

Board of Selectmen
June 3, 2019
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

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

6:30 PM Meeting opened by Selectman Ed Haskell
Payroll and accounts payable checks reviewed for signature.

6:35 PM Town Clerk / Tax Collector Lila Williams asked to meet with the Board of Selectmen. Williams report that 2019 Part 1 Property Tax Bills were mailed on May 24, 2019. To date the town has received \$208,000.00 in tax payments. Property taxes are due by July 1, 2019.

Lila Williams presented three tax abatement requests. One property had been removed, the second two were trailers that are properly registered. The Board reviewed and signed the abatement requests.

A brief discussion followed regarding issues of some camper trailers at River Brook Campground. Misinformation seems to be given by the campground host to campers concerning property tax requirements. It was determined that a copy of NH RSA will be sent to the campers using that campground to educate them why they receive a tax bill.

7:00 PM Public Forum – David Cook, operator of Barn Door Hostel, introduced himself to the Board. He stated that he was interested in how the Town operated. He was also at the public forum to voice a concern of an interaction between himself and the Rumney Police Chief during the opening of the Barn Door Hostel. Cook stated that for the opening of the business he had music playing. Cook went on to explain that Chief Miller came to the hostel and, in Cook's opinion, used a very forceful and directing tone and told Cook to get into his cruiser. After Cook was in the cruiser, he reported that Miller drove away. Cook described being driven around and occasionally being asked if he could hear the music. He said he was told by Chief Miller that there were no complaints reported nor was there any ordinance covering the music. Cook was returned to the hostel and let go. Cook reported that the owners of the property, his parents, voiced their concerns of the event. Cook reported that neither he nor the property owners filed any sort of formal complaint but was just concerned about the actions taken that evening. The issue was left as is for the time.

7:10 PM Transfer Station Compactor Cylinder issue. Transfer Station Superintendent Milton "Sonny" Ouellette reported last week that the cylinder that works the

compactor at the transfer station stopped working. Ouellette contacted the repair company used for the compactor and discussed a possible used cylinder versus a new cylinder. The benefit to getting a new cylinder is that the entire cylinder is new and will be under warranty. The quoted cost for the cylinder is \$2,100.00 plus the labor to install the cylinder. The Board was in favor of purchasing and installing the new cylinder. The Board also discussed using funds from the Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase and installation. It was decided to post a Public Hearing to discuss the use of the capital reserve during the June 17, 2019 Selectmen's Meeting.

7:15 PM The May 6 & 20, 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed by the Board. Selectman George Bonfiglio made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 6 & 20, 2019 Board of Selectmen meetings. Selectman Ed Haskell seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

7:22 PM Police Chief Brett Miller met with the Board to give the bi-monthly department update. Selectman George Bonfiglio stated that the Board had received comments from David Cook, who was still in attendance, concerning their interaction. Bonfiglio asked Miller if he needed to say anything to Cook or state his version of the contact. Chief Miller acknowledged he had asked Cook to get into the cruiser and that he did drive Cook around the area discussing the volume of the music. Miller, in his opinion, did not feel that was out of line. Bonfiglio stated that the property owners were very upset. Chief Miller stated that this should be noted as an official complaint. A discussion continued surrounding the contact and how the Cooks preserved the issue. Miller asked David Cook if he should go speak to Diane Cook, one of the property owners. David Cook stated that he was not sure that would be in their best interest, as she is still very upset. A discussion started concerning noise levels in other areas of town and the possible need for ordinances of different types.

The Chief was then asked to provide his normal update report. Miller provided the Board with the two week Call for Service total and the 5/20/2019 – 6/3/2019 Update. He stated that the total Call for Service was 734.

Selectman George Bonfiglio asked about the status of Part-time Officer Kevin Maes. Chief Miller stated that Maes is just working on the community wellbeing project.

Chief Miller reported that the radar sign has been placed on Main Street for a trial run. The position, number of vehicles logged, battery load, etc. will be monitored to see if any adjustments are needed.

Chief Miller had been given a copy of the risk assessment, completed by MRI, to review and was asked for his feedback.

Chief Miller started his response by stating he wasn't sure what the Board of

Selectmen were looking for by hiring MRI to conduct this assessment. Miller stated he met with Alan Gould of MRI at the Police office for approximately three hours. Miller had hoped it would have been a longer meeting so that he could explain items. On the report itself, Miller stated that there is no contract with Plymouth Dispatch and none of the towns that Plymouth dispatches for have contracts. Miller stated there is a formula to determine an annual fee. Miller stated that currently it averages out to be \$8.00 per call to dispatch

Chief Miller stated he disagrees with the officer safety aspect of the report. He stated he tries to save money by not calling in every call. Miller went on to say he doesn't feel it necessary to call into dispatch if he is meeting someone in the office and he doesn't find it necessary to call into dispatch when he is out for a VIN verification. Chief Miller stated he knows when he should call something in or not and this is a difference between a small town and a city. Miller stated this can be "what if to death" but he knows better. It is important to save money.

Chief Miller disagrees with the statistics that were given for the calls covered by NH State Police. He disagrees that NH State Police handled 50% of the calls. He stated there is no way to separate out calls for service and self-generated calls.

Chief Miller handed out papers labeled Rumney Police Department Calls for Service Totals by Call Dispo. The categories and years covered are:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019 to date</u>
Cleared by Arrest	7	7	5	1	2
Unfounded	3	1	3		1
False Alarm	1	1		1	3
Cleared	553	777	724	1076	630
Gone on Arrival		1	1		
Investigation pending	33	10	14	10	8
Report Taken	24	13	14	33	12
Services Rendered	50	75	101	83	19
Forward to Troop F	189	114	72	88	16

The issues related evidence was corrected, according to Chief Miller.

Chief Miller stated that files are in proper order. Miller, responding to the cruisers listed in the pursuit policy, one cruiser is pursuit rated and one isn't.

On the issue of training and the type of training, Chief Miller defended the training class that was brought into question. Miller stated he feels allowing members to attend training that is in their interest is a good retention practice.

Chief Miller responding to the section of the assessment addressing policies and general orders, stated the report makes sense for a two-person department. He stated some current policies were drafted for a time when another person may be

added to the staff. Chief Miller stated that changes that need to be made will take time. He explained that he feels he is a better patrolman than chief. Under the former chief he was given officer supervisor type items to work on and did not want to take them. He went on to say he is still new in the chief's position.

Miller stated that a review like this should be done again in a couple years, a second set of eyes on the issue is good.

Selectman George Bonfiglio asked Chief Miller if overall this was a good tool to use moving forward? Chief Miller responded, yes. Miller stated maybe a different assessor would look at items differently.

As a reminder, the Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, explained that was only a review for risk assessments. There are different levels of assessment, such as operational, promotional, hiring and resource management.

Chivell asked Chief Miller for clarification on the statistical information given, as the Calls for Service Totals by Dispo, software generated Police Calls for Service two-week count, and the two-week police activity report did not line up. It was clarified that the software generated Police Calls for Services accounted for all police calls in Rumney whichever agency covered the call. The two-week police activity that was developed by the Chief represents the activity covered by the members of the Rumney Police Department.

8:00 PM

Town Administrator Report

- A Facility Use Request was submitted by the Central NH Ultimate Frisbee Group requested to use the Quincy Athletic Field. Upon review the Board signed the agreement.
- A copy of the letter sent to the National Forest Service was provided for review. The letter was generated because of the concerns of water runoff from the NFS property on the town road which is causing maintenance issues.
- A copy of the letter sent to the State of NH Right of Way Division indicating the town of Rumney is interested in obtaining the property known as the Rumney Rest Area was made available for review.
- A copy of a letter sent to the Rumney Trustees of Trust Funds was made available for review.
- A follow up site visit of the Groton Hollow / Clark Brook FEMA site took place May 31, 2019. A group from FEMA, NH-DES, NH-HSEM, HEB Engineers, Rumney Road Agent Nick Coursey and Town Administrator Joe Chivell took part in the site review. This site visit should result in a final scope of work that will be developed by FEMA, which will allow for the completion of the Wetland Permit Application and approved by NH-DES.
- The May 2019 Fire Chief Report was made available for review.

- Reports from the Health Inspector relating to properties:
 - 12-09-01
 - 12-09-06
 - 12-07-20
 Were reviewed by the Board of Selectmen. They asked that the issues alleging building code violation be forwarded to the Rumney Fire Chief.
- Correspondence from Attorney Christopher Boldt, under contract with the town of Rumney for utilities abatements, was made available for review, but was no discussed.
- Correspondence from NH-DES regarding the alleged Alteration of Terrain violation on property 02-04-03.

8:20 PM Selectman George Bonfiglio made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Ed Haskell seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
 Town Administrator
 Rumney, NH

Upcoming Events:

Trustee of the Trust Funds Meeting	June 7, 2019
Fire Commissioners' Meeting	June 10, 2019
Conservation Commission	June 12, 2019
Board of Selectmen Meeting	June 17, 2019
Planning Board Meeting	June 25, 2019
Selectmen's Office Closed	June 26, 2019
Board of Selectmen Meeting	July 1, 2019