

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S MEETING
October 12, 2016 6:30 p.m.
Rumford Falls Auditorium

PRESENT: Chairperson Jeffrey Sterling, Selectperson Michael Peter Chase, Selectperson James Windover, Selectperson Christopher Brennick, Town Manager John Madigan, Jr. Absent: Vice-Chairperson Mark Belanger

ATTENDEES: Eric Giroux, Bruce Farrin, Howard Jones, Ron Russell, Jim Rinaldo, Mike Mills

1. Meeting Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Public Hearing (as needed): None
4. Requests of Citizen's Present: None
5. Reports
 - A. Selectperson's Report

Mr. Brennick reported that Pumpkin Fest went very well and he believes this was the best one yet in the five years they have held the event. He also noted that Police Sergeant Douglas Maifeld was part of the Special Olympics Torch Ceremony held in Phoenix, Arizona this year. This is a great honor for him. Sergeant Maifeld has done a great deal for our community with Special Olympics and the DARE Program and deserves a pat on the back.

Mr. Chase attended the re-dedication of the Reading Room at the Public Library. It was a beautiful facility and they did a fabulous job in restoring the room. He also, attended the reception downstairs that was catered by the Culinary Arts Program of Region 9. The food was superb and was presented very well. He gave them an atta-boy for their efforts. He also attended a ribbon cutting at University College at the Tech Center. They did a really nice job with renovating the area and had some great guest speakers regarding the importance of community colleges. A student speaker did very well and stole the show. He attended the MMA Convention in Bangor where there were many good speakers and good materials. He suggested to MMA that they hold multiple classes on some topics, such as the workshop on dealing with properties with unpaid taxes, where further information would be helpful. He encouraged others to attend if possible. He attended Pumpkin Fest and heard of the large crowds and the success of the event.

Mr. Windover heard some citizen concerns about the rough road on Hancock Street and wanted to be sure this would be smoothed out before paving. He also heard a citizen concern about the former Penalty Box property that had a metal vent hung at waist height level over the sidewalk that was sharp and could hurt someone walking by.

Mr. Sterling noted that he was part of an email chain where he saw many positive comments about Pumpkin Fest. He believes this has become a signature event for Rumford. He congratulated all that were involved.

Mr. Windover asked about the practice of advertising for Public Works positions. The Town Manager believes the full time positions are advertised, but that we have enough applications on file to hire part

time help, so we may not advertise these.. Mr. Windover thinks we should advertise the part time positions as well. The Town Manager will look into this.

B. Town Manager's Report

The River Valley Chamber of Commerce will host a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on October 17, 2016 from 5-7 p.m. at the Hotel Rumford where they will recognize all the volunteers that work at the Information Center. Please let Cheryl Dickson know if you plan to attend.

Mahoosuc Land Trust is having a Grand Opening Celebration and Hike on the Glassface Mountain Trail on October 15, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. RSVP to Mahoosuc Land Trust if you plan to attend.

An email was copied to all Board members from Attorney Jennifer Kreckel regarding the upcoming Question 1 vote (recreational marijuana). Due to existing issues with the GRCC and medical marijuana production right next door, the Town may want to be more proactive in putting a moratorium in place if Question 1 passes in order to consider zoning for recreational marijuana production and sales.

The Town Manager also attended the events that Mr. Chase attended and all were very well done. We have a lot happening and going on.

C. Department Manager Reports (as needed): None

D. Board and Committee Reports (as needed)

Mr. Brennick noted that the Park Department is having a fundraiser at the Eagles on October 22, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. featuring an adult hypnotist for 18-plus audiences. The proceeds will benefit the Fourth of July Celebration Fund.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

A. Approval of Minutes from Special Selectperson Meetings of September 14, 2016 and October 3, 2016 and Selectperson Meeting of September 15, 2016

Mr. Windover made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Selectperson Meetings of September 14, 2016 and October 3, 2016 and Selectperson's Meeting of September 15, 2016. Vote: 4-0

B. Approval of the Town Warrant dated October 13, 2016

Mr. Brennick made a motion to approve the Town Warrant dated October 13, 2016, except for the Payroll Warrant (not included in this Town Warrant). Vote: 4-0

C. Request for Sign "Do Not Block Driveway" for 215 Franklin Street – Eric Giroux

Eric Giroux explained that people are parking their cars and blocking his driveway at 215 Franklin Street.

After discussion the Board decided to have the Town Manager speak to Andy Russell to see if the Public Works Department can paint some lines for no parking to see if that works. Mr. Giroux was in agreement.

Mr. Chase made a motion to table this item at this time. Vote: 4-0

D. Request for Extension of Demo Work for 163 Route 108

Howard Jones explained that he bought this property from Jim Rinaldo last February to gain a place to park as he has no driveway. He is working with Archies to get three dumpsters delivered this fall and an excavator to come in as well. He does not have funds available to get the demo done by February when it is due as stipulated in the Quit Claim Deed to Jim Rinaldo for the tax acquired property that he bought from the Town in February 2016.

Mr. Chase suggested that Mr. Jones come back in January to make this request, if needed, and do what he can to demo the building up to that point..

Mr. Chase made a motion to table this item at this time. Vote: 4-0

E. Approval of Snowmobile Grant for Rumford Polar Bears Snowmobile Club – Ron Russell

Ron Russell was present to request approval of the yearly Snowmobile Grant for the Rumford Polar Bears Snowmobile Club for \$69,971.00. The application is in the Town's name and is funded through snowmobile registrations and given back to the local club to maintain the snowmobile trails.

Mr. Brennick made a motion to approve the snowmobile grant application and Tom Reed as the project director to make application for financial assistance. Vote: 4-0

F. Request to Place Electrical Outlets in Auditorium from Rumford Performing Arts Committee

Jim Rinaldo requested adding more electrical outlets to the Rumford Falls Auditorium in the area of the stairway tower alcove where they serve coffee and hot chocolate during the Festival of Trees. He has already contacted local electrician Don Nash who gave him a quote for \$495.00 for 2-20 amp outlets. He asked if the Town would provide half the costs.

Mr. Windover made a motion to approve the request and for the Town to pay half the costs. Vote: 4-0

G. Approval/Signing of Intergovernmental Agreement with RSU 10 for use of Town Ball Fields

Mr. Sterling noted that the only change made was to add language that had been omitted on Section 5 to include the striping and marking of fields to be done by the Town.

Mr. Windover made a motion to approve the revised Intergovernmental Agreement with RSU 10 for the use of the Town Ball Fields.

Mike Mills noted that we should get together with the school before the next budget process as far as a multi-year contract.

Vote: 3-0-1, Mr. Brennick abstained.

Mr. Mills asked for direction from the Board in the replacement of the football field lights before the next Park Commission meeting. The consensus of the Board was for him to include the funding needed in the Park and Rec budget and to go before the Finance Committee during the budget process.

H. Approval of Parade Permit for GRCC Halloween Parade

Mr. Windover made a motion to approve the parade permit for the GRCC Halloween Parade. Vote: 4-0

I. Discussion on Proposed Changes to the Personnel Policy

The Town Manager explained that it was negotiated in all three union contracts that individual employees will pay 5 percent of their health insurance premiums beginning this fiscal year and pay ten percent beginning next year. Since all unions agreed, he would also like to amend the Personnel Policy to reflect this change for the non-union employees. It was our goal to treat all employees equally and this change would have all employees contributing equally to pay their health insurance. The union members began paying on July 1, 2016 and he suggested that this change for non-union personnel begin on January 1st, 2017. This would include employees working in the Town Office and Public Library [and Park Department]. All three unions also have a buy-out provision. If employees decide to opt out, the Town will pay them a portion of the savings. There will also be some language drafted regarding the Family Medical Leave Act.

The Town Manager also informed the Board that the MDOT would allow the Town to keep the Route 108 Bypass onto The Island with some stipulations. We would also need to have the citizens vote to accept that as a Town Way. There are easements with Brookfield and Lee Buotte that would need to be addressed. The MDOT would like to know by October 28, 2016 so that the contractors do not begin to tear down the Bypass. If the contractor has to come back at a later time to dismantle the Bypass, there would be additional mobilization fees that the Town would incur. The Bypass would only be one way onto The Island. We will have this item on the next Agenda.

8. Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRS 405(6)(D) for a labor negotiations with Public Works Department

Mr. Chase made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6)(D) for union negotiations with the Public Works Department.

Executive Session Out at 7:45 p.m.

No action taken.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Windover made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Vote: 4-0

John E. Madigan, Jr.
Town Manager

JEMJr/tp