

TOWN OF RUMNEY
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SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
07/01/13

Selectmen: Ed Haskell, Dan Kimble,
Administrative Assistant: Anne Dow

Chairman Ed Haskell opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Residents' Forum – David Saad updated the Board on the Baker River Appreciation Day scheduled for July 20th. This is in conjunction with the Baker River Art & Music Festival taking place July 19-21st. He said there has been a very positive response to the need for volunteers for the river clean-up day. He thanked the Paly Family, Jack Killion of Riverbrook a day. Mr. Saad has spoken with the Chief Main about the event, but he did not have any concerns at this time.

Appointments

7:30 Tom Giles and Jon Morrissey, from the United States Forest Service, met with the Board to introduce them to Mr. Morrissey, the new District Ranger for our area. They gave a brief presentation on the proposed plan at the Rumney Rocks Climbing Area. The plan is for a connector trail between the two present parking lots which should alleviate a lot of the heavy pedestrian traffic on that section of Buffalo Road. There will be some blasting involved. The Board will forward a copy of the Town's blasting regulations to the Forest Service after they are adopted. The plan also includes a permanent toilet facility near the second parking lot, using a vault system rather than a septic system. The proposed plan is open for public comment now through July 13th. If you wish to read more about it or have some input, you can contact the White Mountain Forest Service in Campton at 536-6102 for more information. They provided each Board member with a copy of the plan for their review.

David Saad asked them to consider putting some of the blasted rock across the road to help with the riverbank erosion that is ongoing.

Selectmen's Issues

1. The minutes of June 17, 2013 were accepted as written.
2. Discretionary Preservation Easement – the Board talked about the methodology they might use to determine if and how much of a discount they would give if the structures qualified. Mr. Kimble talked with a selectperson from Cornish about the process they use. Ms. Lewis was not present at the meeting. The Board did not make any decisions on the application tonight. They will discuss it further at their next meeting.
3. Charitable Exemption – The Town received a request earlier in the spring for 100% tax exemption for a home and property. The Board asked the town's head assessor to handle the request. Mr. Bodwell did so and denied the request. He sent a letter to the taxpayer with his decision. The Board did review Mr. Bodwell's documentation and concurred with his reason to deny the request. The Board will follow-up with a letter to the taxpayer.
4. Tax Deeded Property – The Board discussed some of the options available to them as owners of the property. No decisions were reached.
5. The Rumney Conservation Commission has recommended to the Board the appointment of Doug Earick, a Rumney resident, to fill a vacant position on the Commission. Mr. Earick is willing to serve if appointed. Having no objections to the recommendation, the Board voted 2-0 to appoint Mr. Earick to the Rumney Conservation Commission.

Administrative

1. Trustees of the Trust Funds – They have asked if several of the Capital Reserve funds can be rolled over for another six months and if there were any of them that could be invested for longer periods of time hoping for a better rate of return. The Selectmen went over the ones they had marked and agreed with most of them. The Revaluation fund amount will have to be decreased as a withdrawal will be made from it before year's end.
2. Trustees - Betty Jo Taffe had contacted Annie by phone to follow-up on the Board's concerns over the Trustees e-mailing procedures. She explained that they are operating under the new Charitable Trust Guidelines and this new format for e-mailing is part of the guidelines.
3. Buffalo Road Bridge – The Board received a copy of a letter from FEMA to the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources regarding the bridge from an historical point of view. The DHR is requesting continued consultation with the Town and FEMA to look consider some feasible alternatives to the original planning to insure that the historical character of the bridge is maintained. Anne recommended that Chris Fournier, engineer from H.E.Bergeron, work with the Selectmen and Road Agent during this consultation phase. After some discussion about possible options and cost Selectman Kimble made a motion to install the single span replacement bridge on Buffalo Road (village end) as originally planned and to hire Chris Fournier to assist the Town in this consultation phase for a fee not to exceed \$1,000. Chairman Haskell seconded the motion, and they voted 2-0 in favor of the motion.
4. Bill Short submitted his annual renewal for his junkyard license. Ken Knowlton will be conducting his annual inspections within the next few weeks. The Board will wait for his recommendation to grant or deny the renewal.
5. It was brought to the Board's attention that the paperwork required for the Fire Department's Explorer program has not been submitted yet. The Selectmen agreed to suspend any further activities with the group until the paperwork has been turned in.
6. The Selectmen will not be meeting next week.
7. The Cemetery Trustees will hold a public hearing at the town office next Monday night, July 8, for input on the updated Cemetery Rules and Regulations.
8. The office will be closed for the 4th of July holiday on Friday, July 5th.

Signed: Checks; 2012-2013 Timber Tax Warrant

Upcoming: 07/05 Town Offices closed for 4th of July holiday
07/08 No Selectmen's Meeting; Public Hearing at 7:00 on Cemetery Rules & Regulations
07/11 Old Home Day meeting 7:00 pm
07/15 Selectmen's Meeting
07/19-07/21 Baker River Arts and Music Festival
07/20 Baker River Appreciation Day

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Dow
Administrative Assistant