

**Board of Selectmen
November 2, 2020
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**

Present: Select Board Members – Ed Haskell, Bob Berti & Isaac DeWever
Town Administrator – Joe Chivell

NOTE: The conference room at the Rumney Town Office Building has been arranged for this meeting so that the three Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator are seated six feet apart from each other. Five chairs are arranged to allow public members to attend and be seated a social distance of six feet apart. Face masks are available and offered to all entering the meeting.

6:30 PM Meeting opened by Selectman, Ed Haskell. Payroll and accounts payable checks were reviewed and signed.

6:35 PM Transfer Station Superintendent, Milton “Sonny” Ouellette, met with the Board of Selectmen to report on the increase of waste being brought to the Rumney Transfer Station. Ouellette provided a bar graph comparing the tonnage between 2019 and 2020 MSW that was brought to the transfer station. Ouellette reports that on the current schedule of canister, removal there have been several Sundays that he was not sure if he would have enough space for the MSW being brought to the station. Ouellette has had to limit the load sizes being brought in by users. The reasons for the large load sizes vary between those who visit the transfer station every other month or so, those who are at home more do to COVID19 and are either creating more trash or cleaning out areas of their house, those who appear to have extended family staying with them during the pandemic, and some who try to bring their trash from their homes outside of Rumney. Ouellette has met with some resistance and even some hostility when he tries to limit the per load amount of trash or the number of trips per-week.

Selectman, Bob Berti, asked Ouellette if he has, or could provide, a similar type chart on the C&D use. Berti also commented that it had been discussed prior to this to update the policies for the transfer station. Berti recommends when updating policies include definitions of load size and load limits.

Superintendent Ouellette agrees, he commented that one person try to dispose of a boat.

Selectman, Ed Haskell, commented that there needs to be a clear line defining residential versus commercial use of the transfer station. Berti agrees, sharing his thought that someone re-shingling their house should be deemed as commercial use. In years gone by, the town had a system of grinding shingles for resale, but that is no longer an option. Berti followed up by saying a few shingles could be accepted, but not from an entire house.

Superintendent Ouellette wanted to talk about the Swap Shop. Ouellette stated that since COVID19 the Swap Shop has been closed and the building is being used to store televisions. Ouellette stated that Swap Shop items tend to be “yard sale” leftovers and end up in the C&D can, costing the town money and being a free dump for the person putting the items in the Swap Shop.

Selectman, Isaac DeWever, asked if there had been any complaints about not having the Swap Shop? Ouellette stated no complaints about not having access to it, only complaints from people that now must pay to dispose of items that they would have placed in the Swap Shop. Ouellette went onto say that when COVID19 ends, he would rather not reopen the Swap Shop system; he would rather send people to a thrift shop. When COVID19 ends, the Board of Selectmen will revisit the Swap Shop idea, for now it will remain closed.

Superintendent Ouellette reported that one of the part-time workers has indicated he will be looking for full-time work and may be leaving. The same employee will either need to obtain DES Certification by year-end or he will no longer be able to work. Ouellette addressed and documented the certification issue during a recent evaluation. The need to replace this person will be revisited at the end of November.

7:10 PM Public Forum – No one was present for Public Forum

7:10 PM Police Department – The Board of Selectmen had provided Greg Patten a copy of an Employment Agreement along with the offer to be Rumney’s Police Chief. The offer was signed along with the Oath of Office and NHPSTC forms that are required.

Chief Patten provided the Board with a department update. He indicated Halloween was low key in town. Patten provided an overview of activity that included criminal reports and motor vehicle activity. Patten reported that the Radar sign had been placed for eastbound traffic in the area of the “Town Pound”. He reported that most of the traffic flow was withing 5-8MPH over the posted limit, with a peak speed of 72MPH.

Chief Patten asked if the Board had any input for him concerning the replacement of the 2010 cruiser. Selectman, Ed Haskell, stated that due to the possible length of time between order and delivery, that Patten should start the process. Chief Patten will gather a better price for the complete cruiser package.

There was some discussion on purchase prices of Body Cameras from Axon (Taser). The initial cost provided to Chief Patten was for a 5-year agreement totaling \$12,138.00 to include hardware, software, cloud storage, and warranty. Additional information will be gathered and provided at a future meeting. Selectman, Ed Haskell, likes the idea of using some form of camera system, as it provides a level of protection for all parties involved. Selectman, Isaac DeWever,

asked Patten for his position on the use of cameras. Chief Patten was neutral on the use of cameras. He agrees that they can be a benefit and a good tool. Selectman, Bob Berti, stated that with the current way of the world he sees a camera system of some sort could be beneficial.

The Board asked that more information be provided on rifle/shotgun replacement costs, more information on camera systems and costs, and vehicle replacement costs.

Selectman, Bob Berti, commented that during this time of year, vehicles being parked alongside and in the travel lane begin to hinder winter maintenance. He asked Chief Patten to keep a watchful eye on this situation also to keep an open line of communication with the Rumney Road Agent.

Chief Patten reported to the Board that he is working on updating the Police Department Facebook page.

Chief Patten asked the Board about using vacation time before the end of the year. The Board agreed to sign off on the requested time.

8:40 PM Town Administrator Report

The initial review for setting the tax rate has been started with NH-DRA. The tax rate should be ready for review by the next Board meeting.

The Board will cover the General Election Polls on November 3rd as follows; Ed Haskell will cover the morning, Bob Berti will cover the afternoon, and Isaac DeWever will cover from 4PM until completion.

A request to remove a streetlight in the area of 69 Water Street was submitted. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, will check with all the neighbors, police, fire, and EMS for any objections to the removal. Chivell asked if the Board had a position on the removal, replacement or shielding of the streetlight. The Board had no position at this point. They would like the input from the others involved.

In keeping with safe operation during the COVID19 issue, the Board of Selectmen had agreed to mitigate the risk of large groups gathering during the budget process and alter the process. The Advisory Budget Committee will return any input they have by next week. The Board of Selectmen agreed to meet November 14th at 8:00 AM for a work session to review the proposed 2021 budget.

A copy of a Social Media Policy was provided for the Board to review. The Board members reviewed the policy. The Board agreed to adopt the policy.

8:54 Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman, Bob

Berti, 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 – To be premised upon COVID-19 Emergency Orders

General Election	November 3, 2020
Fire Commissioner Meeting	November 9, 2020
Board of Selectmen Work Session	November 14, 2020
Board of Selectmen Meeting	November 16, 2020
Town Office Closed	November 26 & 27, 2020
Board of Selectmen Meeting	December 7, 2020
Fire Commissioner Meeting	December 14, 2020
Board of Selectmen Meeting	December 21, 2020