

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE TOWN BUDGET
May 21, 2015 5:30 p.m.
Rumford Falls Auditorium

PRESENT: Chairperson Gregory Buccina, Vice-Chairperson Jeffrey Sterling, Selectperson Bradford Adley, Selectperson Frank DiConzo, Selectperson Mark Belanger, Town Manager John Madigan, Jr.

ATTENDEES: James Windover, Candice Casey, Stacy Carter, Tom Bourret, Linnell Geronda, Dick Lovejoy, Jim Rinaldo, Bruce Farrin, Philip Blampied, Deborah Laurinaitis, Tom Carey, Mary and Brad Gallant, Craig Zurhorst, Bromley Cook, Maureen Cook, Dieter Kreckel, Mike Mills, Andy Russell, Kevin Knox, Eric Davis, Kevin Saisi, Terri Palmer, Robert Chase

Chairperson Buccina opened the Public Hearing at 5:36 p.m. to take comments or questions from the public regarding the Annual Town Warrant.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2015 6:30 p.m.
Rumford Falls Auditorium

1. Meeting Called to Order at 7:26 p.m. by Chairperson Buccina
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Public Hearing: The River Valley Grill
4. Requests of Citizen's Present

Candice Casey state she is the Republican Committee Chair and asked to move Item 7J to the head of the Agenda as she did not want to wait until the end of the meeting for this item.

Mr. Belanger made a motion to move Item 7J to the beginning of the Agenda under New Business. Vote: 4-1, Mr. Sterling opposed.

5. Reports

A. Selectperson's Report

Mr. DiConzo noted that the Town has begun repairing sidewalks and helping to make our sidewalks safer. He asked for all to be patient during this process. Building demos are being scheduled. He commended the Fire Department and their resources for their response to the fire at the Linnell Motel. He noted a video on an unprofessional Town employee on social media. He encourages voters to do away with fireworks when voting on the proposed fireworks prohibition ordinance.

Mr. Sterling thanked Public Works Superintendent Andy Russell for addressing the speed limit issue on the Martin Road with the MDOT.

Mr. Belanger commented on the quality of the sweeping using the new sweeper. He believes the person operating the equipment is going too fast or the settings are not correct on the machine as it is leaving sand all over the road. He also noted a loud siren sound coming from the machine on Franklin Street. The Town Manager will look into this.

Mr. Adley reported receiving calls on the sweeping as well. He noted that sidewalk repairs were beginning in the Bistro area and was glad to see it. He appreciated the efforts of our Police Department who recently conducted a safety check for the students driving to high school on Hancock Street, checked their seat belts, said thank you for not texting and driving and gave them all a Kit Kat. He appreciated their efforts. He noted that the timely response to the fire at the Linnell Motel by Sergeant Higley and Officer Gallant of the Police Department likely saved lives by getting everyone out.

Mr. Buccina received a number of calls on the sweeper. The new mechanical sweeper does not pick up large amounts of sand as did the vacuum sweeper. There were a number of rocks that were swept into the roadway. Hopefully we can do better and adjust the process.

B. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager reported on the resignation of Library Director Luke Sorensen. The Library Board has begun the search for his replacement. The Library Board would like to restore the Reading Room ceiling to the original vaulted ceiling and are applying for a grant from the King Foundation based on a study they did in 2014. Mr. Buccina would like to assist in some way. Mr. Belanger asked if we could share a Library Director with the Town of Mexico. The Town Manager noted that the Library Board is looking for someone with a Master's Degree in Library Science.

Last week was National Public Works Week and Judy Sanborn from Washington Street brought a big platter of homemade cookies to the employees with a card complimenting all their efforts.

The Town Manager noted that he received a request from someone who would like to distribute bible literature. He does not need a Hawker's and Peddler's License and Police Chief Stacy Carter does not see a law to prevent this.

The State gave the contract to Pike Industries for the many paving projects in Rumford this summer.

Mr. Diconzo asked the Town Manager to look at the porches on 240 Pine Street. The Town Manager contacted Code Enforcement and Public Works Superintendent to place barricades in the area for public safety. The owner, Mr. Zadakis, assured him that he will start working on this problem. The Code Enforcement Officer will follow up. A citizen had contacted Mr. DiConzo with this concern.

C. Department Manager Reports (as needed)

Mr. Adley asked if there was a delay in the response of the Fire Department at the Linnell Motel. Chief Chase reported that we were staffed with two firefighters and they had to respond with Engine 7 before an off-duty Firefighter could respond with the ladder truck. He noted that this fire was a good example of how fighting a fire changes within minutes.

Fire Chief Robert Chase discussed the recent fire at the Linnell Motel and noted he was very proud of his Department. He also credited the Rumford Police Department and other mutual aid partners

such as the Mexico Fire Department and other town fire departments, along with Med-Care, for their assistance. He noted that the Fire Department does not have the resources to evacuate people from a large building as well as fight a fire and credited Police Chief Carter and the Police Department for their efforts in conducting interviews to account for all the tenants in the motel. The integration of all these efforts went very smoothly. He also noted that when training, they set up 2 minute drills to set up the ladder truck. One of our young Fire Fighters got the ladder truck up and full of water in one minute, six seconds! This enabled the fire to be stopped at the ell of the building. The sprinklers did not go off right away as the fire started on the outside of the building and got up into the eaves and attic before they would go off. The cause of the fire is still under investigation

Park and Recreation Superintendent Michael Mills informed the Board that last Friday night someone drove through the main gate and drove over the football field damaging it in several areas. He estimated \$12,000-15,000 in damages and has been in contact with our insurance company. He also gave an update on the fireworks celebration for this July. Currently \$16,000 in the fireworks account. There are a couple bands that will play for free that day; kid's games and vendors will also be offered. The profit from the Bob Marley fund raiser was \$4,000.00 which goes into the July 4th celebration account. They are also planning to work on upgrading the power supply for bands that would be playing at the events.

1. Fire Chief Report: Town Owned Properties

Chief Chase gave the Board update packets on the recent meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee. The only tax acquired property added to the list for this year is 163 Route 108 and he recommended that it be demolished and wanted to contact abutters first to gauge their interest in acquiring the property and taking down the building. He will be advertising properties for salvage bids for 226 Knox Street and 317 Pine Street.

D. Board and Committee Reports (as needed)

6. Old Business

A. Request for Payment for Property Damages at 64 Franklin Street by Philip Kane

Mr. Buccina reported that he checked out the repair work done by the Public Works Department at 64 Franklin Street. He believes the crew went above and beyond in repairing the damages from the snow plowing of the sidewalks this winter.

Mr. Adley made a motion to deny the monetary request for damages from Mr. Kane. Vote: 5-0

7. New Business

J. Discussion of Warden and Deputy Warden for the June 9, 2015 Election

Town Clerk Beth Bellegarde and Selectperson DiConzo discussed their points of view on this matter along with comments from the Board. Ms. Bellegarde noted that Wardens and Deputy Wardens are not needed for Municipal Elections, only a Moderator is needed per the Charter and State law. Mr. DiConzo noted that the Charter speaks to the Warden overseeing the elections and that appointment of Wardens and Deputy Wardens has been past practice and he believes that with the number of people voting there is a need for further assistance. Ms. Bellegarde noted that the elected Moderator can appoint a Deputy Moderator.

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to continue to appoint a Warden and Deputy Warden's to assist the Moderator for the Municipal Elections.

Mr. Adley asked if we can take action on this item as it was listed only as discussion on the Agenda.

Vote: 2-3, Mr. Sterling, Mr. Adley and Mr. Buccina opposed.

Mr. DiConzo left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

A. Approval of Minutes from May 7, 2015

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the Minutes from May 7, 2015. Vote: 4-0

B. Procedure of Placing Warrant Articles on the Ballot (Bromley Cook)

Bromley Cook asked for clarification of the procedure for placing articles on the Town Warrant/Ballot according to the Charter.

Town Manager John Madigan responded to his questions.

Mr. Cook asked for a letter in writing to explain the process.

Mr. Buccina asked the Town Manager to address his request for a letter. The Town Manager chose to verbally respond to Mr. Cook. Mr. Cook asked again for an explanation in writing. Mr. Madigan suggested getting a legal opinion to respond to Mr. Cook.

C. Approval of Liquor License Application for The River Valley Grill

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the Liquor License Application for the River Valley Grill. Vote: 4-0

D. Approval of Lawn Mower Bid for Park and Recreation Department

The following bids were opened in the Town Manager's Office:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| 1. MTE Turf Equip Solutions | | \$19,117.97 |
| | Less Trade | 1,000.00 |
| | | \$18,117.97 |
| 2. Turf Products Corp. | | \$20,355.03 |
| | Less Trade | 2,500.00 |
| | | \$17,855.03 |
| 3. Hammond Tractor Co. | | \$18,093.00 |
| | Less Trade | 5,500.00 |
| | | \$12,593.00 |

Mr. Belanger made a motion to award the Lawn Mower bid to Hammond Tractor for \$12,593.00 including trade in of \$5,500.00. Vote: 4-0

E. Approval of Gravel and Winter Sand Bid

The following bids were opened in the Town Manager's Office:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 1. Richard Tibbetts | \$92,927.50 |
| 2. Kevin Knox | \$95,218.00 |

Mr. Belanger made a motion to award the Gravel and Winter Sand Bid to Kevin Knox.

Discussion ensued regarding the quality of the winter sand that was used on the roads last winter.

Mr. Belanger brought samples of rocks that he said were found on Holyoke Avenue from the sand being spread by the Town's sanding trucks.

Kevin Knox believes the Town did not get a fair product and questioned the load sizes that were delivered and the quality of the sand we received last year.

Mr. Adley and Jim Barnett mentioned that Mr. Knox is a local, tax paying resident.

Andy Russell answered questions as needed and noted that perhaps the loader dug down too deep when loading the sand into the trucks and that may have been where the rocks came from. He also noted that Mr. Knox did not meet the bid specs by providing evidence of being in the drug testing program as did the other bidder, Mr. Tibbetts.

The Town Manager noted that Mr. Knox did not provide the drug testing program information.

Mr. Knox asked if the trucks were scaled this winter season, as his were. He said we got shafted last year. When questioned on the proof of drug testing, Mr. Knox indicated that the Town knows that he is in the program. Mr. Knox left the meeting.

Jim Barnett believes we should give this bid to Kevin Knox and questioned if we were receiving slips for each delivery from the current vendor and asked if the Road Commissioner inspected the loads. He believes we should overlook the proof of drug testing that was not included.

Mr. Adley noted there was a large difference in prices last year, approximately \$9,000.00, he recalled.

Jim Windover said he shoveled in front of his house on Knox Street and got nothing but rocks.

Mr. Sterling took a walk down his road and did not see anything unusual for rocks, he does not believe we can get the drug testing information on our own, he also noted that in the last 5 years he has never heard Mr. Knox come to a meeting and say anything positive about this town and most seems directed at Public Works and their Superintendent. He would have a hard time awarding the bid to Mr. Knox.

Mr. Buccina was concerned about how much sand we use on the roads and does not believe we need so much and should take this into consideration.

Mr. Russell suggested that if we are not going to follow the bid specs, perhaps we should consider Swasey Excavation who came in to place a bid the day after the bids were opened.

Mr. Adley asked if this could be tabled and re-bid. The Town Manager noted that the Board could reject any bid. Mr. Belanger said it would not be fair to the bidders.

Mr. Belanger believes we need to look at best practices as we lay down sand then plow it up. We need to focus on hills and intersections he believes.

Mr. Madigan does not believe Mr. Knox included the drug testing information bid last year.

Mr. Belanger amended his motion to accept the proposal from Kevin Knox contingent on our receipt of his proof of being in the drug testing program. Mr. Adley agreed and amended his second.

Vote on the motion: 3-1, Mr. Sterling opposed.

F. Approval of Traffic Line Painting Bid for 2015 & 2016

The following bids were opened in the Town Manager's Office:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Lucas Striping LLC | \$10,598.85 |
| 2. Fine Line Pavement Striping | \$12,671.10 |
| 3. Highway Safety Systems, Inc. | \$ 9,374.09 |

Mr. Sterling made a motion to accept the bid from Highway Safety Systems, Inc. for \$9,374.09. Vote: 4-0

G. Discussion to Create Plans for Boat Ramp Improvement on Route 2

The Town Manager noted that the ice comes down with the current and breaks down the concrete slabs of the boat ramp.

Andy Russell explained that the boat ramp off of Route 2, near McDonalds Restaurant, enters the Androscoggin River at an angle going against the current that makes using the ramp difficult for boaters. The ice moves the planks up and has to be repaired often. A new design would be helpful and could reorient the ramp perpendicular or to build in a cove for the ramp to be installed into.

The Town Manager noted that there was an archeological dig years ago where some artifacts were found along the river and the Town was asked to sign that we would not disturb that area.

Mr. Russell was asked to come up with some engineering design plans for the Board to consider.

H. Approval of Notice of Election Calling Regional School Unit 10 Budget Validation Referendum

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the Notice of Election Calling Regional School Unit 10 Budget Validation Referendum. Vote: 4-0

I. Approval of Victualer and Innholder Licenses for: American Legion, Black Mountain of Maine, Blue Iris Motor Inn, Boardwalk Inn, Brian's Bistro, Deluxe Diner, Dunkin' Donuts, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Gatch's Food, Spirits and Catering, Hotel Rumford, Le Paresseux, Inc., Linnell Motel, McDonald's Restaurant, Mountain Spring Farm Bed and Breakfast, Rumford Hospital Cafeteria, Rumford Lodge of Elks, Rumford House of Pizza, Sam's Italian Foods, Sabina Farm Inn, Sons of Italy, The Perennial Inn, The River Valley Grill, 49 Franklin

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve the Victualer and Innholder Licenses for: American Legion, Black Mountain of Maine, Blue Iris Motor Inn, Boardwalk Inn, Brian's Bistro, Deluxe Diner, Dunkin' Donuts, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Gatch's Food, Spirits and Catering, Hotel Rumford, Le

Paresseux, Inc., McDonald's Restaurant, Mountain Spring Farm Bed and Breakfast, Rumford Hospital Cafeteria, Rumford Lodge of Elks, Sam's Italian Foods, Sabina Farm Inn, Sons of Italy, The Perennial Inn, The River Valley Grill, 49 Franklin. The Rumford House of Pizza and Linnell Motel were given provisional approval subject to the approval of Code Enforcement Officer David Errington.

The Town Manager noted that the Linnell Motel's inspection by Code Enforcement Officer David Errington was not completed prior to the recent fire on May 16, 2015 and that the Rumford House of Pizza was given a provisional approval until May 29, 2015 to install a fire rated ceiling between the business and second floor rental space.

Vote on the motion: 4-0

J. This Item was moved up to the beginning of New Business.

K. Approval of the Town Warrant dated May 22, 2015

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the Town Warrant dated May 22, 2015. Vote: 4-0

8. Adjournment

Mr. Adley made a motion to adjourn at 9:28 p.m. Vote: 4-0

John E. Madigan, Jr.
Town Manager

JEMJr/tp