

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2013, 7:00 p.m.
Rumford Falls Auditorium

PRESENT: Chairperson Gregory Buccina, Vice-Chairperson Jeffrey Sterling, Selectperson Bradford Adley, Selectperson Jeremy Volkernick, Selectperson Jolene Lovejoy, Town Manager Carlo Puia.

ATTENDEES: Len Greaney, Jim Rinaldo, Terry Karkos, Kevin Saisi, Bob Chase, Andy Russell, Bruce Farrin

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. All present Pledged of Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Requests of Citizen's Present

This item allows a citizen the opportunity to make a request to the Board to consider placing an item on a future agenda for discussion, or to make a suggestion that the Town may want to consider taking action upon. This is not an opportunity to make complaints, ask questions, or make speeches. Concerns should be directed to the Town Manager's Office during regular business hours.

Len Greaney made a request to be placed on the next Agenda to request placement of a Memorial to Veteran's from all wars in Veteran's Park. He stated that he will not ask for money and would like to present a Power Point presentation at the next meeting.

4. Reports

A. Selectperson's Report

Mr. Volkernick wants to discuss better cross training in our departments and the Police Department Dispatcher position during the Budget Workshops. He mentioned a suggestion for the Public Works crew to plow snow away from fire hydrants and call boxes.

Mr. Sterling recognized Sergeant Tracey Higley's award from the Maine Police Association as Police Officer of the Year. He also commented on the recent letter from citizen Gayle Sirois regarding the waste left behind by dogs on The Island. He appreciated her information and suggestions to help improve the situation.

Mr. Adley also recognized Sergeant Higley for his recent award. He mentioned the Legislative Bulletin and its reference to impacts to town's funding. He also commented on the letter from Gayle Sirois. He mentioned that Black Mountain of Maine has been busy lately and it has been nice to see. Unfortunately we do not have a hotel for visitors to stay in.

Ms. Lovejoy reported attending the presentation by Roxanne Eflin of Maine Street Downtown. It was inspiring to hear her great ideas and suggestions. She thanked the Western Maine Development Council, Envision Rumford and the Town Manager. She has received calls from citizens who are concerned about the \$25.00 sewer bill increase. She has empathy for the citizens, especially those with multiple units and motels. She added that Tax Collector Thomas Bourret informed the Board about the

increase and how it will fund needed maintenance and repairs on the sewer system in the future. The funds are not from taxes but from the users of the system.

Mr. Buccina congratulated Sergeant Higley for all the extra things he does. The next July 4th Committee Meeting will be Tuesday, March 5, 2013.

B. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager commended Sergeant Higley for his award as Police Officer of the Year from the Maine Police Association. He stated that Sergeant Higley was recognized by his peers, not just our town. He is looked up to by the youth in our community, and has earned this award. He has used a great deal of his free time to embrace this work in helping his community.

Recycling was also encouraged. This saves the Town money in fees to transport items to a landfill and also keeps items out of the landfill so they can be reused. Recycling companies pay us for the items that we recycle. This savings has allowed us to perform needed upgrades to the Transfer Station. Remember, if you save the Town money, you save yourself money.

We have received a letter from Gayle Sirois regarding the dog waste situation. Ms. Sirois was recognized for picking up litter along Congress Street recently. Dog owners were asked to take a plastic bag with them when walking their dogs and be a responsible pet owner.

The recent \$25.00 per unit sewer fee increase is necessary to fund the Capital Sewer Line Replacement Fund. These will be restricted funds used for the purpose of maintaining the sewer lines. This step is the responsible thing to do. Prior to this fund's establishment all the funds received for the sewer system were paying for only the assessment to treat the water, cost of mailing bills and collection of payment.

The Town wood harvest is going well. It has been delayed due to the heavy and deep snow from December and periods of extreme cold. The harvest is approximately 20 percent complete. Forester Brian Milligan reported that the cut looks good and is pleased with how it looks. The revenue should be coming into the town on a regular basis.

RSU 10 is discussing providing a 10 year guarantee to the Town of Dixfield that their school remains open. I believe our Town should demand that same courtesy. At our next meeting we should consider signing a letter from the Board of Selectpersons addressing this extremely important issue.

There will be a Special Board of Selectperson's meeting on Monday, February 11, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Jury Room to discuss union negotiations with Police Chief Stacy Carter and Fire Chief Robert Chase.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee would like to present their work to the Board on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. They are also meeting with the Planning Board on February 28, 2013.

The Maine Downtown Committee was thanked for their time and efforts and for their presentation given last week. They have a well structured plan to reinvigorate the downtown areas. Although we have businesses in other areas, we feel we need to start somewhere and the downtown area has a larger concentration of businesses. Many business people attended the recent meeting to contribute their thoughts and concerns.

A letter summarizing legislation efforts from Senator Susan Collins was read to those present.

C. Department Manager's Report

Fire Chief Robert Chase gave a report on the recent fire calls for the month of January which are well above the normal number of calls. One call was for a large sawdust silo fire in Dixfield that lasted approximately 36 hours and was supported by many towns within a 45 mile radius. The new ladder truck was instrumental in fighting this fire and has become a huge asset to the whole River Valley. Our area is beginning to be looked at as a model for inter-relationships between towns. The Chief also asked that snow not be blown or plowed near fire hydrants. He thanked all the citizens that have been helping to keep the hydrants clear of snow.

5. Old Business

A. Repair or Replacement of Public Works Sanding Truck

Mr. Adley gave a report on the possibility of repairing the truck. The Town Manger and Public Works Superintendent also offered further information from the insurance and usage standpoints.

Ms. Lovejoy made a motion to send out bids for a new truck. The motion died for a lack of a second.

Discussion ensued as to the merits of repairing the truck, collecting on our insurance or purchasing a new truck which is not slated to be replaced until 2014.

Len Greaney supported repairing the truck and gave his rationale.

Mr. Buccina made a motion to repair the truck as he believes the motor is in good shape based on the information given at the meeting and look at a new truck in 2014 per our Capital Plan.

Vote: 4-1, Ms. Lovejoy opposed.

6. New Business

A. Approval of Minutes from the Selectperson's Meeting of January 17, 2013

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectperson's Meeting of January 17, 2013.

Vote: 5-0

B. Approval of Town Warrant dated February 8, 2013

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve the Town Warrant dated February 8, 2013. Vote: 5-0

C. Economic Development Services proposal by WMEDC Director Glen Holmes and RVGC Director Jim Rinaldo

Mr. Adley made a motion to allow non-resident, Glen Holmes, to speak. Vote: 5-0

Mr. Holmes explained his though process of beginning the process of gathering the necessary information to provide an inventory analysis that would then be processed by the University of Maine. After that is completed, he and Jim Rinaldo would take the next step to utilize the information to address the area's needs.

Mr. Buccina made a motion to approve an Economic Vitality Study for Rumford. Vote: 5-0

Mr. Buccina made a motion to appropriate money for expenses up to \$5,000.00 for the study. Vote: 5-0

Board of Selectperson's Meeting 01 17 2013

APPROVED 02 07 2013

Please note: These minutes are not verbatim. A digital recording of the meeting is available by contacting the Town Manager's Office during regular business hours.

D. Approval of Hawker's and Peddler's License for Annette Marin dba Gone Loco! Café at No View Farm

Ms. Lovejoy made a motion to approve the Hawker's and Peddler's License for Annette Marin, dba Gone Loco! Café at No View Farm. Vote: 5-0

E. Review of Hawker's and Peddler's Ordinance Amendments

The Town Manager explained the proposed changes in the Hawker's and Peddler's Ordinance to address the issues raised in previous meetings discussion: liability insurance, proof for vendors to protect the Town, River Valley Farmers Market concerns regarding ability to file for one license, and the July 4th event ability to help create revenues to accommodate the event.

F. Easement Amendment and Restriction Agreement to Federated Realty LLC

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve the Easement Amendment and Restriction Agreement to Federated Realty LLC. Vote: 5-0

G. Charter Amendment on June Warrant to change Date for Ordinance Hearings (Art. IV, Section 1)

The Town Manager explained that the current language in the Charter does not allow ample time for legal review of proposals and for the printing of ballots to meet the State's absentee voting requirements.

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve placing a Charter Amendment, regarding the dates that Ordinance Hearings are to be held, on the Annual Town Warrant for voting in June 2013. Vote: 5-0

7. Executive Session pursuant to MRS §405 (6)(D) for Labor Negotiations

Mr. Sterling made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:30 p.m. pursuant to MRS §405(6)(D) with Fire Chief Robert Chase. Vote: 5-0

Executive Session in at 9:40 p.m.
Executive Session declared out at 10:12 p.m.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Sterling made a motion to adjourn at 10:13. p.m. Vote: 5-0

Carlo J. Puiia
Town Manager

CJP/tp