

TOWN OF RUMNEY
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 3, 2014

Selectmen: Cheryl Lewis, Ed Haskell, Dan Kimble
Administrative Assistant: Anne Dow
Clerk: Diana Kindell

Public Present: Mark Andrew, David & Helen Keniston, Kenneth Weinig, Tom Wallace, Frank Simpson

Chairman Ed Haskell opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 20, 2014 meeting were approved with changes.

Budget Review: The Board agreed to hold a meeting on Wednesday, February 5, 2014 to review the budget and warrant articles.

CNP: The Board had inquired as to the cost for a second round of interior inspections for assessing and Anne told them the cost would be an additional \$2600.00 with about 550 letters being sent. CNP had told Anne that on the first round about 45% of the interiors are inspected and on the second round only about 10% get picked up. Cheryl made a motion to not have CNP do this, Dan seconded and all agreed.

Riverbrook RV: An application to move the present auto inspection station at this location from the old building to the new building had been applied for to the State of NH. The Board had no objections.

Comstar: The 2014 rate for their medical billing services will remain the same as last year's rate.

Barlow: A follow up letter regarding the junk yard inspection done by Ed Haskell was signed with a copy going to Ken Knowlton, MRI code enforcer.

Town Of Plymouth: A letter stating we would not be using their ambulance service was signed.

State of NH DOT: A letter to the state regarding the river bank problem by Polar Caves was signed – requesting an update on the status of their Rumney Project #14472 to rectify the erosion problem at that site.

Cemetery funds: The Cemetery Trustees had requested the remaining funds from this year be encumbered for next year. In researching Anne found this could not be done as the monies are from burial funds and not from the annual budget.

Grabiek Letter: Tom Grabiek prepared an information letter reviewing the school addition being presented to the Town by the School Board as well as the expense of operating this school. Copies were given to the Board for their information.

E911: Anne had checked with Linda Whitcomb, Town Clerk and found that Linda and Tom Wallace had addressed all the discrepancies listed by the State of NH regarding the maps and locations within the town. The Board signed the Data Capture Acceptance Letter confirming agreement.

At 7:00 pm Ed Haskell made a motion to suspend the meeting for the purpose of **the Public Hearing on the Buffalo Road Bridge Grant**. This was seconded by Dan Kimble and all agreed. See separate minutes for Public Hearing.

At 7:25 pm Ed Haskell made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Dan Kimble and agreed to by all.

Resident's forum:

Barbara McElroy and Maggie Brox approached the Board with a "Got Lunch" program they have started. This is a summer feeding program for children that may not have the proper nourishment in their diet when away from school. There are five involved in this program at the present time and they will meet at the school on Mondays to prepare a week's worth of meals that will be delivered to the homes. They are not qualifying children at this time, but accepting all. They have met with five other towns which presently have the program in place. Funding will be through grants they have applied for, food drives and donations. Volunteers are also being requested. The meals will include a sandwich (chicken, tuna, pb & j), milk, fruit and a vegetable. They have a website – gotlunchrumney.org – and requested a link to the town website.

Mark Andrew – (1) as a follow up to the Buffalo Road Bridge – he inquired as to the status of the bridge near the Transfer Station and the Sand Hill Bridge – both are on the state waiting list. He further inquired if more monies are going into the town bridge fund and the answer was "yes".

(2) Did the Affordable Care Act affect the town at all – no as the town has less than 50 employees.

(3) A reminder – the generator at the school belongs to the town not the school and should come back to the town for use when the school purchases their new one.

(4) The library – why are the Selectmen not supporting the library article as there will be no payment due in the first year. Tom Wallace stated there is no payment due in 2014 – the first will be due in 2015 and he should have that figure Wednesday after a Library Trustees meeting.

(5) Mark had comments on EMS as he has been reading the minutes and understands there are issues with that department. Even if there are only one or two people responding, we need to keep it going. He started the Fast Squad and does not want to see it end. He will serve on a committee, help recruit or whatever is needed to keep this active. He suggested having the Selectmen modify the Fire Department to be the same as other departments in town. Have the Fire Chief EMS certified.

Tom Wallace – Questioned why the Board was not supporting the library article and would they reconsider? Cheryl L. said she was fearful of the school project and the cost of it. Ed Haskell stated it was strictly a money issues. Dan Kimble felt the financial impact to the town was a big unknown at this time. Tom stated the project was never going to cost less. They are reducing the amount of money requested to \$380,000 with \$350,000 of this bonded. The state did not allow them a waiver to install the smaller elevator in the new addition, so they are moving the elevator inside the present building.

Advisory Board: Kevin Maes and Roger Daniels were present to review the budget and warrant articles. Roger questioned the increase in the Town Clerk's new equipment line – a computer needs to be replaced as Microsoft will no longer support the XP operating system. Salary increases – 1% except for transfer and highway – 1 ½% -Ed and Cheryl explained they reviewed other town's wages and tried to bring those two departments in line with the others. Other increases – insurance, salaries and retirement accounted for most. The Fire Department has added a clerical position – to keep them on track – and how many fire men are certified? Are there two pay grades for certified or not? Code enforcement – lower, but for both the town and the Planning Board. Transfer Station – replacing Bobcat out of Capital Reserve Funds. Welfare remained low.

Fire Dept: Present to review the Fire Dept. articles were Jim McCart, Dave Coursey, John Bagley, Terry French and Carl Spring.

Article 16 dealing with conflict of interest – Dave felt there is conflict of interest on all departments, not just the fire department. He suggested they follow the personnel policy and eliminate this article.

Article 17 relates to modifying the fire department and was ok as written.

Article 18 needed a dollar amount to be taken from the Capital Reserve Fund or raised from taxes – Dave had met with Neil McIver and viewed the lake area which has no hydrant at all and the dry hydrant on Quincy Road which needs repairs. The lake installation would need over \$6000 to install - \$2000 for the permit and over \$4000 to do the pipe work. The Quincy Road hydrant would require tree work, a well in the brook and piping. This would require over \$8000 with \$2000 for the permit and the remainder being

the work. Discussion led to doing the Stinson Lake install this year, with \$3000 coming from the Capital Reserve Fund and \$4000 being raised thru taxatiON.

With money going into the Capital Reserve Fund, the Quincy Road project will be looked at next year.

Article 19 required a dollar amount to outfit the retiring highway truck into a forestry/utility truck. As the truck will not be available until late in the fall, an amount of \$5000 was added to vehicle maintenance this year to prep, paint and get the bed ready for outfitting the truck next year.

NHPR: A reporter had questioned several people from Rumney and Groton regarding the Groton Wind Farm. There was concern over controversial comments being made and being included in the airing of this report. Anne will send the spread sheets to NHPR with the comment that Groton is not treated any differently than the other towns we provide service for.

Contracts: Fire contract with Groton not signed by them yet. Rumney will continue to respond.

EMS Contracts: Groton and Ellsworth will be sent new contracts to continue with EMS service.

Dave Coursey mentioned a conflict between fire and EMS. A meeting with department heads will be arranged after town meeting.

Signed: Checks; Letters-Barlow, Town of Plymouth, Comstar 2014 Rate Form; Oath of Office for D. Maes/Trustee of Trust Funds; Executive Council Warrants (3); Reimbursement of Surcharge/A. Dow; Supplemental Intent to Cut – J. Sobetzer; State of NH E911 Date Capture acceptance letter and documents; State of NH DOT letter of inquiry Project #14472

Upcoming: 02/10 Public Hearing – Library Bond Article 7:00 pm
02/10 Public Hearing – 2014 Proposed Budget and Warrant
02/17 Public Hearing – Petition to Amend Pole & Conduit Licenses 7:00 pm; review of Personnel policies; Blasting Regulations
02/24 No Meeting
02/25 Planning Board Meeting
03/03 Selectmen’s Meeting – Resident’s Forum
03/10 Selectmen’s Meeting ??? Final Review of Warrant
03/11 Town Elections – Russell School 8:00 am – 7:00 pm
03/13 Town Meeting – Russell School 7:00 pm

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Kindell
Clerk