

**Town of Rumney
Board of Selectmen
September 21, 2015
www.rumneynh.org
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

**Present: Select Board Members-Chairmen Ed Haskell, Dan Kimble, Cheryl Lewis
Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell**

6:30 Call to order

6:35 Review minutes

Review minutes of the August 31, 2015 Selectmen's workshop. Dan Kimble made a motion, which received a second from Ed Haskell, to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion passed 3-0

6:45 HealthTrust agreements

The Board reviewed documents titled; HealthTrust, Inc. Application and Membership Agreement, HealthTrust, Inc. Agreement Regarding Combination of Members for Rating Purposes, HealthTrust, Inc. Retiree Billing Administrative Services Agreement, and HealthTrust Cobra Administration Services Agreement. All four documents were signed by the Board. The document titled HealthTrust, Inc. Application and Membership Agreement had an attachment titled Certificate of Authorizing Resolution. The resolution as for the name of the person authorized to represent the Town of Rumney for HealthTrust matters. Dan Kimble made a motion, which received a second from Cheryl Lewis, to name Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, to act on the behalf of the Town of Rumney for actions required with HealthTrust. Motion passed 3-0.

6:55 State Senator Jeanie Forrester

The town of Rumney is in Senator Forrester's coverage area. She was present to update the Board of the current status in Concord and answer any questions the Board may have. Forrester reports that, as the Chief of the Senate Finance Committee, she is happy to state that the State Budget has passed. The budget includes an increase of 75% in community assistance and an increase in funds in area of roads and bridges.

The Northern Pass is still an issue, even with the proposed new route. SB 99 will address site evaluation. This was one of over a thousand pieces of legislature from this past session.

Selectmen Cheryl Lewis asked if there was any news on the rest area situation.

Senator Forrester reported the current state budget reflects \$80,000.00 for "rest areas", there is a RFP out, and a focus group is scheduled for 10-14-15.

Ed Haskell stated; the current condition of the Rumney rest area is an embarrassment and getting worse.

Senator Forrester mentioned that the Littleton area is looking into the local chamber of commerce re-opening the rest area in that area. She stated the State needs to look at a cooperative effort to keep local rest areas open.

Selectmen Ed Haskell asked if Fish & Game received appropriate funding in the recent budget. Senator Forrester reported that working with the commissioners of Fish & Game, the department received an additional \$600,000.00 from the general fund. In addition, the commissioners will be authorized to raise fees. Senator Forrester stated the senate did attempt to give Fish & Game more, but the commissioners agreed with the funding and fee increase. Haskell hoped that Fish & Game would be properly funded, because he feels hunting and fishing is very important to NH.

Selectmen Dan Kimble asked about the funding for tourism. Senator Forrester stated that coming out of the Senate finance committee tourism was fully funded, but after that \$500,000.00 was removed, per budget year. She explained that DRED was ok with the funding received.

Selectmen Cheryl Lewis asked about the funding for Health and Human services. Senator Forrester reported that funding for HHS was, overall, more than last year. She went on to say state employees will received a 2% COLA. Forrester indicated that State revenue has been strong. Between the strong revenue and the savings during the continued resolution, while the budget issue was being resolved, the employee raise will be covered. Also, all business tax cuts are paid for.

Selectmen Kimble asked about the status of the State building aid. Senator Forrester did not have that information with her, but will forward it to the town. Cheryl Lewis thanked Forrester for helping to addressing issues brought to her attention during her last visit.

Senator Forrester said, she will continue to work for her communities, stating that is the reason she went to Concord and will continue to do so as she moves forward. With no further questions Senator Forrester was thanked for visiting and she left the meeting.

7:30 Police Department

Chief Miller reported that Officer Patten was doing well at the police academy. Chief Miller had been invited to the academy to help with assisting the firearms portion of the recruit academy class. A recent cruiser radio required the order of a new radio. The new radio should be available for installation in about 3 weeks. This radio issue is another sign of the aging equipment used by the police department. There are minimal grants currently available that address the issue of equipment replacement. Chief Miller is working on an equipment replacement schedule. He will also look into lease agreements to help resolve the issue of aging equipment. Chief Miller reports that he has re-structured the police department's budget, which is due next week, to propose better coverage and availability.

Chief Miller had presented a draft copy of a proposed "Special Events" ordinance. Overall the ordinance would give the town's police, fire, and EMS department heads time to review any special events request prior to the permit being submitted to the Select Board.

8:10 Administrative Update

Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, recently attended a workshop at Primex covering unemployment compensation, workers compensation and property & liability coverage. Following that workshop Primex was asked to classify the re-purposed forest fire truck so that it can be classified as a currently active fire apparatus, doing so would provide for better coverage if the town were to suffer a loss of this piece of equipment. Rick Alpers, Primex representative covering Rumney, visited the fire department to document the forest fire truck for coverage. While Alpers was in Rumney he made an initial visit to the library to inspect the recent addition. Alpers pointed out a couple minor safety issues to the library staff. At the completion of the library project Alpers stated, that he or another representative from Primex could conduct a complete safety inspection and record a new assessed value for coverage purposes.

The Town Safety Committee held its quarterly meeting at the town highway garage. An overview of the recent safety changes to town properties was reviewed. It was discussed that a review of the town's harassment policy should be completed by Primex. Then, at a date to be announced- late fall or winter, Primex will provide to all town employees a class on harassment.

Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, recently attended a workshop put on by NHMA covering municipal budgeting & finance and the Affordable Care Act. Based on information gathered at this workshop some current town practices and policies will need to be addressed and updated.

QuickBooks Pro has been purchased and will be used in place of the Sage software starting FY 2016. Dan Kimble made a motion, which received a second from Cheryl Lewis, to Plodzik & Sanderson set up the required accounts in the new QuickBooks Pro software. Motion passed 3-0.

A proposal to replace the current copier, that is housed in the town office and used by most all departments throughout the town, was presented to the Select Board. The current copier has been in service since, at least 2008, has required service and still makes noises that would suggest it is on its way out of being a serviceable unit. The replacement unit is a Sharp - MX 264 N Black & White copier. Some features that unit will provide: network ready allowing work from any networked PC, fax ready, legal and letter size draws, and it will allow for account tracking. Each town department can be assigned an account number, allowing for a true accounting of the use of the copier. To enter into a four year lease, the cost would be \$100.92 per month, based on 24,000 copies per year. This cost includes the copier, the fax function, equipment, and toner. The end of the lease allows for either a turn in or \$1.00 purchase.

Dan Kimble made a motion, which received a second from Ed Haskell to move forward with the lease of a Sharp - MX 264 N Black & White copier with fax function and service agreement. Motion passed 3-0.

Road Agent, Frank Simpson, had researched the purchase of a front mount York rake that would attach to the plow frame currently in use. Two prices to purchase a York Rake were gathered 1) Jordan Equipment purchase and delivery cost is \$4350.00 2) Fairfield, LLC purchase and delivery cost is \$5,225.00. Cheryl Lewis made a motion, which received a second from Ed Haskell, to authorize Road Agent Frank Simpson to purchase a front mount York Rake from Jordan Equipment for the amount of \$4350.00. Motion passed 3-0.

A letter was received from DES on 09/18/2015 stating test results from the Rumney Land Fill had not been forwarded within the required time frame. Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, made contact with Eastern Analytical and Tom Duffield. Eastern Analytical reports that they test the samples provided and report the findings to Tom Duffield. Eastern Analytical was asked if the Town of Rumney could receive the results. The Eastern Analytical staff member stated a release would have to be approved by Tom Duffield. A call placed to Tom Duffield was made. Duffield reports that this was his error, that he did not know the reporting time frames had been changed. Duffield stated he too had received notice of the results not being sent in a timely fashion. Duffield assured Chivell that the results had now been forwarded to DES. Chivell called Debra Libby, Compliance Coordinator for DES, and left a message outlining the above information. The Board has a concern that this is not the first time an issue has occurred with Tom Duffield's reporting. Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, was asked to monitor this situation.

New Business

A petition was delivered to the Town of Rumney Selectmen's Office on September 16, 2015. Attached to the petition was a signature page showing signatures of nine persons all having an address of Groton Hollow Road. The relief sought by the petitioners was the suspension of all blasting and excavating at the business known as Central New Hampshire Aggregate. A copy of the petition, Blasting Regulations, Blasting Application - Permit, blaster's licenses, and blasting company license was forwarded to the town attorney Bernie Waugh, of Gardner Fulton & Waugh, PLLC for review.

The Board members were given a copy of all the above items along with the reply from Attorney Waugh and the objection sent by Attorney Bruce Marshall on behalf of Central New Hampshire Aggregate. Although, the Board does understand that there may be some concern on the part of the petitioners, there is no lawful remedy currently available to the Board of Selectmen, the Fire Chief, nor the Planning Board. The Board asked Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, to forward a letter to the signers of the petition explaining the situation.

Old Business

Selectmen, Cheryl Lewis, asked Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, to make contact with Road Agent, Frank Simpson, and contractor, Neil McIver, regarding the status of work that was contracted out to Neil McIver.

Adjourn

9:15 Dan Kimble made a motion, which received a second from Ed Haskell, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 3-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Administrative Assistant
Rumney Board of Selectmen