

**Board of Selectmen
December 17, 2018
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

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

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

6:35 PM Police Chief, Brett Miller, gave an update on the Police Department.
In addition to the bi-weekly statistical report that the Chief has been giving to the Board, Chief Miller provided a "Weekly Update" covering the time frame of 12/10/2018 to 12/17/2018. The Chief stated he would provide this type of report each week to be placed in the Selectmen's correspondence folder.

Chief Miller reported he had been busy cleaning the department's evidence room and filing motions to dispose of items no longer required to be held as evidence with the court allowing for unneeded property to be disposed of.

Chief Miller reported that Gary Robinson had submitted his notice to resign effective 12/10/2018. Miller would not elaborate on the reason behind the resignation.

Chief Miller requested to be authorized to start the hire process for a part-time officer after the first of the year. Chief stated that if a part-time office cannot be found that he may need to either cut back on services or revisit the hours worked and investigate hiring a full-time officer.

7:00 PM Budget Review with Budget Advisory Committee.
Committee members present: Roger Daniels

Roger Scroggins, Old Home Day Chairman, presented the Old Home day budget. The request is for \$8,200. \$5,000 will be used for fireworks and the remaining funds will be used for events held on Old Home Day. \$3,333.00 will be used from the unused 2018 Old Home Day Budget and \$4,867.00 will be raised by taxes.

There was a discussion concerning the fee charged for vendors during Old Home Day. The Board requested that the OHD Committee review the vendor fee policy prior to next year's event.

The Fire Department Budget was presented by Fire Commissioners; Cam Brown, Terri French and Tim Lewis. Also, present were Chief David Coursey and Diana Kendell.

A new line item was requested to be added for "Permit fees" at a rate of \$3,000.00

The line is requested to reimburse the Fire Chief for the gas and oil burner permits that he issues. The new item is in addition to the Code Enforcement line which was requested to be funded at the same level as 2018. Fire Commissioner, Cam Brown, explained that the commissioners would like the permit reimbursement to be paid through payroll so that the Fire Chief isn't affected by a 1099 at the end of the year. He explained that the permit income should offset the payments to the chief, i.e. \$40 in for a permit and \$40 paid out to the fire chief. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, voiced a concern that if this pay practice takes place, the town loses money on each permit. In that if the fee of \$40 is charged and the Chief is paid a rate of \$40 through payroll, the town loses the tax liability on each payment, a little over \$3.00 each permit. Brown stated the commissioners would look into that issue.

Line items that note a requested increase are: Clerical salary increase by \$500. Fire Chief Stipend increase by \$842. Fuel increase by \$500. Vehicle Maintenance increase by \$2,000. Protective Clothing increase by \$5,000. New line item for memorial supplies for \$500.

The Forest Fire Budget Remained the same as in 2018.

A warrant article had been requested to purchase five additional air packs. The cost would be \$35,000, all raised by taxes. This will bring the department number of new air pack to ten. Fire Chief, David Coursey, stated that there are currently ten members of the fire department that are certified to wear the air packs. Coursey stated they were fitted by the Department of Safety and everyone had shaved for the fittings. Selectman, Bob Berti, asked if they were all still clean shaven to wear the packs. Coursey stated most of them still are, some have grown back facial hair and are not allowed to wear the air packs.

A warrant article had been submitted to purchase and install a new radio for the forestry truck. It was clarified that this is a replacement radio. The cost would be \$5,500. The funds would come from the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve fund.

The Board asked about the status of the dry hydrants. Chief Coursey stated they will complete the dry hydrant during the summer of 2019.

Coursey stated that a truck committee will be put into place for a fire truck purchase in 2020. Selectman, Bob Berti, stated they will need to be ready to explain why a new truck will be needed. Cam Brown stated that a pump is starting to show signs of possible failure. A new pump can cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000. David Coursey stated that the trucks are starting to show signs of rust.

Selectman, Bob Berti, replied that he understood, but he also understands the need for good maintenance and keeping equipment in good repair.

- 8:30 PM Town Administrator Report:
- The request to encumber funds from 2018 to 2019 was given to the Board for review and signature. The Board members reviewed and signed the document.
 - An agreement for the 2018 audit had been sent by Plodzick & Sanderson, the firm that the town has used in the past for the annual audit. The Board requested that the Town Administrator obtain at least three bids for the town audit.
 - A document requesting that full time employees' unused vacation time and compensatory hours be allowed to carry over from 2018 to 2019 was given to the Board. The Board members reviewed and signed the request.
 - Interviews for the posted Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector were held last week. A background check will be started on the top candidate. An update will be given to the Board upon receipt of the completed background.
 - A payrate adjustment was requested for a part-time employee at the Transfer Station. The request was reviewed and signed by the Board.
 - The Board agreed to close the town office public hours early on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. The public hours will end at 2:00pm.

- 8:30 PM Old Business:
- Selectman, Bob Berti, reported that he and Janice Mulherin went to the appeal at the BTLA concerning the abatement request from the Eagle Point Development Group. A negotiated agreement was reached with the property owner. A partial abatement will be paid to the Eagle Point Development Group.
 - A reminder that the North Country Council will be meeting with the Planning Board on December 18, 2018. At this meeting the NCC will give a presentation of what it can offer Rumney if the town decides to join NCC.

9:00 PM Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman, Ed Haskell, seconded the motion. There was no discussion the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator
Rumney, NH