

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S EXECUTIVE SESSION
June 15, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Jury Room

Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6)(C) for an Economic Development Matter

Mr. Chase made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6)(C) for an Economic Development Matter. Second by Mr. Windover. Vote: 5-0

No action was taken.

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S MEETING MINUTES
June 15, 2017 6:30 p.m.
Rumford Falls Auditorium

PRESENT: Chairperson Christopher Brennick, Vice-Chairperson Michael Peter Chase, Selectperson James Windover, Selectperson Mark Belanger, Selectperson James Theriault, Town Manager Linda-Jean Briggs.

ATTENDEES: Bruce Farrin, Bob Chase, Eric Giroux

1. Call to Order by Chairperson Brennick at 6:34 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Public Hearing (if needed)
4. Special Presentation or Award

Randall Therrien of Envision Rumford noted that their organization earned the Non-Profit Organization of the Year from the River Valley Chamber of Commerce and have recently been recognized by Senator Lisa Keim and the Maine State Senate. Mr. Therrien read a letter from Senator Keim to those in attendance.

He also noted that he shared Senator Keim's words with several groups and most are appreciative of her sentiments that gives other Maine town's hope. He believes this has been perceived as a challenge while Rumford is changing and seemingly searching for a new identity. The Envision Rumford group has voted, along with the approval of the Town Manager, to have this sentiment framed and displayed in the Town Hall to be shared with all the people of Rumford as he believes we need a goal and a vision and these words have a ring of hope to them that people will respond to.

Chairperson Brennick thanked Mr. Therrien for the work Envision Rumford is doing and for allowing the recognition award to be displayed in the Town Hall. He would like a checklist from the Town Manager regarding any proposed changes to the Ordinances so that there is enough time for the Board to review the changes before it goes to the voters. It was suggested that the Town Clerk be contacted for recommendations on time frame. He would like information by the next meeting. The consensus of the Board was to look at this issue at the next meeting.

5. Comments

A. Public Comment

No comments were given.

B. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Report 6/15/2017

- Congratulations to Mark Belanger on your re-election and to Jim Theriault as you join the board in the freshman status
- Attended the historic tax credit presentation with business owners, property owner on the Island as well as Strathglass Park. We have had a delay, but, the presentation materials will be on the website next week
- Attended Rotary Club for a Life Flight presentation
- Attended the Annual Town Business meeting
- Attended and spoke at the Business after Hours hosted by the Rumford Hospital
- Received one bid for the Center traffic lines which you will address later in the meeting
- Attended Envision Rumford meeting
- In contact with Moon Tide Spring—they are poised to place an equipment order by the end of next week and are still on track for a fall opening
- Hotel is still moving forward and are waiting on the final approval from DECD.
- Next week, the crews will be placing trash cans, benches and flower boxes on the Island
- Bob Chase will have an equipment update for you this evening
- Our Public Works superintendent has been reinjured. I will be looking at alternatives to ensure we are making continuing progress
- Attended an assembly to recognize three young men from Rumford Elementary School for doing the right thing. In May, they came upon a wallet with a good deal of cash in it. They went out of their way to flag down a Police Officer. They returned the wallet complete with credit cards and cash. I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Zakai Salmon, Lance Burns and Drake Burns. With Board permission, I will prepare a certificate of recognition for each of them and invite them to a future meeting.
- Colin Woodhead recently earned his Eagle Scout Award. We have prepared a recognition award for your signatures.

Rumor Squashing:

- The town vehicle that was just purchased replaced a 15 year old car which had been totaled in an accident. It was not a cruiser handed down from the Police Department. The vehicles before its' purchase were not police cruisers either
- There is no concern on the Hotel groups part that investors are walking away

Repeated Content

Downtown Project Update—the project given a number of factors which I will discuss is suspended until the 2018 construction season—

- We released our Clerk of the Works from contract given the apparent low bidder would not be able to start the project before July or August.
- That same bidder may have the capacity to send enough crews to complete the job in one construction season
- I have delivered the pre-application form for a suggested loan from the waste water and storm water State Revolving Fund program that would allow us to finance those portions of the project at 1.5%. There is also some principal forgiveness associated with that program. Final application will be submitted by the June 26th deadline.
- The town as of July 1, 2017 will have \$2 million debt. Our bonding capacity with a state valuation of \$5.182 hundred million has available bonding capacity of \$7.8 million. It may be prudent to pursue this long term option to care for the 100 year old storm water and sewer systems. Those costs total \$1.309 million alone are as follows:
 - Sewer: \$718,000
 - Storm water: \$591,000
- CDBG money is sounding further away than we had hoped-so in the interim, I will pursue other funding sources including USDA money

Reminder:

The crews' weather and equipment permitting will collect the sand from all other outlying areas and expect to complete them in the coming weeks

Please note—do not rake the sand into piles as it negatively impacts our ability to pick it up and causes equipment damage. If you are clearing your property of sand, put it in the street so that it is level.

Respectfully Submitted:

Linda-Jean Briggs
Rumford Town Manager

C. Department Head or Committee Chair Report (as needed)

Fire Chief Robert Chase informed the Board that they received the new air packs and have had their first department training with them. Community Energy is installing the new boiler in the Central Fire Station. Engine 4, a 25 year old engine stationed at Rumford Point, had the drive shaft fall out on Route 2 causing substantial damage. Repair estimates are in the range of \$30,000.00. This is one of the trucks that are 24 and 25 years old that should have been replaced at 20 years in the Capital Plan. He does not feel it is cost effective to repair at this cost. His intention is to come up with an alternative plan for fire coverage in Rumford Point, Hanover and Milton. A truck committee will be formed to determine the course of action going forward and he will come back to the Board in a couple weeks.

D. Selectperson's Report

Mr. Windover congratulated Mark Belanger and James Theriault for their re-election and election to the Select Board and to Mr. Brennick and Mr. Chase for their recent positions of leadership on the Board.

Mr. Belanger congratulated James Theriault for his election to the Select Board and Mr. Brennick and Mr. Chase for becoming the Chairs. He also noted that there is quite a lot of sand on the upper street (Urquhart) in the brick park. During his campaign he went to several hundred homes to talk to residents and found that people were concerned about budgets going up and although the budgets were voted in overwhelmingly, he would like to have some workshops on level of service to see if we can do things more efficiently to put some down pressure on the budgets.

Mr. Theriault thanked the people that elected him.

Mr. Chase congratulated James Theriault and Mark Belanger for their elections. Also, he thanked all the candidates that ran for office and if not elected encouraged them stay involved in Town governments in other positions. He thanked the Town Clerk and ballot clerks for their held with the election. He would like to know where the TIF stands on the Rumford Power Plant as he believes it is coming off soon. The Town Manager noted that she would report back on this.

Mr. Windover also noted the ballot clerks did a great job during the election.

Mr. Chase added that we have two further positions to fill and wants us to get going on this process.

Mr. Brennick agreed that it was worth looking at any interest noted or write-ins for serving on the school board. He noted that Rumford will also have another seat created on the school board for the newly organized school board. As a member of the school system, he will recuse himself from this process. He welcomed back Mark Belanger and congratulated James Theriault for their elections to the Board. He thanked the poll workers and Mr. Chase and Mr. Windover in their roles as Warden and Deputy Warden and also to Robert Cameron as Moderator for the smooth election process. He mentioned that the "Trek Across Maine" will begin tomorrow from Sunday River and encouraged people to be careful along Route 2. He believes we should utilize the workshop model to take particular issues to hash things out and set a forward direction. He would like to start work on the Purchasing Policy on September 14, 2017 with the department heads, particularly on the bidding process. He would like to see the Town Manager reach out to Town Manager Jack Gaudet of Mexico to schedule a meeting to discuss common issues and he suggested meeting on a quarterly basis. He would also like a checklist of how the process will work in the future on the proposals of new ordinances and charter changes and create a policy on this process.

Mr. Chase noted that we only have a month to get any new proposals in for November 2017 if we stay on the same time frame that we have used thus far.

Mr. Belanger suggested we use the schedule that already exists and apply to the November election.

The Town Manager noted that her take away from this discussion is that she will develop a process going forward and develop a time line.

Mr. Brennick would like to see any ordinance submittals to be in three days prior to give them time to formulate and opinion before the Board meets. The Board was in consensus.

Mr. Theriault noted that he was asked what the status of the Linnell Motel was.

Chief Chase responded with a status update. The Town expected that the property might become tax acquired and we anticipated that the Town would be cleaning it up, but a financial organization paid the taxes so they would not lose their interest in the property which triggered us legally to say that since you have expressed an interest in this property, you could lose it if we clean this up and lien it. He inspected the site last week as the company was doing salvage work and he was told that within a week the heavy equipment would be cleaning it up. The structural area that was compromised by fire (lobby area and two adjacent rooms) will be demolished, however, other areas can only be required to be made secure and safe. Gravel should be brought in to bring the area to grade.

Mr. Windover asked if there was a mold hazard because of the roof being open a couple years. The Chief will evaluate further on this.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

A. Approval of Minutes from Select Board Meeting of June 1, 2017

Mr. Windover made a motion to approve the minutes from the Select Board Meeting of June 1, 2017. Second by Mr. Belanger. Vote: 4-0-1, Mr. Theriault abstained.

B. Approval of the Town Warrant, dated June 16, 2017

Mr. Windover made a motion to approve the Town Warrant, dated June 16, 2017. Second by Mr. Chase. Vote: 4-0-1, Mr. Theriault abstained.

C. Discussion/Approval of the Sale of Town Owned Audio Equipment

The Town Manager informed the Board that this is old audio equipment that has been stored for many years and had only been used for a short time and is no longer usable by the Town. Craig Zurhorst, who has assisted the Town with many audio concerns, recommended that we try to sell this equipment which he anticipates could bring in approximately \$800. She would like to know if the Board would approve this action.

Mr. Belanger made a motion to allow the sale of the microphone equipment. Second by Mr. Windover.

Mr. Chase asked if we would consider donating the equipment to the new local radio station, who he believes is currently struggling financially.

The Town Manager suggested that she explore the possibility of the radio station utilizing the equipment, if not needed, or only partially needed, the remaining equipment could be sold.

Mr. Chase noted that the equipment would be for them to use and not be sold.

Mr. Belanger amended his motion to allow the Town Manager to research whether the local radio station could use the equipment, if not, to allow her to place the items out for sale on an invitation only bid and on craigslist or any other for-sale websites. Mr. Windover amended his second.

Vote: 5-0

D. Approval of 2017-18 Traffic Line Bid

Mr. Brennick noted that the Traffic Line Bid was sent out to several contractors and only one bid was received in the Town Manager's Office. In the future he would like to see the actual bids in their packets.

Mr. Windover asked when this went out to bid. The Town Manager reported that it went out a week and one half ago. He then asked if we should reach out to the other potential bidders to find out if they were going to turn in a number. The Town Manager noted that this is the same bidder that we have had for the last two years. She researched the current bid price and found this bid was lower than the next lowest bidder two years ago.

1. Hi-Way Safety Systems, Inc. \$10,363.32

Mr. Windover made a motion to approve the bid from Hi-Way Safety Systems for \$10,363.32. Second by Mr. Belanger. Vote: 5-0

E. Approval of FYE Select Board Meeting on June 30, 2017

Mr. Windover made a motion to approve the Select Board's Fiscal Year End Meeting of June 30, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Second by Mr. Chase.

The Town Manager recommended that we restrict the business to Fiscal Year End activities only. The Board was in consensus.

Vote: 5-0

F. Approval to Close Town Offices at Noon on June 30, 2017 for Fiscal Year End Closing of Books

Mr. Chase made a motion to approve the closing of the Town Offices at Noon on June 30, 2017 for the Fiscal Year End closing of books. Second by Mr. Belanger. Vote: 5-0

8. Adjournment

Mr. Theriault made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. Second by Mr. Windover. Vote: 5-0

Linda-Jean Briggs
Town Manager

LJB/tp