

Board of Selectmen
March 15, 2021
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 coverings are available and offered to all entering the meeting.

6:30 PM Meeting called to order by Selectman, Ed Haskell. Payroll and accounts payable checks were reviewed and signed.
The Following document was reviewed and signed:

- Payroll Worksheet

6:35 PM Following the March 11, 2021 Town Election, the Board of Selectmen discussed reorganization and assignment of duties. Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion nominating Selectman, Bob Berti, to be the Board of Selectmen Chair. Selectman, Isaac DeWever, seconded the motion. Selectman, Bob Berti, accepted the nomination. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion nominating Selectman, Isaac DeWever, as Vice-chair of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman, Isaac DeWever, accepted the nomination. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The Board determined to continue the practice of assigning an individual Board member to be a liaison to the various Town departments. They are as follows:
Ed Haskell – Police Department, Fire Department and EMS
Bob Berti – Highway Department and Transfer Station
Isaac DeWever – Town Administrator, Town Clerk / Tax Collector, and Planning Board.

6:45 PM Police Chief, Greg Patten, provided the Board with a Department update. An overview of calls for service was given. Chief Patten reported that he had ordered the cruiser, following the approval at the March 11th Town Meeting. The vendor will deliver the cruiser directly to the upfit company.

The hiring process for the vacant officer position will move forward with three

candidates. There will be a physical agility test and written test in late March, followed by a Board of Review in April.

During the 4-month review of the Police Chiefs employment agreement new goals were set. One of the goals was for the Chief to develop an action plan to address the seasonal parking issues along Buffalo Road. Selectman, Bob Berti, asked Chief Patten if he had the time to give that issue any thought. Chief Patten explained that he and Road Agent, Nick Coursey, have discussed the placement and re-placement of “No Parking” signs and speed limit signs in that area. There will also be an attempt to have a directed parking enforcement patrol.

7:00 PM Jerry Thibodeau asked to meet with the Board of Selectmen regarding AEDs. Mr. Thibodeau explained that the Pemi Fish & Game Club had recently purchased AEDs through a program at a cost of \$917.00 per unit. Thibodeau provided the Board with the contact information for the program. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, indicated that the Town has an AED for the Town Office Building, Town Transfer Station, the Police Department, and that the Town purchased a new heart monitor for Rumney EMS. Chivell mention that possibly the Highway Department could benefit from having an AED. The Board of Selectmen thanked Mr. Thibodeau for sharing the information.

7:10 PM Town Administrator Report –

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, had a few follow up topics related to the March 11th Business Session of the Rumney Town Meeting.

Chivell reported that he had submitted a request to use the Russell School gymnasium for the April 15th reconsideration of warrant article 3, the Town Office Building addition and remodeling project.

Selectman, Bob Berti, asked Selectman, Ed Haskell, if the building materials list, he assembled was still a good number? Haskell indicated it was. Berti asked Haskell if he could give an idea on the cost to complete just the roofing? Haskell indicated that the cost for labor and materials should be in the \$28,000 range.

The Board will move forward with compiling the building costs and an explanation of how the building use has changed and groups that use the different areas in the building.

Personnel Action Forms were prepared for salary adjustments. To discuss the salary adjustments Selectmen, Bob Berti, made a motion to enter into nonpublic session, under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) to discuss the compensation of any public employee. Motion was seconded by Selectman, Isaac DeWever. There was no

discussion on the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

7:20 PM

A motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session by Selectman, Bob Berti, and seconded by Selectman, Ed Haskell. There was no discussion on the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to seal the nonpublic minutes. Selectman, Isaac DeWever, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

The funding for Road Improvements passed during the Town Meeting. Selectman, Bob Berti, would like to discuss the plan with Road Agent, Nick Coursey at the next Board meeting.

The Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan is due to be renewed this year. A NH Homeland Security Grant is available to fund 75% of the cost to update the plan. Selectman, Isaac DeWever, made a motion to accept the terms of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program as presented in the amount of \$7,500.00 to update the Town of Rumney's local hazard mitigation plan. Further, the Rumney Board of Selectmen acknowledges that the total cost of this project will be \$10,000.00 in which the Town will be responsible for a 25% match (\$2,500.00). Selectman, Ed Haskell, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The three Board members signed the Grant Application. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, witnessed the Board members sign, then signed and stamped the application as a NH Justice of the Peace.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported that the annual PA-28, Inventory Forms, will be mailed out this week.

Chivell asked if the Board would be receptive of polling the Town employees to see if they would be in favor of changing to direct deposit. Board members were ok with the change only if the employees agree.

The new operators of the restaurant located at 897 Rumney Route 25, DBA The North Station, will be submitting an application to the NH Liquor Commission for a beer and wine license. John Nesteruk, owner of The North Station, requested a letter from the Board of Selectmen to accompany the application. Chivell reported to the Board that he had check with Police Chief, Greg Patten, about this request. Chief Patten had no objection. Selectman, Ed Haskell, reported that the prior operator had sold beer and wine. The Board agreed to sign a letter that they have no objection to the restaurant being granted a beer and wine

license.

Funding had been encumbered to purchase a new riding mower for the Highway Department. Road Agent, Nick Coursey, requested the Board authorize the purchase of a riding mower now that Spring is near. Pricing on four different mowers were provided for the Board to discuss. The mowers discussed were an Encore, a Toro, a Bad Boy, and a Cub Cadet. The Board authorized the purchase of the Encore mower from Small Engine Barn at a cost of \$3,399.00.

Road Agent, Nick Coursey, reported that the Highway truck that was ordered last year should be delivered within the next three to four weeks.

7:50 PM Old Business –

The funding requested to purchase the property formerly known as the “Rumney Rest Area” was approved during the March 15th Business Session of the Rumney Town Meeting. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported that he has contacted Senator Bob Giuda and Governors Council Joe Kenney of this advancement towards the purchase. Chivell reported that contained in the last communication from Steven Labonte, NH-DOT, the State still wants to add the public water access requirement to the property deed if the Town purchases the parcel. Both Selectmen, Bob Berti, and Isaac DeWever, commented that the reasoning behind the Board’s endeavor to purchase the parcel is to protect the water way and provide the public with water access.

Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion that upon purchase of the property known as the Rumney Rest Area, map and lot 12-0710, that public access to the water be provided, overseen, and be under the direction of the Town of Rumney Board of Selectmen, while taking input from the Rumney Conservation Commission, for the duration of the Town’s ownership.

The motion was seconded by Selectman, Isaac DeWever. There was no additional discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Selectman, Ed Haskell, asked if there was a way to fund the rehabilitation of the Rumney Rest Area building, to house the Town Clerk and Town Administrator, if the Town Office addition project failed at the April 15th meeting. It was determined that if the Town Office addition project failed, and if the purchase of the Rest Area parcel did receive final approval from the State, outside of petitioning the Court to hold a Special Town Meeting, there is no mechanism to generate the required funding for the rehabilitation of the Rumney Rest Area building until the 2022 Town Meeting.

Currently the Rumney Rest Area building has no heating system, telephone

system, running water or computer wiring. It is not connected for internet use and has been vacant for approximately 10 years. Roughly 2/3 of the ground level floor space is set up as restrooms, still finished with the tile floors and wall, and bathroom fixtures.

8:08 PM Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Selectman, Isaac DeWever. 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

Planning Board Meeting	March 30, 2021
Board of Selectmen Meeting	April 5, 2021
Bond Hearing	April 5, 2021
Fire Commissioner Meeting	April 12, 2021
Town Meeting Business Session-Reconsideration	April 15, 2021
Board of Selectmen Meeting	April 19, 2021