

**Town of Rumney
Board of Selectmen
February 19, 2018
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

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

6:30 PM Meeting held at Russell Elementary School was opened by Selectman, Ed Haskell. Payroll and accounts payable checks reviewed for signature.

6:45 PM The Rumney Fire Commissioners, Terri French, Tim Lewis, and Cam Brown, had requested to meet with the Board of Selectmen. All commissioners and Rumney Fire Chief, David Coursey, were present. During the February 5, 2018, Public Budget Hearing, a resident asked if the \$8,000.00 requested to repair a dry hydrant was enough to complete the job. Fire Chief, Coursey, had left that meeting and the commissioners stated they needed input from the chief to answer that question. The dry hydrant on Buffalo Road is the planned project for 2018.

The Board of Selectmen voiced their concern regarding the amount of time it has taken the engineer that the fire department had chosen to prepare the required paperwork needed to complete proposed dry hydrant projects in the past. The 2017 funded dry hydrant project was not completed, due to the change in the course of Stinson Brook after the July flood, but the permitting process did seem to lag. Selectman, Ed Haskell, commented that hiring an engineer should be done by following the town's Purchase Policy that requires three bids. Haskell commented that perhaps a better price could be obtained if the bids were for a series of projects, including the fire pond of the French property. The French's pond project has had funding available for the past few years.

Chief Coursey stated that the Forest Service may want to place a dry hydrant near their parking lots on Buffalo Road. Coursey also stated that Cersosimo Lumber may help with the hydrant located on Route 118. Selectman, Bob Berti, stated that if the dry hydrants on Buffalo Road and at the Baker River Bridge were in working order the village would have good coverage. Berti stated he would like to see a hydrant at the end of Quincy Road and perhaps Water Street.

As to the amount requested in the 2018 warrant article to repair a hydrant, any change now, would have to be made from the floor at the March Town Meeting. It was suggested that if an increase in funding is needed, the amount being requested from the capital reserve could be amended to reflect the increase.

Fire Chief, Coursey, reported that the crack in the furnace at the Depot Street station, noted last year, has worsened. Recently, the station was cold, and it required Pemi River Fuels to respond to repair the furnace. The repairman from Pemi Baker Fuels indicated the replacement of such a unit was beyond their normal scope of work. It was recommended to have an industrial type heating company look at the system. This is an issue that will need to be investigated this summer.

Selectman, Ed Haskell, asked if bids had been requested for the air packs the department want to purchase this year. Fire Chief Coursey stated that representatives from Scott and MSA had demonstrated their products. Both companies would meet NHPA requirements.

Selectman, George Bonfiglio, asked “who was trained to wear the air packs and is “clean shaven” to wear the air masks, so as to pass a fit test? Fire Chief Coursey stated about half of the department is clean shaven so as to pass a fit test. Coursey went on to say the Vaseline can be used to help with the property fit, but, Coursey continued, the department members are not paid enough to ask them to be clean shaven.

Selectman, Bonfiglio, stated that he is in favor of providing equipment so that the job can be done safely, but has an issue with spending \$35,000.00, of tax payer money for equipment that can not be worn correctly and safely. Chief Coursey stated that they have a shaver on a fire truck, but he can’t tell people they have to shave.

Selectman, Bob Berti, responded that he was jeopardizing the safety of others by not requiring the equipment to be used in a safe manner. For the amount of money that is being invested the equipment should be used, and for the safety of those using the equipment, it should be used properly to assure its effectiveness.

Selectman, Ed Haskell, also stated he has concerns for the safety of the fire department members wearing air masks that are not used properly and used on unshaven members causing an improper fit.

Fire Commissioner, Cam Brown, asked if the Board of Selectmen would write a “grooming policy”. The Board indicated it could draft a policy requiring equipment to be used in it intended manner. Then the different town departments could draft individual policies as it pertains to them.

Fire Chief Coursey indicated he would like to speak to his department members at the next business meeting to see how they felt about such a policy.

Fire Chief Coursey, reported that he covers the required building inspections in the towns of Dorchester, Ellsworth and Groton. The chief would like to be able to bill the towns for the required inspections. He added that these inspections are now required to be completed twice a year. Coursey was told that he should add the inspections as “points” to his monthly stipend request and the appropriate town will be billed during the quarterly billing cycle. Chief Coursey stated that several years ago a town was billed for the inspections and that town refused to pay. It was mentioned that if the town did not pay for the inspection, that service could be stopped.

Chief Coursey reported that Engine 3 needs the rear springs replaced.

8:20 PM Administrative Assistant Report-

Timber yield tax for 12-15-06 and 13-03-31 were reviewed and signed.

The prosecution agreement between the town of Rumney and the Grafton County Attorney Office was reviewed and signed.

Correspondence from the Rumney Climbers Association was reviewed, pertaining to their non-profit status, was reviewed. Members of the association will attend the March 5th Board meeting.

Property tax refunds for 02-02-07 and 11-07-04 were reviewed and signed.

The transfer station Annual Report was reviewed. There were no comments or changes needed. Transfer Station Superintendent, Milton Ouellette, can forward the document to the State.

Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell, asked to be authorized to train Lila Williams to be a backup for payroll submission, pick up and entry. The Board approved the request.

The next phase of allowing Keno on the warrant during the annual town meeting is to have a public hearing. The Board will have a public hearing on the matter March 5th at 7:00 P.M.

The proposed Highway Ordinance was reviewed and finalized. A public hearing to adopt the ordinance will be held April 2, 2018. The proposed Road Maintenance Policy was reviewed and finalized. The Board will meet with Road Agent, Nick Coursey, at the March 5, 2018, Board meeting to adopt the policy.

8:40 PM New Business-

Selectmen coverage of the election day polls was discussed. Selectman, Ed Haskell, will cover from 8:00 AM to noon. Selectman, Bob Berti, will cover from noon to 4:00 PM. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, will cover from 4:00 PM to the end of the day.

8:40 PM Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Administrative Assistant
Town of Rumney

Up-coming events

02/20/2018 Planning Board Meeting
03/05/2018 Selectmen's Meeting with Public Forum
03/12/2018 Fire Commissioners Meeting
03/13/2018 Town Election at Russell School
03/15/2018 Town Meeting at Russell School
03/19/2018 Selectmen's Meeting