

**Board of Selectmen
November 4, 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 Police Chief Brett Miller provided a department update to the Board. Miller provided a projected schedule of coverage and activity for the past two weeks.

Chief Miller reported he received concerns of the length of Halloween Trick or Treat hours. Miller stated the hours were shortened once in the past and he also received complaints. The Chief feels the town should keep the hours consistent with surrounding towns.

Miller reported there were no issues during the Trick or Treat hours this year. He reported no issues during the vigil held on the town common Sunday night, November 3rd.

Selectman Ed Haskell had questions for Chief Miller about the lockdown that had occurred at the Russell Elementary School. Haskell stated he had received questions as to why there was a notice sent out that a Lockout was in progress but no explanation of the situation. Chief Miller indicated that when people have questions about the emergency messages, they received they should direct the questions to either the school or the police department. Miller stated he will speak to the principal, Johann Torsey, about the wording of the messages when they are sent. Chief Miller explained that the situation led to a Secure Classroom as opposed to a School Lockdown. Rumney Police Department was the only law enforcement agency that was involved.

6:45 PM Town Administrator Report started early. There was no one for public forum other than a high school student present as part of a civics class.

Meeting minutes from the Rumney Board of Selectmen's Meetings held on October 7th and October 21st, 2019 were reviewed. Selectman George Bonfiglio made a motion to accept the minutes for both the October 7th and October 21st Rumney Board of Selectmen meetings. Selectman Ed Haskell seconded the motion. There was no discussion of the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The 2019 MS-1 was provided to the Board for review. Town Administrator Joe Chivell also provided the 2018 MS-1 for comparison. Values for both properties and utilities showed an overall increase. After reviewing the MS-1, the Board agreed to sign the 2019 MS-1. Chivell explained that after the document is signed

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it will be submitted to NH-DRA. This will trigger NH-DRA to complete a revenue review with the Town Administrator, which will lead to a preliminary tax rate. Chivell hopes to have a tax rate for the Board to review by the next Board meeting.

Chivell reported he is attempting to move forward on developing a plan for an addition to the Town Office Building. He did send a letter to Charlie Buckley regarding his offer to assist developing a building plan but has not heard back from Mr. Buckley as of yet. Whereas, Mr. Buckley, had offered his time to the town, Chivell did not want to be overly pushy in asking for assistance. Selectmen Bob Berti suggested trying to second time to contact Mr. Buckley.

Veterans' Day is Monday November 11th and the Town Office will be closed. Town Administrator Chivell stated that payroll will be prepared for signature on November 12th.

The Licensing, Permitting, and Engineering of the flood damaged area of Clark Brook along Groton Hollow Road was discussed. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, explained that a decision was needed as NH-DES had authorized one extension on the original Wetlands Permit Application. That extension will be ending soon, and it is unlikely the town would be granted a second extension. Chivell explained that earlier a request for bids to cover licensing and permitting had been sent out to three companies. A comparison of the cost on just the outlined work showed that HEB came in as low bid. The HEB bid also included licensing, permitting and engineering for the first flood damage and the second flood damage. The Board noted the lower bid on the original bid request and felt it practical to move forward with HEB completing the entire project. Selectman Ed Haskell noted in the past that the Town and HEB had a good working relationship and HEB had provided good work on prior projects. Selectman Ed Haskell made a motion to sign the agreement with HEB to provide Licensing, Permitting and Engineering for the Clark Brook / Groton Hollow Road Flood damage. The Motion was seconded by Selectman George Bonfiglio. There was no additional discussion. The motion passed 3-0.

Town Administrator Chivell reminded the Board of Selectmen that the November 18th Board meeting will be moved to the Russell School and start at 6:00 PM to allow the Board to attend the School Board Meeting during the time the School Board plans to discuss the Russell School Building Renovation Bond.

The Select Board member discussed the importance of the School Bond being a term of not less than 20 years. The Select Board wanted to ensure the School Board understands that the School Bond is not the only capital project that will be addressed moving forward. The town has other capital projects such as: Road repair and maintenance, Red List Bridge replacements, facility needs, and vehicle/equipment needs.

Selectmen Ed Haskell stated that former School Board Member, Jerry Thibodeau, recently told him that while he was on the School Board it was agreed the renovation bond should be at least 20 years.

The Selectmen agreed that a letter outlining these issues needs to be sent to the Rumney School Board. Selectmen Ed Haskell made a motion to send a letter to the Rumney School Board outlining their concerns of anything shorter than a 20-year Bond to cover the Russell School Renovation. Selectmen George Buonfiglio seconded the motion. Selectman Bob Berti named again that the town not only has the school renovation to handle, but also Red List Bridge replacements, facility needs, road maintenance, and vehicle/equipment needs. The motion passed 3-0.

7:15 PM Budget Review with Advisory Board. Advisory Board members present were Kevin Maes, Isaac Dewever and Roger Daniels.

Fire Department – Commissioners Cam Brown and Terri French with Fire Chief, David Coursey, presented the proposed 2020 operating budget. Noted are changes from the approved 2019 Budget. Clerical increased from \$4250.00 to \$4500.00. Fire Chief Stipend increased from \$8,000.00 to \$8,500.00. Lakes Region Dispatch increased from \$17,000.00 to \$19,000.00. Radio Repair reduced from \$1,000.00 to \$500.00. Pager Repair reduced from \$700.00 to \$250.00. Vehicle Repair increased from \$10,000.00 to \$11,500.00 based on the aging of the trucks. Breathing Equipment Maintenance reduced from \$500.00 to \$1.00. Protective Clothing increased from \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00, outfits to be meet standards. Hazardous Materials increased from \$100.00 to \$500.00, the department has signed an agreement with the Concord Compact to provide service. Memorial is a new line item to purchase cemetery flags and flag holders at \$500.00. The approved 2019 Fire Department operating budget was \$91,144.00. The proposed 2020 Fire Department operating budget is \$96,903.00.

Forest Fire – There was no change between the approved 2019 Forest Fire operating budget and the proposed 2020 Forest Fire Budget of \$3,451.00.

Fire Department Building Maintenance – There was no change between the approved 2019 Fire Department Building Maintenance and the proposed 2020 Fire Department Building Maintenance of \$14,200.00.

Warrant Articles submitted by the Fire Department to purchase: Fire Truck, Zodiac Watercraft, dry hydrant repair or replacement, and additions to the Forest Fire Fighter, Water Supply and Equipment Capital Reserve Funds will be discussed at a meeting to be held later.

Transfer Station – Superintendent, Milton “Sonny” Ouellette presented the proposed 2020 Transfer Station operating budget. Changes to salary related items will be discussed at a future meeting. Noted are changes from the approved 2019

operating budget. Equipment Repair & Maintenance was increased from \$1,000.00 to \$4,200.00; increase would cover any compactor issues and to have the 1,000-hour service and general maintenance inspection completed by Bobcat. Transportation fees increased by \$2,000.00. There was general discussion about the decrease payments for recyclable items. Recyclables that once created revenue for towns may be an expense to towns to have them removed.

Transfer Station Building Maintenance - There was no change between the approved 2019 Transfer Station Building Maintenance and the proposed 2020 Transfer Station Building Maintenance of \$6,650.00.

The Budget Advisory Committee members were reminded that the November 18, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting, including the Budget Review, will take place at the Russell School (room to be announced) immediately following the 6:00 PM Rumney School Board Meeting discussion of the Russell School Building Renovation Bond.

8:20 PM Town Administrator Report Continued-

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported as the fiscal year end approaches, he is keeping watch of the balance of the available funds. The Grafton County Tax Bill will be due on December 17, 2019 in the amount of \$308,944 and the monthly school payments, \$170,750.00 for Russell School and \$59,063.00 for Pemi-Baker Regional School creates the need for revenue. Chivell hopes to have a tax rate by the November 18th Board of Selectmen Meeting so that property tax bills will be able to be mailed that week. Chivell did not think a spending freeze was needed, but if there is any delay in mailing the tax bills a freeze will be needed.

The final withdrawal from the loan taken out for the purchase of the Highway Department Backhoe has been complete. The entire amount of the loan was not used. Chivell asked the Board to authorize the capping of withdrawal from this account, so that no further funds could be drawn from the loan. The Board authorized the capping of the loan.

A repair to the Historical Society Building Chimney was completed Wednesday October 30, 2019. Loose bricks at the top of the chimney were put back into place and sealed. It was reported if this chimney were ever to be used regularly it should have a new liner put into place. It is currently lined with bricks stood up on edge.

The chimneys at the highway garage were cleaned Wednesday October 30, 2019, too. The chimney liner for the wood stove was reported to be in good condition. That chimney top should be resealed to prevent moisture getting in between the chimney and the liner.

The chimney for the waste oil furnace was cleaned. The liner of this chimney is

starting to chip and become porous. It was recommended that a stainless steel liner be installed in this chimney. Quotes for the noted work will be forwarded. The town has taken possession of the Mowing tractor purchased from Dean Yeaton.

8:40 PM Old Business –

An updated version of the Groton Hollow Road survey has been provided showing the installation of markers. Permanent markers have been put into place showing Rumney and Groton Town lines and other corners.

Grade Stakes have been installed showing the town's right of way along the road. Several privately-owned items have been removed for the town's right of way. The Board stated it is important that the town's right of way be kept clear and unobstructed. It is imported that the town highway department be able to complete required maintenance. It was also stressed that the Road Agent and the Police Chief communicate any needs for vehicles or private property to be moved.

8:45 PM New Business –

A copy of a letter being sent by the Rumney Planning Board to a property owner concerning a "tiny house" was provided to the Board of Selectmen. The Board questioned the date of removal. This will be returned to the Planning Board for clarification.

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

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator
Rumney, NH

Up-coming meeting dates

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

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