

**Board of Selectmen
November 19, 2018
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

Present: Select Board Members Present – Robert Berti, George Bonfiglio
Town Administrator - Joe Chivell
Excused Absence – Ed Haskell

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

Police Chief, Brett Miller, was on the agenda, but was unavailable to attend.

Transfer Station Superintendent, Milton “Sonny” Ouellette asked to meet with the Board to discuss the hauling costs the Casella Waste Systems have projected. Representing Casella was, Mike Casella and Gary Lavine.

Sonny Ouellette presented that the indicated increase would amount to \$179.00 per canister pull.

There was a discussion on the history of the waste facility owned by Casella and the long history between the town of Rumney and Casella.

The long-standing contract between the town and Casella was discussed. The proposed increase is based on the fuel adjustment portion of the contract. The Town could continue using the land fill operated by Casella and investigate using a different hauling company.

Selectman, Bob Berti, stated that the Board will discuss this issue further, but they, as a Board, need to act with the best interest of the Town in mind.

Mike indicated that the proposed contract will be revisited on their part and Casella will be back in touch with the Town in January. The Board thanked Mike and Rob for attending the meeting.

The Board asked Ouellette to compare pricing with other hauling companies.

7:15 PM Town Administrator Report

The Board reviewed the minutes from October 15, 2018 Board of Selectmen meeting. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion to accept the minutes. Selectman, Bob Berti, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Rumney Road Agent, Nick Coursey, submitted a request to hire for the vacancy

in the Highway Department. The Board reviewed the application and background information. The Board approved the request to hire. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, submitted a request to hire a part-time temporary office assistant. In the past the Deputy Town Clerk has been able to assist the Town Administrator a few hours a week as needed. But during the absence of having a Deputy Town Clerk this assistance has not been available. Chivell is looking for some help during the year end close out and 2019 start. The Board reviewed the resume of the applicant and approve the part-time temporary hire.

Rumney Road Agent, Nick Coursey, reported that the tree removal on Buffalo Road is scheduled for November 28th and or 29th.

Rumney resident, Thelma Gregoire, wanted to thank the Rumney EMS members for the response to her house this past summer. She dropped off a thank you card and a blood pressure machine. The Board is required to vote to accept any gift offered to the town. Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to accept the gift of the blood pressure machine. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. The Board asked that a thank you card be sent to Thelma Gregoire and the blood pressure cuff be given to the EMS Department. The vote to accept passed 2-0.

Diana Kindell, who had been a member of the Old Home Committee, has been working on having Town Seal signs made for the Rumney town lines along Rumney Route 25. Kindell submitted an agreement from Paquette Signs to make and install two road-side signs. The Board approved moving forward with the signs and authorized Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, to sign the agreement and forward it to Paquette Signs.

7:30 PM

2019 Budget Review

Members of the Budget Advisory Committee present: Roger Daniels, Jerry Thibodeau and Isaac Dewever.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Lila Williams, met with the members to present her budget. Salary and related line items will be discussed at a later date. The Software Services line showed a slight increase, the amount covers the Avitar software for the software and technical support for both town clerk and tax collector services. Convention expenses stayed the same, but it was explained that it covers training. The newly hired Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector will need to attend new appointee training and the annual on-going training. Selectman, Bob Berti, stressed the importance of keeping up with training.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, explained that if the previously discussed 5-year IT contract is signed with CCS, \$1,595.00 can be removed from the New Equipment line item, reducing the requested amount from \$2595.00 to \$1,000.00.

Dog License Tags stayed the same as last year. Jerry Thibodeau asked how much

the town makes on dog licenses. As of October 15, 2018, the revenue line for Dog License showed \$1,895.00.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, presented the Legal Expense line items. The General Legal Expense line stayed the same and of that amount the Planning Board asked that they have access to \$3,000.00.

Chivell recommended reducing the Defense Proceedings line item. This line funds the defense for the town against the state-wide abatement court case that the utility companies have brought in their attempt to lower their property tax liability. Chivell explained that the town can encumber the 2018 funds not used from this account. Chivell recommended reducing the 2019 line by \$5,000.00.

The funding for the Supervisors of the Checklist is down due to the number of elections during 2019. The Board and Budget Advisory members did not see a reason to have anyone in to explain the budget request.

Planning Board Chairman, Jerry Thibodeau, presented the Planning Board budget. Thibodeau explained that he was asking for a \$.62 per hour increase for the Planning Board Clerk. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, asked for a job description. Thibodeau explained it was clerk hours on Monday, taking in applications, talking with prospective applicants and taking meeting minutes. Budget Advisory Member, Isaac Dewever, asked how long the clerk had been with the Planning Board. Thibodeau stated he did not know. The current clerk had served on the Planning Board twice, but Dewever would have to ask the clerk how long she has been in the clerk position.

The major change in the Planning Board Budget was the request for \$2,000.00 to join the North Country Council. Thibodeau stated the town's Master Plan was due to be updated. The current plan is seven years old. Updating the Master Plan involves sending out questionnaires and noting changes. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, stated he was rather new to the area and asked Thibodeau what had changed in seven years. Thibodeau stated a lot but did not explain any further.

Selectman, Bob Berti, stated that NCC is a regional association. Rumney has belonged to in the past with some experiences being good and some not so good. NCC did help with one Master Plan and not another. They have in the past been found to cater to large towns. Berti would be open to learn more, he wants to make sure that NCC is able to help with both Master Plans and sub-division regulations. Thibodeau stated that a representative from NCC will be at the December 18, 2018 Planning Board meeting to offer further information and the Board of Selectmen are invited to attend the meeting. The line item for requesting NCC dues will be addressed after the informational meeting.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, stated that the Code Enforcement funding line is staying at the same level. Code Enforcement is contracted out to the MRI. Their representative assists with junkyard and sandpit inspections.

The Cemetery Trustee budget request for 2019, is the same as it was in 2018. The trustees were not invited to meet tonight. The majority of the members did not see a need to have the trustees attend as there is no change.

Property Liability Line item covers the cost of Property and Liability insurance and the town's Worker Compensation program. These services are provided by Primex of NH. Property and Liability had a 2.5% (\$438) decrease and Worker Compensation program had a 10% (\$1,579) increase.

Health Insurance Line item request was increased by \$280.00. Health insurance does show a potential increase of 14%. It could be less but cannot exceed 14%. With some changes in personnel, the minor increase will be sufficient.

Ambulance budget line covers the contract with the town of Plymouth. Plymouth Fire Department provides response to EMS calls in Rumney and provides medical transports. By contract the increase is governed by CPI, which is 2.5%, which is \$724.00.

The E-911 budget line remains the same for 2019 as it was in 2018.

8:45 PM Town Administrator Report (Continued)

The Following budget process dates were set:

- Public Budget Hearing – February 4, 2019
- Town Elections – March 12, 2019
- Annual Town Meeting – March 14, 2019

Proposed Selectmen Meeting Dates were reviewed and accepted. Board meetings will remain on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month and start at 6:30 PM.

Septic System designs for:

- 5-5-1, 13-2-4, 2-3-12, 8-5-1, 2-3-17 were reviewed and signed.

The EMS Advisory Committee has been meeting every other Thursday and is reportedly making progress. The intent is to continue meeting with invited guests and gather information.

The Risk Audit of the Rumney Police Department is ongoing with MRI handling the audit process.

The Town of Rumney Open House was held on November 10th. There was minimal attendance, but a couple of new volunteers were found. It also served as a time that allowed for considerable dialogue between all town departments. A second open house will be held sometime in the spring of 2019.

9:05 PM Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The Motion received a second from Selectman, Bob Berti. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator
Rumney, NH