

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S MEETING

June 2, 2016 6:30 p.m.

Rumford Falls Auditorium

PRESENT: Chairperson Bradford Adley, Vice-Chairperson Jeffrey Sterling, Selectpersons Mark Belanger and Michael Peter Chase; Town Manager John Madigan, Jr. Absent: Selectperson Frank DiConzo

ATTENDEES: Brad Gallant, Gary Petrie, Steve Dymont, Dick Lovejoy, Tom Bourret, Bruce Farrin, Kevin Knox, Tyler Knox, Andy Russell, Gabrielle Johnson, Jennifer Kreckel, Mike Mills, Richard Suydam, Beth Bellegarde, Stacy Carter, John Gorham

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chairperson Adley
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Public Hearing (as needed)

No hearing was needed.

4. Requests of Citizen's Present

Gary Petrie asked for the status of his request regarding changing the orientation of the boat ramp and asked the Board to take a vote on the matter.

Chairperson Adley asked if this could be placed on the next Agenda.

5. Reports

A. Selectperson's Report

Mr. Chase attended the press conference announcing the building of a hotel in Rumford and thought it was a great thing for the future of our town. He also noted that if we have citizens willing to invest 5-7 million dollars in private money in a hotel then the citizens should also invest in our downtown revitalization by passing the bond issue on the ballot next week. He also thanked both Brad Adley and Frank DiConzo for their help in his first year on the Select Board and for the time they gave to the Town of Rumford.

Mr. Belanger noted that there is still sand along the side of a road adjacent to the Rumford Hospital that needs to be removed that has been there for 3 or 4 years. He felt the news about the hotel was very exciting. He also recognized Brad Adley and Frank DiConzo for their many years of service on the Board. He asked if the bond question could be voted upon at the secret ballot election rather than at the Annual Town Meeting so that there will be more people voting on the issue. The Town Manager stated that we could do so but it would need to be voted on by the citizens at the Annual Town Business Meeting to be moved to the Secret Ballot Election Meeting.

Mr. Sterling expressed regret that he could not attend the press conference for the hotel. He also reflected upon the political discontent that was experienced in town and at meetings several years ago and how that has changed with the Town's leadership including Town Manager's Carlo Puiia and John Madigan, and Board Chairperson's Greg Buccina and Brad Adley. This has helped changed the attitude about this town and the hotel and other pending projects at the Business Park and the bottling plant reflect that. Hopefully, citizens will appreciate their time served.

Mr. Adley was very excited about the hotel coming to town and expressed regret that he was leaving the Board this year as there is so much happening such as the LNG refinery, the Moon Tide Bottling Plant, the Library project and the Town Hall renovations. We are alive and it is exciting. He encouraged citizens to vote for the bond issue to reinvest in our town as it will help private people coming into town that are now considering investment to better assess our area. Senator Collins was at the Catalyst Paper Mill today regarding a private firm looking to purchase the mill and spend serious capital monies. He thanked the town for allowing him to serve on the Board for the last 9 years. He encouraged citizens to vote for positive new board members.

B. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager thanked both Brad Adley and Frank DiConzo for hiring him as Town Manager in the regionalization efforts with Mexico. He believes that under Brad's leadership the town has turned a corner and is has become very positive which has led to interest from people coming in wanting to invest in a hotel, bottling plant and in a business park. These things take a considerable amount of time and this Board has been 100 percent supportive of these new businesses coming in.

A recent communication from Time Warner Cable announced that they are combining with New Charter Communications, Inc. This will not change the contract between the Town and Time Warner for receipt of franchise fees.

The Town Manager contacted the State of Maine regarding expanding the TIF district and was referred to Attorney James Saffian of Pierce Atwood, who originally drafted the language for the Town's TIF districts. There is the possibility of a separate district at the bottom of Falls Hill. We have twenty five years left on the initial TIF districts based on the original thirty years. It would require a Special Town Meeting and vote in order to create a new district or expand the existing district along Route 2. We would then need approval from the State Department of Economic and Community Development.

A letter was received from Carlene Trembley from Senator Collins Office who will attend a meeting with Brookfield Power regarding a recreational trail later this month.

Marietta D'Agostino, Maine Medical Marijuana Use Program Manager, will be present at an informational meeting tomorrow at the Town Hall at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium. The presentation was arranged by Allie Burke from River Valley Healthy Communities Coalition who has been researching ordinances that other towns in Maine have created to respond to this issue. The medical marijuana law was passed as a citizen initiative and the State of Maine did not have any regulatory laws prepared prior to the vote that passed. Now issues are surfacing, such as the marijuana signs in the town of Mexico and many complaints of the smell of marijuana growing in several areas of the community.

C. Department Manager Reports (as needed)

Public Works Superintendent Andy Russell reported that he contacted Main-Land Development regarding changing the orientation of the boat ramp on the Androscoggin River. He expects to hear back from them regarding the Town's options. They are also moving forward in demolition work and will be cleaning up 222 Pine Street and begin demo of 251 Pine Street.

Tax Collector Tom Bourret thanked Brad Adley and Frank DiConzo, along with all Board members, for their years of to the Town of Rumford. He gave a six month update on the progress of his taking on the responsibilities of the General Assistance Office and said it was going good. The impact on the Tax Office has been manageable. There has been a change in the wait time at the Tax Office

for citizens while he is assisting others in the GA Office, however, citizens have been supportive of the change. This should improve once the move to the new office is made and cross training is accomplished between the Tax Office and Town Clerk Office. He has learned that every role in Town government comes with unknowns and one is the great workload of paperwork with each position. The recent transition of hiring new personnel and the learning curve required shows that employee retention is very important. He noted that there are online services at the Town's website, rumfordme.org, for the registration of motor vehicles, trailers, boats, ATVs and snowmobiles.

Mr. Belanger asked what the goal is for the cross training. Mr. Bourret noted that he and the Town Clerk feel staff should get comfortable in their new environment first and then cross training and sharing the workload will proceed.

Park and Recreation Superintendent Michael Mills reported that the Fourth of July plans are going well, although they could use more volunteers. There was some recent painting vandalism near the Football Field and Tennis Courts. Graffiti and bad language was painted on the portable toilets and other areas. They are studying the camera images to see if the perpetrators can be identified. There was also bad language written on the walls of the baseball stands. Unfortunately, the lighting that is used at the field distorted the images on the camera in both areas and they will have to go with some different type of camera or lighting. Also, the Town's insurance provider was not in favor of us having a bouncy house for the Fourth of July celebration.

D. Board and Committee Reports (as needed)

None were presented.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

A. Approval of Minutes from May 19, 2016

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the minutes from May 19, 2016. Vote: 4-0

B. Approval of the Town Warrant dated June 3, 2016

[This item was voted upon at the end of the meeting as the Warrant was not ready.]

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the Town Warrant dated June 3, 2016. Vote: 4-0

C. Requests from Envision Rumford to Build Bandstand in Veteran's Park

Jennifer Kreckel updated the Board on Envision Rumford's recent success in receiving a Making Headway Program grant of \$1,000.00 and noted that matching in-kind service/funds are needed. Two public meetings were held for ideas to be shared and it was voted to build a bandstand at the Veteran's Park. She would like to see a military band perform the inaugural celebration. We need the approval of the Town and of Brookfield Power, who owns the property.

Mr. Chase made a motion to support the efforts of building a bandstand at Veteran's Park.

Mr. Chase asked if this issue could be discussed at the meeting with Senator Collins Office and Brookfield Power that is scheduled later this month.

Vote on the motion: 4-0

D. Approval of Tennis Court Paving Bid

One bid was received from Bruce A. Manzer for \$21,270.00 for the Tennis Court Paving Project.

Park and Recreation Superintendent Michael Mills explained the need for the work on the 30 year old tennis court and a history of the repairs that have been attempted. He noted that there is money in the Capital Fund.

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the bid from Bruce A. Manzer for \$21,270.00 to pave the Tennis Court.

Mr. Mills will oversee the work.

Vote: 4-0

E. Approval of Tennis Court Resurfacing/Painting Bid

One bid was received from Vermont Tennis Court for \$11,543.00.

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the bid from Vermont Tennis Court for \$11, 543.00.00

Mr. Belanger asked about the resurfacing project and Mr. Mills explained that this project would include sealing, painting and lining of the newly paved tennis court.

Vote: 4-0

Mr. Mills thanked both Frank and Brad for their service over the years and said they will be missed.

F. Approval of Contractor Bid for Repairs of Dangerous Building at 240 Pine Street

Two bids were received as follows:

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| 1. T.W. Lawn Care | \$6,300.00 |
| 2. Complete and Affordable Construction/Excavation | \$4,375.00 |

Mr. Belanger made a motion for Complete and Affordable Construction/Excavation.

Mr. Chase asked if personal property was removed from the porches as it was not noted in the bid specs and will it be taken care of.

Town Attorney Jennifer Kreckel explained that advance notice must be given to all property owners of the date when construction will take place and the owners have a certain period of time to remove the personal property. If they do not, we must secure it in some way or we can dispose of it if considered trash.

The Town Manager noted the bid from Complete and Affordable expressed concern about removal of potential asbestos siding. It could cost \$500.00 to get a professional here to assess and obtain a sample for testing of asbestos.

Vote: 4-0

G. Approval of Gravel and Winter Sand Bid

Two bids were received as follows:

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|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. R.A. Tibbetts Trucking | \$45,972.00 |
| 2. Knox Loam and Gravel | \$46,550.00 |

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the bid from Knox Loam and Gravel for \$46,550.00.

Vote: 4-0

H. Approval of Office Furniture Bid for Tax Office and Town Clerk's Office

The following proposals were received:

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| 1. W.B. Mason Company, Inc. | \$20,761.00 |
| 2. CreativeOfficePavilion | \$20,083.00 |
| 3. Maine Correctional Facilities | \$20,090.00 |

Town Clerk Beth Bellegarde explained that there are ADA compliance issues that have been addressed in the bid process.

Mr. Belanger hoped there would be a plan for cross-training and efficiencies as the total costs are coming close to \$100,000.00.

Tax Collector Tom Bourret explained that one vendor informed them that new office layouts must address ADA compliance.

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the bid from Maine Correctional Facilities.

Ms. Bellegarde expressed concern in the quality of the products from each vendor and all vendors have not been contacted about the ADA compliance.

Mr. Belanger questioned the quality of the product in comparison to the installation price and the disparity of the installation costs for each vendor.

Mr. Bourret provided further information from the bids that were received from the vendors regarding the products and installation.

Mr. Sterling rescinded his motion and Mr. Belanger his second.

Mr. Chase made a motion to approve the bid from W. B. Mason for \$20,761.00. Vote: 4-0

I. Approval of Parade Request for 5K Race for Fourth of July Committee

Mr. Belanger made a motion to approve the Parade Request for the 5K Race for the Fourth of July Committee. Vote: 4-0

8. Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6) (D) for union negotiations with Police and Fire

Mr. Sterling made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:51 p.m. pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6)(D) for union negotiations with the Police and Fire Departments. Vote: 4-0

Executive Session in at 7:56 p.m.

Executive Session out at 8:25 p.m.

9. Any Action taken as a result of the Executive Session

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve a three (3) year contract with the Police Union. Vote: 4-0

Board members signed three original contracts between the Town of Rumford and the Town of Rumford Police Association, Maine Association of Police.

Executive Session in with Fire Department at 8:30 p.m.

Executive Session out at 8:52 p.m.

No action taken.

Adjournment

Mr. Belanger made a motion to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. Vote: 4-0

John E. Madigan, Jr.
Town Manager

JEMJr/tp