discuss a personnel issue. The Board voted to leave non-public session at 10:05 p.m. No votes were taken.

Signed: Checks; Timber Tax Warrant;

Upcoming: 01/08 Pemi-Baker School District Public Hearing on 2013 Budget PRHS @ 6:30 pm
01/09 Rumney School District Public Hearing on 2013 Budget RES @ 7:00 pm
01/14 Selectmen's Meeting
01/21 No Selectmen's Meeting
01/23 First day to file to run for town positions
01/28 Selectmen's Meeting
01/29 Planning Board Meeting
02/01 Last day to file to run for town positions
02/04 Selectmen's Meeting – Residents' Forum
02/05 Last day to submit a petitioned warrant article to the Selectmen
02/11 Public Hearing – Proposed 2013 Budget & Warrant RES @ 7:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow
Administrative Assistant