

**Board of Selectmen**  
**October 21, 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 Road Agent Nick Coursey met with the Board to speak about several topics.

Coursey received three bids for road salt. Coursey recommended to order for Morton Salt Company with the bid price of \$61.50 per ton. Salt purchase is an approved budget line in the Highway Department operating budget. The Board approved the request for the annual road salt purchase.

Road Agent Nick Coursey and the Board reviewed the map and report, completed and supplied by Sabourn & Tower Surveying, of the Groton Hollow Road survey project. The research of the road layout, starting at the Groton/Rumney town line and traveling towards Route 25, showed the road layout has not changed since the original layout of 1824. The roadway is a two-rod road (33 feet wide). The only roadway change occurs in Groton.

Roy Sabourn will return and place grade stakes along the roadway and place permanent landmarks the corners. The Highway Department will be able to move forward with completing ditch and culvert work along Groton Hollow Road. Property owners in that area will be required not to park or place items in the roadway.

6:50 PM Budget Review with Advisory Board. Advisory Board members present were Kevin Maes, Isaac Dewever and Jerry Thibodeau.

A brief explanation of the Budget Book and process was given by Town Administrator, Joe Chivell. During the review of operational budget salary and related items will be discussed at a different time.

**Planning Board** – Judi Hall represented the Planning Board. Included in the “4191.1-110 Clerical” line of the 2019 budget was funding for Planning Consultant Tara Bamford. This amount was requested to remain the same to allow the Planning Board to move forward on the Master Plan and or related policies. The proposed Planning Board budget for 2010 remained that same with one exception, \$2500.00 was added to purchase a fire-resistant file cabinet. The 2019 Planning Board budget was \$8,582.00. The proposed 2020 Planning Board budget is \$11,082.00.

Advisory Budget Committee member, Jerry Thibodeau, stated he would like to see prior years budgets and actuals included in this book. The Board of Selectmen and remaining Advisory Budget Committee members did not see the need for this additional information.

**Town Clerk / Tax Collector** – Lila Williams prepared and presented the operating budget. The line items that show an increase from 2019 to 2020 are as explained:

4140.1-341 Telephone increase \$34.00 that reflect actual cost.

4140.1-342 Software Services increase \$165.00 that reflect a proposed 3% increase for the Avitar software used for Town Clerk and Tax Collect.

4140.1-610 Town Meeting Expense increase \$125.00 there are four elections and a Town meeting in 2020 and there is an expected increase due to these numbers.

4140.1-610 Office Supplies increase \$350.00 represents an increase in the cost of operation supplies needed.

The 2019 Town Clerk/Tax Collector budget was \$82,296.00. The proposed 2020 Town Clerk/Tax Collector budget is \$82,970.00, not including salary or related items adjustments.

**Police Department** – Police Chief Brett Miller presented the Police Department operating budget. The line items that show an increase from 2019 to 2020 are as explained:

4210.1-115 Police Overtime/Holiday shows an increase of \$44.00. This line may be increased more after salaries are reviewed.

4210.1-240 Training, mileage, workshop shows an increase of \$1500.00. Miller explained there are classes at the police academy he has not been accepted to attend, he increased this line to allow members to attend classes outside of the academy.

4210.1-932 Dispatch increase of \$200.00 covers increased cost paid to Plymouth Dispatch.

4210.1-635 Fuel increase of \$300.00 reflect actual cost of fuel usage.

4210.1-660 Vehicle Repair/Maintenance increase of \$1000.00. The 2015 cruiser is out of warranty as is the 2010 cruiser. If the 2010 cruiser is replaced this year this line item may be reduced by \$4000.00.

4210.1-741 Computer Updates was decreased by \$500.00

The 2019 Police Budget was \$220,330.00. The proposed 2020 Police budget in \$222,874.00, not including salary and related items adjustment.

**Health Insurance** – Town Administrator Joe Chivell presented the Health Insurance budget. The towns health insurance provided, HealthTrust, reports that the maximum policy will be 6.9%. With this projection and the adjustment in the types of coverage used by the current town's employees this line was increased to \$141,000.00 for 2020. The 2019 Health Insurance budget was \$132,000.00.

**Legal** – Town Administrator Joe Chivell presented the Legal budgets.

Under the heading of General Legal expenses Chivell recommended budgeting the same amount, \$7000.00, for 2020 as was budgeted in 2019.

Under the heading of Defense Proceedings Chivell recommended budgeting the same amount, \$30,000.00, for 2020 as was budgeted in 2019 and to encumber any remaining funds not used in 2019 to be used in 2020. This budget line is used to pay for the ongoing utility abatement court action.

8:00 PM Town Administrator Report –

The three members of the Rumney Supervisors of the Check List are all new to the position. In the past one of the members has used their personal laptop during elections held at the Rumney School. Currently, the Supervisors can log onto the computer in the meeting room at the Town Office Building, but that doesn't allow for the work to be done offsite. The Supervisors have requested to purchase a laptop using funds in their 2019 budget. The proposal is to purchase the laptop from Certified Computer Solutions, the company that the town contracts with to provide all IT services. There was a brief discussion if it would be cheaper to purchase a laptop from Walmart or some other outlet. It was determined that although a Walmart type laptop may be cheaper there is no support provided if or when it is needed. The Board authorized the Town Administrator to price and order a laptop for the Supervisors of the Check List. The Board also acknowledged this purchase would cause the Check List budget to be over expended.

Part of the State of NH Budget allowed for the State to send funds to towns to assist in lowering property taxes. The portion of funding for Rumney is \$26,324.81. The House Bill allowing for this payment also allowed for towns to accept this funding as unanticipated revenue. The Board noted the payment and agreed to accept it as unanticipated revenue and to use it to reduce taxes.

The passage of the State of NH Budget also allowed for funds to assist with school building renovations. Rumney will receive funding to construct an addition onto the Russell School. During the October 16, 2019 Rumney School Board meeting there was a discussion concerning the bonding of the balance of funds needed to complete the proposed Rumney School building addition. The Board of Selectmen plan to attend the follow up meeting when the terms and duration of the bond will be discussed and probably voted on by the Rumney School Board. This bond will affect the Rumney tax rate, the Board of Selectmen understand the long-term impact it will have on town funding and want to be part of the discussion. The next Rumney School Board meeting has been scheduled for November 18, 2019 at 6:00PM. This is a conflict with the regularly scheduled Rumney Board of Selectmen's meeting night. The Board of Selectmen agreed to start their meeting at 6:00PM at Russell School to allow to be part of the Rumney

School Board meeting. At the conclusion of the portion of the School Board Meeting addressing the bond issue the Rumney Selection Board will continue their meeting using a different room at the Russell School.

As part of the Russell School addition project the generator at the school will be replaced. The generator is owned by the Town of Rumney. There is a plan to move the generator to a location between the Rumney Town Office and the Depot Street Fire Station. Town Administrator asked if he would meet with the Fire Chief and the Road Agent to determine the best location for the generator and the underground LP tank. Chivell will meet with the State of NH Homeland Security field representative to work on a grant to assist with relocating the generator. The Board approved moving forward with planning for the placement of the generator and starting the grant process that will assist with relocating and installation of the generator.

Roger Daniels of the Rumney Historical Society reported that a brick near the top of the chimney of the Historical Society Building appeared to be loose and may fall. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported that he has contacted a chimney company to inspect the chimney at the Historical Building and at the same time to clean the chimneys at the Rumney Highway Garage. This will be completed on October 30, 2019.

A vacation request was submitted and approved for the Town Administrator. This will cause the Selectmen's Office to be closed on November 8<sup>th</sup> and December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

In observance of Veterans' Day, the Town offices will be closed November 11, 2019.

The Board of Selectmen had opted in on a class action suit against the USFS. The suit addressed the underpay of PILOT to towns as it related to USFS property. The result of the class action suit was a finding for the towns. Although minimal this year an additional check was paid to the town of Rumney in the amount of \$826.00. The Board agreed to accept the payment and to accept it as unanticipated revenue for 2019.

The Board again reviewed the map and report of the survey submitted by Roy Sabourn of the Groton Hollow Road layout. The Board will invite the property owners in that area to a meeting to review the road layout, the planned ditching efforts the town is looking at and the expectations to keep cars and other items out of the roadway. No date was set for the meeting, but the meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

8:30PM Old Business –

The Board had been advised of the findings of the properties inspected by Ken

Knowlton for junkyard violations. The Town Administrator was directed to follow the recommendations of Ken Knowlton as follows:  
Notice sent to the property owners of map and lots 12-9-6 and 13-7-7 that legal proceeding will be initiated for noncompliance of the town's requests.  
Information for map and lot 13-6-7 need more information. A letter to the property owner of 1-2-5 to acknowledge actions taken to conform to that statute and encourage them to finish the cleanup. Notify the owners of map and lot 13-4-10 that if their property is not brought into compliance within 30 days legal action will commence regarding the junkyard statute and a review of the properties' Current Use status will be reviewed.

Two additional property owners that were notified regarding driveway permit violations submitted Driveway Applications.

8:50 PM Selectman Bob Berti made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Ed Haskell seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Sincerely submitted

Joe Chivell  
Town Administrator  
Rumney, NH

Up-coming meeting dates

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
Rumney School Board Meeting	November 18, 2019
Board of Selectmen Meeting	November 18, 2019
Planning Board Meeting	November 12, 2019
Planning Board Meeting	November 19, 2019
Town Office Closed Thanksgiving	November 28, 2019
Town Office Closed Day After	November 29, 2019