

Board of Selectmen
October 7, 2019
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 signatures.

6:35 PM Chris Fournier, HEB Engineering, met with the Board to discuss several projects

The Planning Board has requested the services of HEB Engineering to review the plans submitted by the group requesting a subdivision on Groton Hollow Road. The group will be required to cover the cost of the engineer. Both the Planning Board and the Selectmen reviewed the agreement submitted by HEB. Selectman Ed Haskell made a motion to sign the agreement. Selectman Bob Berti seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Chris Fournier then provide information on the status of the State Bridge Funding as it relates to the Buffalo Road Bridge, that is on the Red Flag list. The Buffalo Road Bridge is on the funding list for 2023/2024, but to hold that position the town will need to show that it is preparing to move forward with the project. This would entail preparing the licensing and engineering of the bridge. If some action is not taken the Buffalo Road Bridge could be moved back several years. Selectman Ed Haskell asked if the town does move forward to make the project “shovel ready” will the State sign an agreement showing the funding will be provided in the time frame as discussed? Fournier stated that the State has and should sign such an agreement.

6:42 PM Selectman George Bonfiglio entered the meeting.

Fournier stated that the town would either need to place the licensing and engineering out to bid or it can waive the bid process and go with a company that had been used prior with successful results.

Selectman Bob Berti asked Selectman Ed Haskell for his input on the last bridge replacement the HEB handled for the town of Rumney, as he was not on the Board during the project. Haskell stated that he was happy with the work that HEB did for the town and feels the HEB and the Rumney had a good working relationship.

Chris Fournier has been in touch with State DOT and Rumney may qualify for Federal funding instead of State DOT funding, but the State funding is a quicker and smoother process. Fournier indicated he would provide a letter to be sent to

the State DOT for clarification on the funding. The Rumney Bridge Repair Capital Reserve Fund should be able to handle the town's share of the projected cost for the bridge project. The State would provide seed money of up to 40% to assist with the initial funding of the project.

The Board of Selectmen had asked for clarification of the proposed structural analysis bid that had been submitted by HEB Engineering. Following a discussion as to what the Board was looking for as a result and what HEB would complete for an analysis, Fournier recommended that the Board hold off on the analysis until the project was closer to being completed. At that point it should be viewed as a feasibility study as to how to move forward with the building and its use.

The last item discussed between the Board and the Chris Fournier was the FEMA related projects on Groton Hollow Road. There are four areas of repair that were addressed. Two debris piles in Clarke Brook, one erosion issue that is starting to undermine the paved area of Groton Hollow Road, and an issue in the course of the brook that is the cause of the above noted issues as it flows downstream. The initial damage was done during the October 2017 flash flood. The damage was enhanced during the July 2019 flash flood.

FEMA personnel have inspected the area. The town is waiting to see if FEMA will relate the stream course with the downstream issues. HEB provided a quote that covered the licensing, permitting and engineering. The agreement will be reviewed and taken under advisement.

7:25 PM

Public Forum – Two Groton Hollow Road Residents, Brad Shanks and Lang Gureckis, were present to speak to the Board of Selectmen. Gureckis asked the Board about the status of the survey project at the end of Groton Hollow Road. Gureckis has concerns about the location of Groton Hollow Road, his property line, and the location of his septic system.

Selectman Bob Berti stated that the town has not received the map or report from the survey company that the town hired. Once the map and report are received the town plans to make it clear where the road lays. After the ditching work is completed a culvert with a catch basin will be added to the area. This work should aid the water issue on Gureckis' property. Berti added that the survey that is being completed by the town will show the roadways and the Rumney / Groton town line but feels Gureckis may need to hire his own surveyor to locate his property lines. Gureckis stated that everyone he has contacted either has a conflict or refuses to work on that end of Groton Hollow Road.

Brad Shanks stated that someone complained that the survey markers had been removed. Shanks stated he did not remove any of the markers. Shanks then complained about his neighbors on both sides of his property and the height of Groton Hollow Road flooding his garage. Selectman Bob Berti stated again that

the town will be working on the drainage and ditching in that area once the survey is complete.

7:40 PM Rumney Road Agent Nick Coursey met with the Board of Selectmen. Coursey reported that the mower that the town is renting from Dean Yeaton can be purchased for \$15,000. It is a 1991 New Holland, with a new clutch, 4700 running hours, a Tiger mower arm with a 2-blade head. Coursey reported of the difficulty to rent the mower tractors. Coursey stated that if the town purchased the mower tractor it would allow the highway department to mow on their own schedule throughout the season. In the matter of three years the mower will pay for itself as the town spends about \$5000.00 a year of mower rentals. Selectman Ed Haskell stated that in the long run the purchase would be saving the town money.

Selectman Bob Berti asked Coursey to find out more information on the time frame allowed to make the purchase. Berti feels financially it makes sense but needs to look at the budget.

8:00 PM Town Administrator Report:
Paperwork requesting to hire Dawn Coffey to fill the vacant Deputy Town Clerk / Tax Collector position was submitted to the Board of Selectmen. Selectmen Ed Haskell made a motion to hire Dawn Coffey as a part-time employee to fill the vacant Deputy Town Clerk / Tax Collector position. Selectman George Bonfiglio seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Minutes of the September 17, 2019 Board of Selectmen meeting were reviewed. 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. Selectman Ed Haskell abstained, as he was not present for September 17, 2019 meeting.

8:10 PM Correspondence for Attorney Chris Boldt concerning the NHPS utility abatement was available for review and discussion. Selectmen Bob Berti made a motion to enter Nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(l). Selectmen George Bonfiglio seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

8:15 PM Selectman Bob Berti made a motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session. Selectman George Bonfiglio seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Selectman Bob Berti made a motion to seal the nonpublic meeting minutes indefinitely as it could render the proposed action ineffective. Selectman George Bonfiglio seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

During the Nonpublic session the Board agreed that the town of Rumney should

continue defending against the legal actions being taken by NHPS.

The town of Holderness Planning Board sent notice of a public hearing to the town of Rumney of a possible cell tower being constructed in Holderness. The public hearing will be held on October 15th at the Holderness Town Office.

A copy of a Shoreline Protection Permit Application for Map 13 Lot 0337, being submitted to the State, was made available for the Board's review.

Correspondence from CAI Mapping, the company retained by the town of Rumney to update the taxes maps, showing that they will no longer support the format used to maintain the town's maps. This was initial notice of this information; further research will be done on how to move forward.

The State of NH Budget has been approved. Within the State budget was funding for each town of receive funding that can used at its' own discretion. The amount of funds that the town of Rumney should receive is approximately \$26,000.00.

The evaluation of Department Heads was briefly discussed. The Board will determine how and who will complete the reviews.

The recommended timeline to evaluate the operating budgets with the Budget Advisory members and Department Heads was reviewed with the Board. Budget reviews will begin October 21, 2019.

The town wide revaluation and preliminary meetings are complete. CNP will finish entering this information into the town's assessing software. The town is waiting on the utility assessment. Once those assessments are completed all assessment can be submitted to DRA to begin work on the new tax rate.

Police Chief, Brett Miller, asked the Boards approval to post Halloween hours for October 31st between 5:00PM and 8:00PM. The Board approved the hours requested.

The group that arranges the Christmas Tree light in the Town Common suggested that the lighting be on December 8th this year to coincide with the Historical Society Tea and Cookie night. In the past these events were on the first Sunday night of December, but this year it will occur on the second Sunday. The Board agreed the two events should be on the same evening.

The dates for the 2020 Board of Selectmen meetings were made available for review. The meetings will remain on the first and third Mondays of each month, with a couple exceptions for Monday holidays. The meeting will start at 6:30PM.

8:40 PM New Business – The Board asked about creating an invoice for a property owner whose change in property required the Town Highway Department to clear the

roadside ditches and culvert adjacent to their property. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, indicated he is working with Road Agent, Nick Coursey, to gather dates, times and equipment used. An invoice should be ready for review during the next meeting.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported to the Board that a group of three School Street residents asked to meet with him this afternoon concerning a few properties on School Street. Several questions were about the junky yards along the street and one question was regarding a health issue. Chivell reported that all but two of the junky yard questions had to do with properties already being looked at by Code Enforcement. The one health issue was forwarded to the Town Health Officer.

8:50 PM Old Business – Information requested by the Board as to how Plymouth Ambulance Service determines the cost per run was share with the Board.

Reports for Code Enforcement Ken Knowlton were available for review. There were several recommendations made int Knowlton’s inspection reports. The Board will give the Town Administration directions during the next meeting.

9:05 PM Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman, Ed Haskell, seconded the meeting. There was no further discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator
Rumney, NH

Up-coming meeting dates

Fire Commissioners Meeting	October 14, 2019
Planning Board Meeting	October 15, 2019
Selectmen Meeting	October 21, 019
Planning Board Meeting	October 29, 2019
Board of Selectmen meeting	November 4, 2019
Selectmen’s Office Closed	November 8, 2019
Town Offices Closed Veterans’ Day	November 11, 2019