

**Town of Rumney
Board of Selectmen
November 20, 2017
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

Present: Select Board Members Present - Robert Berti, George Bonfiglio
Excused Absences - Ed Haskell,
Administrative Assistant - Joe Chivell

6:30 PM Meeting opened by Selectman, Robert Berti.
Payroll and accounts payable checks reviewed for signature.

6:35 PM Budget Review – Advisory Committee members present: Jerry Thibodeau, Tim Lewis and Roger Daniels.

Transfer Station – Superintendent, Milton “Sonny” Ouellette presented the budget request. There were no major changes to the proposed 2018 from the 2017 budget. It was noted that payroll and related items are addressed at the end of the budget process. One increase was reflected in the loader line item. Ouellette explained the loader would need to have its tires replaced next year.

6:55 PM The Board had invited Brad Eaton to the meeting. First, the Board wanted to publicly thank Brad for his time and for using his personal equipment and vehicle during the research of the new gazebo and during the construction phase this past summer. The Board also recognized Brad for completing the gazebo on time and well under budget.

The Board asked for Mr. Eaton's input as to the needs to complete the gazebo next year. Eaton explained that the deck of the gazebo will need to be stained, there are railings and skirting that need completing, along with general maintenance. Other items that had been discussed during the building process were; adding benches, additional brick path work, and a weathervane. The Board will discuss incumbering funds for the 2017 gazebo budget to complete the gazebo in 2018.

Brad Eaton will also assist with ideas how to install Christmas decorations for the upcoming Christmas tree lighting that will be held on December 3, 2017.

7:10 PM Fire Department – Fire Commissioners - Terri French and Cam Brown, Fire Chief - David Coursey, and Fire Department Clerk - Diana Kendell. Terri French was the primary presenter of the budget. The Fire Department showed an increase. Unlike other departments, the fire commissioners make recommendations for salaries and stipends.

A new budget line was added in the amount of \$500.00 to purchase flags and flag holders to be placed at burial sites of former department members.

Code enforcement salary line was increased by \$2,000.00. French reports that is due to an increase in required inspections. Selectman, Bob Berti, stated that was a 60% increase and feels that better documentation should be provide showing the actual number of hours worked on inspections. The Code Enforcement Salary has been paid as a monthly stipend, not as a per-inspection payment. Jerry Thibodeau recommended that a fee structure be put into place for code enforcement inspections. He asked that the Fire Commissioners look into to that.

Clerical salary line was increased from \$3,616.00 to \$4,500.00, due to additional support needed by the fire chief for code enforcement inspections.

Telephone line item was increased from \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00. French reported that was due to an increase in the telephone bill and to pay towards the Fire Chief's cell phone.

Jerry Thibodeau asked, if the funding request in the "New Equipment" line was enough. He noted that in 2016 it was over spent by approximately \$800.00. French indicated the \$500.00 in the line item would be adequate. Thibodeau asked for a breakdown of the expenditures for that line.

The 2018 Forest Fire budget remained the same at the 2017 budget.

Fire Department Building – repair/maintenance showed an increase from \$2,500.00 to \$5,000.00. French explained the increase was to cover mowing and possible boiler repairs.

8:10 PM A brief break was taken from the budget review process to meet with Randall Scroggins. Randall is a member of local Boy Scout Troop 56 and is in the planning stage of his Eagle Scout project. The project is to build two box style receptacles to accept United States flags that are due to be retired. Randall asked to meet with the Board to seek permission to place the receptacles on town property; one at the transfer station and one either at the town office or the fire station. Selectman, Bob Berti, commented that he is a former Scout and thinks Scouting is a great youth group. Berti thinks this is a good project and only asked that there is signage describing the proper use of the receptacle. The Board authorized the placement of the receptacles on town property.

8:20 PM Budget review proceeded. Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, presented the Health Insurance line item. There is a projected 6.2% increase starting July 2018. With the adjustments made for current employee staffing Chivell feels this line item can be level funded. Jerry Thibodeau stated that with the newly proposed teacher contract the school decreased the cost for health insurance. Thibodeau did not know the coverage that the school will have, but will forward the information.

The town's Worker Compensation premium decreased for 2018. The town's Property Liability premium decreased for 2018. Both these items are covered by Primex of NH.

Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, is the Town Welfare Director. The proposed a level funded budget for 2018.

8:35 PM Administrative Assistant Report-

- The meeting minutes for the November 6, 2017 Selectmen's meeting were reviewed. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Selectman Bob Berti. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.
- Road Agent, Nick Coursey, asked if the Board had discussed his request to have all or part of his cell phone bill covered. The Board does have concern with the lack of coverage in much of the town of Rumney. The Board asked that Coursey present his request as part of his budget review, as any cell phone funding would be part of the Highway Department operational budget.
- Following the October 30, 2017 storm, it was determined that the Sand Hill Bridge should be inspected for safety issues. An engineer for HEB Engineers conducted an onsite inspection. The initial report is the bridge is in safe condition. HEB will follow up with an inspection report and recommendations post flood maintenance and regular maintenance.
- A large limb fell from a tree in the area of Highland North Cemetery during the October 30, 2017, storm. The limb landed on the property of Louise and Mark Foote. There was some question as to whose property the tree is located on. The cemetery had been surveyed by Roy Sabourn. Selectman, Bob Berti, asked that Roy Sabourn be contacted to determine where the property line runs.
- Road Agent, Nick Coursey, reported that about 90% of the October 30, 2017 storm damaged roads have been repaired.
- Chief Brett Miller forwarded a letter outlining a mechanical issue that had occurred with the 2010 police cruiser. The Board asked that Chief Miller attend that December 4, 2017 Board meeting to explain further.
- The recent tax deeded property located at 470 Rumney Route 25 will be toured on November 22, 2017 by a representative of the Select Board, Planning Board, and Conservation Commission.
- As requested, a letter had been sent to the owner of property 08-03-02 regarding a driveway permit issue. Since that time, Road Agent, Nick Coursey, reported some work had been done on that driveway.
- A corrective deed for 07-06-04 was reviewed and signed.
- A list of proposed 2018 Select Board meeting dates was given to the Board members for review.

9:10 There was no Old Business to discuss. There was no New Business to discuss. Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman, George Bonfiglio. The motion passed 2-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Administrative Assistant
Town of Rumney

Up-coming events

11/23	Thanksgiving – Town Office closed
11/21	Day after Thanking – Town Office closed
11/28	Planning Board Meeting
12/4	Select Board Meeting with Public Forum
12/11	Fire Commissioners Meeting
12/18	Select Board Meeting
12/25	Christmas – Town Office Closed
12/26	Planning Board Meeting
01/01	New Year’s Day – Town Office Closed
01/08	Select Board Meeting with Public Forum
01/08	Fire Commissioners Meeting
01/22	Select Board Meeting