

**Board of Selectmen
November 5, 2018
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

- Present: Select Board Members Present – Robert Berti, Ed Haskell, George Bonfiglio (6:42pm)
Town Administrator - Joe Chivell
- 6:30 PM Meeting opened by Selectman, Robert Berti.
Payroll and accounts payable checks reviewed for signature.
- 6:30 PM Police Chief, Brett Miller, had to leave to answer a call for service. A brief police department update was provided by the Town Administrator showing the statistics for the period covering October 15th through November 5th, it indicated that traffic has been lighter during the past two weeks. It was noted that the 2010 cruiser has a coolant leak that will need to be repaired.
- 6:40 PM Transfer Station Superintendent, Milton “Sonny” Ouellette, met with the Board. Ouellette reported he is having a difficult time hiring to fill the part-time attendant position. Part of the difficulty are the hours and the rate of pay. Selectman, Ed Haskell, stated that the working conditions should be kept in mind when setting the hourly rate of pay. Ouellette stated that the Wednesday hours makes it difficult for some people that are looking for a second job. The search will continue.
- 6:50 PM Minutes for the Board's meeting on September 4th, September 17th, and October 1st were reviewed. Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to accept the minutes. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.
- 6:55 PM Timber Yield Tax for 16-04-16-02 was reviewed and signed by the Board. Timber Yield Tax for 11-02-02 was reviewed and questioned on the rating formula. It was determined to have the Town Forester review the rating sheet.
- 7:00 PM Public Forum – No was present for the public forum.
- 7:00 PM Election Day Poll coverage: Selectman Ed Haskell will cover opening until noon, Selectman Bob Berti will cover noon to 4:00 pm, and Selectman George Bonfiglio will cover from 4:00 pm until closing. It was asked if the attendance of a police officer was required. The Town Administrator indicated that was at the discretion of the Town Moderator.
- 7:05 PM The Board began the 2019 budget review process. Advisory committee members Isaac Dewever and Jerry Thibodeau were in attendance. Selectman, Bob Berti, commented he would like to keep the budget increase to 2.8% or less. This would keep it in line with the 2018 cost of living increase. Berti stated that some budgets may be higher and some lower, but overall the budget should not increase more than 2.8%. Selectman, Ed Haskell, stated the budget should not increase any greater than that rate that social

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security benefits increases.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, gave an overview of the 2019 Budget workbook. As in past years, salaries will be discussed at the end of the process rather than by department. Other items that will be discussed at the end of the process are: payroll tax, NH Retirement, disability, and overtime budgets. The cost of postage is increasing in 2019 and the rates of NH retirement were reviewed.

Rumney Transfer Station Superintendent, Milton “Sonny” Ouellette, present at the meeting to present the Transfer Station budget.

Discussions included the low rates being paid for recycling and the increased costs for transporting trash away from the transfer station. The increase could be as high as \$9,000.00. A meeting with Casella will be arranged to discuss this issue.

Setting wages for the part-time non-benefited positions in a range that will attract and retain staffing was discussed.

A new line titled “Grants” was added, which will allow the town to apply for grants for the transfer station, if they are available. Ouellette has obtained several grants in the past years allowing the use of waste oil to heat the town highway garage.

7:55 PM

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, presented the Executive budget. Line items were explained, most all reflected salary or stipend payments. Chivell continued, presenting the Financial Administration / Selectmen’s Budget. The significant change is in the Technical Support budget line. Certified Computer Solutions, the IT company the town utilizes, has offered a comprehensive five-year contract covering all items, including the town server, that are housed within the town office building. The five year contract locks in pricing for: annual services for the server and work stations, remote backup, Office 365 accounts, Sonicwall Security Package, Splashtop account for the Police Department, Town Server replacement (cost spread over the five years), one workstation replacement per year in the town offices, one workstation replacement in the police department per year, and a new Sonic Route installation. The annual cost per year for five years is \$16,752.00. If the Board approves this method of technical support the related costs can be removed from the Town Clerk / Tax Collector New Equipment budget and the Police Department Computer budget. The remainder of the budget line stayed approximately the same.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, asked if there was a need to have someone from the Supervisors of the Check List present to review that budget or if he can just explain it. It was determined that since it was an off election year and the budget request was cut nearly in half it could just be looked at as is.

Chivell then explained the Revaluation of Property budget. Tax Map Up-dates stayed the same. 2019 is the town wide External Revaluation final year. Chivell recommended using funds from the Revaluation Capital Fund account to lower the amount requested

from taxes. It was recommended to use approximately \$11,000.00 from the capital reserve and raise the remaining, \$33,000.00, by taxes.

The review of the 2019 Budget proposals will continue at the next meeting on November 19, 2018.

8:45 PM Police Chief, Brett Miller, returned to the meeting. At the last Board meeting Senator Giuda spoke about the State of New Hampshire - DOT turning off some street lights to save money. Chief Miller reported back on the areas of street lights in Rumney. He reported that there are a few dark areas that a street light may be useful. Selectman, Ed Haskell, mentioned that the intersection of Buffalo Road and Sand Hill is dark. Chief Miller stated that maybe a street light on the Sand Hill Cemetery side of the road would help. Selectmen, Bob Berti, reminded everyone that that some private residents pay for their own street light. Town Administrator Chivell will request a listing of Town funded street lights from the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative to assure that the State has not removed any town funded lights.

9:05 PM Town Administrator Report:

- The Board was reminded that the Town Open House will be Saturday, November 10th at Russell School
- The town's beginning of the year projected revenue was compared to the ending of the projected revenue. The area showing the greatest increase is in vehicle registration revenue and Timber Yield tax.
- The rudimentary tax rate has been set by the New Hampshire Department of Revenue for the town of Rumney. This was reviewed along with the town's unrestricted fund balance. The Board asked that an amount of unrestricted fund balance be used, if needed, to reflect any increase to 2%. By doing so the tax rate will be \$24.22 or \$12.11 during each billing cycle. The unrestricted fund balance will remain at approximately \$308,000.00, which is within the 5-8% that the NH Department of Revenue requires.
- The EMS Advisory committee continues to meet and reports that it is making progress.
- The initial meeting between Alan Gould, of Municipal Resources, and Police Chief, Brett Miller is scheduled for this coming Wednesday.
- It was noted in the Fire Department meeting minutes that they would like to be part of the drafting the Emergency Services contract between Rumney and towns that Rumney provides service to. Selectmen, Ed Haskell, stated that the formula for the annual contract was developed several years ago and should stay the same unless there is a reason to change the formula. The amount of funds the formula is based on changes each year, but not the formula. Selectman, Bob Berti, stated that if the commissioners want to change the way the contract works, it should have been address back in June or July and the covered towns should have an option to take part in the discussion. The Board agreed to listen to the commissioner's input during their budget presentation, but it is rather late in the 2019 contract process to try to make any major changes.
- The Town Offices will be closed November 12th in observance of Veteran's Day.

Payroll items will be taken care of on November 13th.

- All department evaluations, with the exception of the police department, have been submitted. The Department Heads evaluation will be completed by the liaison with the assistance of the Town Administrator and any input for the EMS Advisory committee and the MRI Risk Assessment report.

9:30 PM New Business:

- Eversource Energy has recently cut along their right of way in the Town of Rumney. Part of this cut was on Town of Rumney property. Selectman, Bob Berti, stated that the trees cut could be salvaged and sold. He also stated that in the same area near the Quincy Athletic Field there were a few other standing trees that could be taken to make the project worthwhile. The Board members agree and authorized the Town Administrator to complete an Intent to Cut to be file with NH-DRA.

9:40 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
Town Administrator
Rumney, New Hampshire

Up-Coming Events

General Elections (at Russell School)	November 6, 2018
Town Open House (at Russell School)	November 10, 2018
Town Office Closed in Observance of Veteran Day	November 12, 2018
Fire Commissioners Meeting	November 12, 2018
Board of Selectmen Meeting	November 18, 2018
Town Office Closed for Thanksgiving	November 22, 2018
Town Office Closed Day after Thanksgiving	November 23, 2018

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