

TOWN OF RUMNEY
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SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
March 4, 2013

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

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

Pat Coursey stopped in to get his annual renewal signed for his Central Metal Recycling automotive recycling dealer registration.

7:00 Residents' Forum

- David Saad, Chairman of the Baker River Watershed Assoc. said the BRWS will be participating in the Baker River Arts & Musical Festival July 19-21
- Volunteers will be going down the Baker River. Would they be allowed to take the debris they collect from the river to the Transfer Station free of charge as was the case in 2010?
- Mark said Sonny will be asked about it, and we will get back to Mr. Saad.
- Mark reminded him about the town's noise ordinance for those evening events and asked that all departments get notified of the event when the time gets closer to the actual date.
- Mr. Saad will notify the Board of any significant changes
- Mr. Saad asked if he would receive a letter from the town giving him permission to discard items at the Transfer station without having to pay the fees.
- Mark said Sonny would determine what is needed.

There were no further comments/concerns from the public for the Residents' Forum.

Selectmen's Issues

- Minutes 02-25-13 – The Board accepted the minutes with one spelling correction 3-0.
- With just one meeting left as a selectman, Mark took a few minutes to talk with the other Board members about future plans for the Rumney Fire Department & EMS. There has been some discussion recently about combining the two departments. He said it would be a huge opportunity to restructure the departments and ideally have one department head overseeing both. He said any change like that will take time, but in the long run it may be what will work best for both departments. He asked the board members to consider that when planning ahead.
- **Backhoe Update** – A CAT technician took fluid samples from the machine today; Frank reported that Tom Monroe can transport the machine both ways for \$700. The machine has some surface rust on it now, and in five years it will be worse; he still stated earlier that the long-range plan had always been to trade the current one while it still had some value and purchase a solid, dependable new machine.
- Mark provided the board members with a spreadsheet on the backhoe financing with updated figures; Cheryl said she would like to see money going into a separate capital reserve fund for heavy equipment other than trucks, and continue putting the same amount in the other account specifically for trucks.

- Ed said he was not opposed to a new machine, but he strongly recommended setting up a maintenance schedule with periodic trips to CAT, or, if necessary, having a technician come to the garage for a service call.

7:40 Senator Jeannie Forrester met with the Board. She asked if they had concerns or issues that she could address at the State level. She is currently assigned to the Senate Finance Committee and the Public and Municipal Affairs Committee, as well as serving on at least a half dozen others.

- She touched on several key issues in New Hampshire, the budget being the biggest one right now. She will be hosting an informational session at Fosters in Plymouth to discuss the status of the Local Government Center (LGC). She will notify the Board of the date and time once it is scheduled.
- She has worked on a committee that developed a culvert certification program where, after some training, town road agents can install culverts in certain areas without having to file for a permit with DES. She will contact the office when a workshop is scheduled.
- Anita French asked about the wind turbine moratorium. The Senator said she is watching and listening and will keep Rumney residents apprised of any developments.
- The Public Water Access Advisory Board (Senator Forrester is a board member) has been discussing the Rumney Rest Area and options that would keep it open to the public. She will keep the Selectmen informed on any developments.
- She provided some information on blasting and will continue to look into it and pass on anything she can find.

Administrative

- The Board received a letter from the Ellsworth Selectmen's offering to pay for half of the town line sign Rumney purchased and installed last year. The Board is very appreciative of that. Anne will send a bill out for their half. They also asked if the highway crew could do some roadside trimming/mowing this spring on their end of the lake. Frank Simpson, Rumney's road agent, said he could not make that call at this time. He will have to wait and judge his workload at that time.
- Comstar Write-offs – The Board would like to send one more letter to each of the two residents (2 separate incidents) asking that they pay 25% of the amount they owe.
- Board received a letter from Senator Kelly Ayotte regarding recognition for veterans in our communities along with a suggestion, to follow Orford resident and veteran John O'Brien's example. The Board supports the plan and asked Anne to talk with Dave Learned (American Legion) and the moderator.
- North Country Council – Cheryl will be talking with a representative from NCC so she can better understand what they as a board should be putting their time and energy into. North Country Council has numerous committees and plans they are working on statewide,
- Sixteen 2012 abatements were filed by the March 1, 2013 deadline.
- Auditors from Plodzick and Sanderson will be here the week of March 17th for the annual audit.

Selectmen's Issues (continued)

- The Board acknowledged receipt of a letter notifying them of a couple of events that will be held at the Backwoods Campground in the near future. One of the events is supposed to involve the town's fire trucks. Anne will invite the owners in to meet with the Board for more information.

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- Cheryl Lewis recused herself as a member of the Board at 8:35 for the following discussion about Groton Wind. R where each turbine is, etc. He also brought in a corrected copy of a map better depicting the location of the Snowdrifters Snowmobile Club trail route. She rejoined the Board at 8:40 p.m.
- The limited number of Rumney EMS responders who can answer calls are just not able to be available to those in need throughout Rumney and the towns we serve. Presently Warren-Wentworth and/or Hebron are making the calls. The Board considered again sending a note to these towns notifying them that with the numbers of responders down so low, they are not able to depend on them to show up. No decision was made about the letter. The Board is not pleased with the way the Groton selectmen and their correspondent are referring to Rumney's first responders. It is not the intention of the Rumney Selectboard to extort money from Groton in any way; the Board simply wants to compensate these individuals fairly for the important work they do and for the actual time they spend on calls, not just the time they are at the scene. There is before and after tasks that need to be handled. The Commissioners just have not billed for all the time until now. Groton plans to schedule a public meeting for those Groton residents who count on Rumney being their first responders.
- The roads have been officially posted for weight limits due to the weather conditions.
- Next week is the Department Head meeting at 7:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Anne B. Dow

Administrative Assistant