

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S MEETING
October 16, 2014, 6:30 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: Kevin Saisi, Jim Windover, Eric Davis, Peter Chase, Stacy Carter, Eric Giroux, Thelma Giberson, Bruce Farrin, Ryan Palmer, Steven Shearer, Amy Bernard, Terry Karkos

1. Meeting Called to Order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Buccina
2. All present Pledged Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Public Hearing for General Assistance Ordinance Amendments to Appendix B and Appendix C

The Town Manager explained State law requires that municipalities adopt a General Assistance Ordinance and there have been changes in food and heated rent maximums allowed.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:42 p.m.

4. Requests of Citizen's Present

Eric Giroux requested to place the removal of "15 Minute Parking Signs" on Canal Street on the next Agenda.

5. Reports

A. Selectperson's Report

Mr. Belanger discussed looking into Charter changes that will be needed to enhance consolidation with the Town of Mexico that could cause problems in the future if not addressed.

Mr. Adley reported that the Pumpkin Fest Event was a great success with lots of events and lots of people. Many people were involved in this event, including Kris Howes in particular. Susan Collins visited the area last week and checked out the progress on the bridge being built in Rumford Point, as she was an integral part in funding at the Federal level. He believes progress was made at the last joint meeting with the Town of Mexico regarding the sharing of services. A letter was mentioned that was distributed to Board members from another member of the Board. Mr. Adley informed the Board that he has spoken to the Town Attorney concerning any conflict of interest and believes that the allegations in the letter are incorrect.

Mr. DiConzo did not have a report for this meeting.

Mr. Sterling noted the school spirit challenge at Mountain Valley High School to raise funds and food donations for the Good Shepherd food bank. There is a competition between schools on Channel 13 and the winner gets the spirit cup trophy. [Mr. Adley noted that the students are also willing to do odd jobs such as yard work for no charge, but would take donations.] The MVHS Soccer teams are doing fantastic this year. He also cleared up a comment that he made at last night's Joint Board Meeting with Mexico.

Mr. Buccina asked citizens to speak to their State political candidates to put back Revenue Sharing and Aid to Education. He recently attended the River Valley Healthy Communities meeting regarding obstacles to living a healthy lifestyle. The meeting was very informative and RVHCC was asked to give the Board updates a few times a year. A Joint Board Meeting was held last night with the Town of Mexico regarding consolidation of services. The Board plans to meet with the Oxford County Sheriff and also with the Police Chiefs in Rumford and Mexico regarding police services.

B. Town Manager's Report

The Town recently received final clearance documentation to allow us to go forward in tearing down 134 Penobscot Street and 222 Pine Street as all the asbestos has been removed. We already have clearance to remove 429 Waldo Street. The estimated cost to remove 426 and 428 Waldo Street by the Public Works Department was \$35,301.00 and the actual total cost came in at \$30,808.00 with the lot leveled and all the trucking removal of the debris. We were able to remove the building for much less than it would have cost to hire the demolition work to be done. We will have enough funds to remove 429 Waldo, and either 134 Penobscot Street or 222 Pine Street.

C. Department Manager Reports (as needed)

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

Code Enforcement Officer David Errington reported that the Town has 17 buildings left with code violations: Four belong to the Town, three need to be demolished, and one placed out to bid (226 Knox Street). Eleven will be sent a final letter from the Town Attorney regarding possible court action and if there is no response, the matter will be brought to the Select Board for their decision.

Police Chief Stacy Carter reported that the Domestic Violence Awareness Walk held last night was very well attended by 75-80 people that created awareness and prompted questions by others.

D. Board and Committee Reports (as needed)

There were no reports presented.

6. Old Business

A. Request from Steven Shearer for Redeeming of Property at 16 Free Street

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

The Town Manager explained that the tax acquired property at 16 Free Street had been on the Agenda a couple times and Mr. Shearer was not present. It was voted upon at the last meeting to place the property out to bid. The next day Mr. Shearer came in with a proposal to redeem his property and found out that we were planning on placing the property out to bid. He asked that we place this on the Agenda for the Board to reconsider. The property has not yet been placed out to bid. The side porch was removed by the Town as it was unsafe and had been tax acquired at the time.

Mr. Shearer explained that he would like to have this home back to live there. He is currently self-employed and will have a job through the winter. He has been unable to rent the house and make any money, so would like to live there and rent the house he is currently in instead.

The Town has owned the house since February 2014. The Town Treasurer informed the Town Manager that Mr. Shearer came in several times over the years to pay the balance due just before the property became tax acquired.

Chairperson Buccina would like to have Town Attorney Jennifer Kreckel draft up a payment agreement with Mr. Shearer that would allow him to live in the house and pay \$500.00 per month until paid. This building is to be converted to a single family residence with no tenants allowed.

B. Update from Charter Commission and Submission of Preliminary Report

Chris Brennick, informed the Board that he has recently replaced Kevin Saisi as Chairperson. He also informed the Board that all the approved Minutes have been submitted to the Town Clerk's Office. An update on the progress made thus far on the Commission was given. Mr. Brennick asked for an extension of the Charter Commission so that they will have time to consult with an attorney on the legalities of the proposed changes. The Board will place this item on the next Agenda.

C. Approval to Extend Appointment of Charter Commission Appointed Members

Mr. Adley made a motion to extend the appointments of Kevin Saisi, Amy Bernard and Michael Peter Chase until October 16, 2015. Vote: 3-2, Mr. DiConzo and Mr. Belanger opposed.

7. New Business

A. Approval of Minutes from the Selectperson's Meeting of October 2, 2014 and Special Selectperson's Meetings of September 29, 2014 and October 2, 2014

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve the minutes of the Selectperson's Meeting of October 2, 2014 and Special Selectperson's Meetings of September 29, 2014 and October 2, 2014. Vote: 4-0-1, Mr. Belanger abstained.

B. Approval of the Town Warrant dated October 17, 2014

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the Town Warrant dated October 17, 2014.

Motion and second withdrawn and this item was moved to the end of the Agenda to allow Mr. DiConzo time to look at the Town Warrant.

C. Approval of Amendments to General Assistance Ordinance, Appendices B and C

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve the amendments to Appendices B and C of the General Assistance Ordinance. Vote: 5-0

D. *Appointment of Police Officer

Police Chief Stacy Carter

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve the appointment of Peter Casey as a Patrolman Police Officer. The Chief explained that Mr. Casey will have investigative responsibilities as well. Vote: 3-2, Mr. Belanger and Mr. DiConzo opposed.

E. Request from Bureau of Motor Vehicles for 3 Additional Parking Spaces on Cumberland Street

Mr. Sterling made a motion to table this request until the next meeting to gain more clarity from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles on their request. Vote: 5-0

F. Approval of Fuel Bid 2014

The Town Manager reported on the bid opening as follows:

Rack Price +	No 2 Fuel Oil	Diesel	Gasoline
1. Community Energy	.1625	.0825	.0825
2. C.N. Brown	.1419	.0791	.0969

The Town Manager suggested contacting both vendors to see if they would consider splitting their bid.

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to accept the bid from C.N. Brown for all three items, if we cannot split, or go with C.N. Brown for No 2 Fuel Oil and Diesel and Community Energy for Gasoline. Vote: 5-0

G. Request from Voter Registrar for Elimination of Night Time Hours

Mr. Adley made a motion to approve the request from the Voter Registrar to eliminate night time hours. Vote: 5-0

**Item 7B: Approval of the Town Warrant dated October 17, 2014

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the Town Warrant. Vote: 4-0-1, Mr. Adley abstained.

Critical Circumstance declared

Mr. Adley made a motion to declare a Critical Circumstance to add an item to the Agenda to declare a Warden and Deputy Warden for the November 4, 2014 Election. Vote: 5-0

Mr. Adley made a motion to appoint Mark Belanger as Warden. Vote: 5-0

Mr. Adley made a motion to appoint Gregory Buccina as Deputy Warden. Vote: 5-0

8. Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6)(C) for an economic development matter

Mr. Sterling made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:36 p.m. pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6)(C) for an economic development matter. Vote: 5-0

Executive Session Out at 8:51 p.m.

No action was taken.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Sterling made a motion to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. Vote: 5-0

John E. Madigan, Jr.
Town Manager

JEMJr/tp