

**Board of Selectmen
December 2, 2019
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

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

6:30 PM Meeting opened by Selectman Robert Berti. Payroll and accounts payable were review and signed.

6:30 PM Police Chief, Brett Miller, met with the Board to give a Department update. The Chief provided the Board with handouts reflecting the last two weeks statistics along with a brief overview of the activity. Miller explained that Kevin Maes has been away for two weeks. Maes met with the citizens on his program before leaving and made arrangement with them before he left.

Chief Miller asked to have time set aside during the next Board meeting to discuss a salary savings idea. The Board agreed to have Miller on the agenda during the December 16th meeting between 6:30pm and 7:00pm.

6:45PM The Town Administrators report started early.

Meeting minutes for the Board of Selectmen's November 18, 2019 meeting were provided for review. Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to accept the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Selectman, Bob Berti. There was no discussion. The Motion passed 2-0.

A copy of the Plymouth Ambulance agreement for 2020 was provided for review. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, explained he had asked for both a one year and a three-year agreement, but was only given the one-year agreement. The new agreement formats reflect the revenue loss that Plymouth realizes for non-billable transports or non-transports. After the agreement was reviewed the Board agreed to sign for the Plymouth Ambulance Service during the 2020 calendar year.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, asked the Board if they would think about adding a work session to review the operating budget. The Board members will check their schedules and let Chivell know about adding December 30th as a work session.

7:00 Public Forum:

Residents on the Groton end of Groton Hollow Road had been invited to the Selectmen's meeting to see the survey map that had been completed for that area of the road. Of those invited the following attended: Bradley Shanks (543 Groton Hollow Road), Lang Gureckis (550 Groton Hollow Road), Linda Molinaro and

Daniel Werman (575 Groton Hollow Road).

The scope of the survey was to:

- Locate the Rumney / Groton town line as it relates to and crosses Groton Hollow Road and Coursey Lane.
- Determine the road layout of Groton Hollow Road starting at the Groton / Rumney Town Line and as it travels north 400’.
- Determine the width of the town of Rumney easement on Groton Hollow Road, to assist with the proper placement of ditch lines and drainage.

A map of the surveyed area was placed out for viewing. Selectman, Bob Berti, explained that the town has plans to replace ditching and culverts in this area of Groton Hollow Road to provide better maintenance for the road and enhance drainage. The drainage will help to redirect the water that originates at the Groton / Rumney town line that has an impact on a few properties during heavy rains and the spring thaw.

The town will work with the Groton Wind Farms to resolve the water issues that some property owners are experiencing.

Marking the roadway should help eliminate any disputes as to where vehicles may be parked, or where items can be placed or stored.

It was explained that the survey company, Sabourn & Towner, located documents of the original 1824 road layout. The original road was a 2-rod road, 33 feet, in width. Stakes had been put into place to show the right of way.

Daniel Werman stated he has seen three to four different surveys of this area, and they are all different. Berti tried to explain that this survey is of the road layout and the town’s right-of-way, it is not a survey of properties in that area. Berti went on to explain that the travel portion of the road may have shifted within the right of way, but most of this occurred in Groton.

Werman wanted to know how much of the 33 feet of right of way the town plans to use now and in the future. Selectman Berti stated the town would use the area needed to complete the road maintenance. Werman demanded to know how much that would be in the future. Berti again stated the town would use the area within its right of way as needed to maintain the road. Werman was not satisfied with the answer and stated, “if he (Selectman Berti) can not give me the answer I want then he should just sit down and stop talking”.

Lang Gureckis became upset with the explanation of the survey, stood up stating “my title company was going to have a field day with this” and walked out of the

meeting.

Linda Molinaro again asked how much of the right of way the town intends to use in the future. Selectman Bob Berti again stated the town would use what was needed to complete road maintenance within its right of way. It may require the entire width or less. Berti stated the town is trying to keep the best interest of the town, safety services, maintenance workers and the public's safety in mind.

Road Agent, Nick Coursey, tried to explain that the graveled travel portion laying on top of the 33-foot right of way may shift slightly within the 33-foot right of way but it would not go outside of that right of way.

Dan Werman stated that the staked roadway was more than 33 feet, that the stake showing the width of the right had to be removed. Werman went on that he was leaving the meeting, measuring the width and would be removing the stake himself.

Werman stated he wants to be part of the Board of Selectmen and asked how that happens. Werman's demeanor deteriorated to insulting the Board members present, the Town Administrator and the Town of Rumney in general.

Selectman Bob Berti stated this portion of the meeting was over. That there was other Town Business that needed to be taken care of and that the Board was moving on.

7:45 PM Budget Review with Advisory Board. Advisory Board members present were Jerry Thibodeau, Isaac Dewever and Roger Daniels. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reminded everyone that during the review of operational budget, salary and related items will be discussed at a different time.

Cemetery – The proposed cemetery budget proposed by the Cemetery Trusts showed no changes from the approved 2019 budget.

Executive – Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, presented the proposed Executive budget. The Moderator stipend lined was increased to reflect the number of elections and Town Meeting dates the moderator will work. Remaining non-salary lines remained that same as in the approved 2019 budget.

Financial Administration / Selectmen – Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, presented the proposed Financial Administration / Selectmen budgets. The Telephone line item showed an increase of \$50.00, reflecting actual costs. The Town Report line items showed an increase of \$500.00, reflecting quotes for printing the annual Town Report. The Employee Procurement line item was up \$250.00, this was based on the line being overspent the last three years. The Auditor line item was increased \$100.00 based on the contractual agreement for the annual town audit, and the Treasurer Salary and related tax liability showed an increase of \$431.00. All other line items in this budget request remained the same

as the approved 2019 budget.

Property Revaluation - Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, presented the proposed Revaluation budget. Chivell stated that the town just finished a required 4-year town wide revaluation. He noted that looking back over the past revaluations Rumney has taken a year off before starting its required next revaluation. This would leave the annual pickups, adjustments and abatements to be funded in the 2020 budget. Chivell stated that looking back over the non-revaluation years the town typically budgeted \$20,000.00.

Code Enforcement - Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, presented the proposed Code Enforcement budget. These funds are used to inspection licensed junkyards, properties that may be in violation of junkyard laws, and excavation properties. Chivell recommends that the budget remain the same as the approved 2019 Code Enforcement budget.

Property Liability / Workers Compensation - Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, presented the proposed Property Liability and Workers Compensation. Both insurances are provided by Primex of NH. The Property Liability cost was up \$1544.00. The primary increase was due to the increase of the town's property and asset values. Workers Compensation premium was down comparing 2019 to 2020 face value by \$1,195.00. The payment due reflects a budgetary increase of \$6,602.00 because last year the town received a premium holiday refund.

Emergency Management – Emergency Management Director, Joe Chivell, presented the proposed budget. Chivell is requesting the amount for New Equipment be increased by \$1,900.00. This will reflect the town's portion of a grant to move the generator that is currently located at Russell School to an area adjacent to the Town Office Building and Depot Street Fire Station. The School will be obtaining a new generator in conjunction with the school renovation project.

8:30 PM Old Business - The Board asked the Town Administrator to request a copy of the police report showing the disposition of the parking complaint on Old Route 25. The Board acknowledged the police chief had been there as recently as this evening but would like to see copies of the report(s) connected to this ongoing complaint.

8:35 PM Selectman Ed Haskell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman Bob Berti. There was no discussion. The motion passed 2-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator
Rumney, NH

Up-coming meeting dates

Fire Commissioner Meeting	December 9, 2019
Conservation Commission	December 9, 2019
Trustee of Trust Funds	December 11, 2019
Select Board Meeting	December 16, 2019
Planning Board Meeting	December 17, 2019
Town Offices Closed	December 25 th 2019 and January 1 st 2020
Select Board Meeting	January 6, 2020