

TOWN OF RUMNEY  
[www.rumneynh.org](http://www.rumneynh.org)  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
MINUTES  
01/14/13

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

Chairman Mark Andrew opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

**Tom Wallace**, Library Trustee, met with the Board to update them on the status of the library improvement project.

1. Rumney Baptist Church meeting January 24<sup>th</sup>; vote on lot line adjustment with town
2. Trustees if he could give a brief presentation at the budget hearing on February 11<sup>th</sup>. The Board agreed he could do it following the budget hearing.
3. They have to go with a full elevator; the limited access elevator discussed at the last meeting does not meet the proper ADA Codes
4. Upgrading the elevator also means upgrading the electrical from a single phase to a 3-phase
5. Does the town need a lawyer to complete the lot line adjustment? Anne will check into this.
6. They will be applying to LCHIP for another estimated \$40,000 to continue with their design development for the library improvements. LCHIP called the town office last week and inquired if there were other community groups that were interested in part of the funds; Anne reported no other groups have come forward
7. Planning on a 2014 vote at town meeting for the project.

Mark thanked Tom and the other trustees for the thorough job they have done on this project.

**Groton Wind – Carl Spring and Cheryl Lewis.** (Ms. Lewis recused herself from the Selectboard and spoke as a resident for purposes of this topic). James Buttolph, Cheryl Lewis and Carl Spring were one of the intervener groups during the Groton Wind proceedings. Their group has asked the SEC to reopen Groton Wind, LLC SEC Docket No. 2010-01 so that parties and others impacted by some plan revisions can be heard. Mr. Spring said they are asking the Board if they would support this action by sending a letter to the SEC showing strong support of the group's request to reopen the case in the interest of the town. The groups stated that Groton Wind changed the location of the Operations & Maintenance building without proper notification to the SEC, towns of Groton and Rumney nor the landowners or abutters. Anne will check the town's records to see if they were notified of any changes in October of 2011. Ms. Lewis pointed out that due to the project as a whole and the changes to the landscape on Groton Hollow Road, the property values in town will decrease and ultimately costing the town and residents. She said the town would have a better chance of mitigation for the town if the Board would support them in their effort to reopen the case.

Ms. Lewis also stated that Groton Wind has not honored their agreement with the town and has shown a flagrant abuse of it; some examples are:

1. Groton Wind decided not to plow and maintain the access roads therefore compromising any emergency response to that area
2. The fire department does not feel they have received the proper training they were supposed to get. Lloyd French voiced his concerns over fire fighter safety.
3. The fire department is supposed to have full access to the facility with keys, codes, etc. They do not at this at this time
4. The Town should be receiving incident reports; none have been received

5. The Town should be receiving periodic reports starting 1 year after construction began – the Town has not received one yet
6. Fire Department is supposed to know where the Fire Suppression equipment is; they do not.

Ms. Lewis said she is very concerned about the roads not being plowed and putting emergency response in a difficult position where they are able to respond at all. Mark suggested sending a letter to Groton Wind requesting that the roads be plowed for safety reasons. He drafted a letter for Anne to send; she will copy the SEC et al. Mark also drafted a letter for Anne to send to Groton notifying them that Rumney may not be able to respond to the wind farm due to the roads not being plowed and maintained.

Carl addressed the recent engineer's post construction report. He would like to see the Board wait until after mudseason before they sign off on the road agreement. Mark pointed out because Ed was not present, they did not have a quorum to make a decision such as that but will certainly address it with Frank. The Board will be meeting with Doren Emmett, Senior Project Manager next week to go over the engineer's report.

Carl also referred to the engineer's report which stated there had been numerous meetings with town employees, etc. Carl asked if they were with Frank. Mark said Frank had met and/or talked with several people from Groton Wind over the past year. Carl would like to see any records that were kept on any of these meetings.

Cheryl would like the Board members to review the agreement the Town has with Groton Wind so they can discuss the matter further in the coming weeks.

She rejoined the Board.

### **Administrative**

Anne provided the Board with the estimated tax rate impact each article could have. After some discussion, the Board agreed not to include this on the actual warrant but will address it at the budget hearing.

Law Update – Bernie Waugh has been scheduled for February 25<sup>th</sup> to meet with the Selectmen and Planning Board to go over the latest law update.

Blasting – Anne gave the Board copies of Latulippe's blasting plan for their review. They will be going over the Planning Board's recommendations for blasting on January 28<sup>th</sup> with Diana Kindell and Carl Spring.

Junkyards – Bernie Waugh has asked for the Board's okay to continue with Nadeau with paperwork, etc. The Board was in support and Anne will notify Bernie of their decision.

**Fire Commissioners** – Dave Coursey, Terry French and Jim McCart met to discuss a few things:

1. Emergency Service contracts with Groton, Dorchester & Ellsworth
  - a. Ed Haskell met with the Commissioners last week and reviewed the current calculation sheet which is based on the operating budget and capital expenses distributed between Rumney, Groton and Dorchester based on a percentage of the population – Rumney 80%, Groton 11% and Dorchester is 9%.
  - b. With the added responsibility of the wind farm and the additional 12.5 miles of road they are responsible for, they want to increase the fee they receive from Groton
  - c. They would like to come up with a different calculation that better reflected the amount of time they spend with these other towns.
  - d. It was agreed to increase the firefighters' call pay from \$11/hr to \$15/hr for all three towns with a minimum call of 3 hours.
  - e. Dave Coursey will check with Lakes Region Dispatch and provide Anne with the way dispatch is figured as an option.
  - f. In the meantime, Anne will notify the towns of the amounts for service using the present method stating that if and when a change is made, she will let them know.
2. Capital Reserve Accounts – Earlier in 2012 there was discussion about increasing the fire department's truck account annual amount to \$30,000 per year. During the earlier budget talks the commissioners did not ask to raise it but after discussing it tonight, it was agreed to raise the annual amount effective 2013 to \$30,000.
3. The fire department will be changing their locks to a more advanced system. They did not budget for it in the 2013 budget; however, it is something that needs to be done. The Board agreed to increase the line item for fire department building and maintenance by \$1,500 to take care of the lock system change,

**Selectmen**

The Board would like to have another Department Head meeting before town meeting ; Anne will schedule one for March 4<sup>th</sup> following the Residents' Forum.

Cheryl asked about changing the night of the Selectmen's meetings to Tuesday night to give the firemen an opportunity to attend. Mark suggested waiting until the new board is in place before making a decision.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Signed: Checks; Warren-Ambulance Contract, (NCES hauling contract; Rumney Historical Society Lease Agreement; Fairpoint appeal engagement letter w/DTC; Health Officer Appointment for Bill Taffe;

Upcoming: 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  
02/05 Pemi-Baker School District Deliberative Session PRHS @ 6:30 pm  
02/06 Rumney School District Deliberative Session RES @ 6:30 pm  
02/11 Public Hearing – Proposed purchase of a backhoe & 2013 Budget & Warrant  
RES @ 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow  
Administrative Assistant