

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S MEETING
December 18, 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 Knox, Bob Chase, Dale Roberts, Dan Glover, Rick Blanchard, Andy Russell, Don Boucher, Michelle Boucher, Terry Karkos, Roger White, Stacy Carter, ??

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chairperson Buccina at 6:30 p.m.
2. All present Pledged Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Requests of Citizen's Present

No requests were presented.

4. Reports

A. Selectperson's Report

Mr. Belanger did not have a report.

Mr. Adley noted that the Board met with the Town of Mexico regarding cost sharing for the Police Department. He wished a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Mr. DiConzo wished Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. He also asked to put a bid out for the sidewalk work so that it can be started in the spring, (also the Rumford Water District work needs to be done at the same time). Mr. Buccina suggested placing this item on the next Agenda to discuss the sidewalk project with the subcommittee from Envision Rumford.

Mr. Sterling did not have a report.

Mr. Buccina reported attending the Community Dental Re-Opening and the recent Envision Rumford meeting where the sidewalk reconstruction was discussed. He also thanked the group for their contributions to the community such as Pumpkin Fest and other events. He set up a meeting with a payroll processing vendor on January 8, 2015 at 10 a.m. to discuss options for payroll processing for the Town and if there are ways to save costs. The Board will also be going through the Police budget proposal line by line at the workshop for Police services (on January 6, 2015).

B. Town Manager's Report

The next Joint Board meeting with Mexico will be held on January 7, 2015 to discuss Police services. There is also an Executive Session scheduled for December 22, 2014 for an economic development matter. The Rumford Water District sent a letter asking for some lead time before the sidewalk reconstruction is begun next spring so that they can make changes. The 1934 Quit Claim Deed (Pauline Aharonian) that was signed at a previous meeting had the wrong book and page number and will need to be resigned and notarized. A letter of resignation from Duane Phelps of the Med-Care Board was read. This position, along with a Finance Committee position, have been advertised. The Moderator has had a difficult time finding people to volunteer to be on the Finance

Committee list thus far. A meeting was held with the facilities engineer for the State court system today and the Municipal Building will need some updates to comply with the accessibility laws, such as the ramp at the back entrance, railing height, etc. The court is willing to pay for half the costs of the needed improvements. Some projects have already been completed. The Court engineer will have a project estimate of the needed improvements and the cost split. A meeting was recently held with the MDOT who plan to complete work on the Canal Bridge (deck replacement) and Morse Bridge (painting) at the same time in 2016. Traffic will be re-routed during this time from Route 108 to Hartford and Congress Streets and Route 2 in Ridlonville in Mexico. The Town Office will be closed the Friday after Christmas next week for the Christmas holiday.

C. Department Manager Reports (as needed)

Fire Chief Robert Chase reported the engine has blown on a 2003 rescue truck and he will need approval for repairs. The truck is currently out of service.

*** Mr. Adley made a motion to declare a critical circumstance to address this issue. Vote: 5-0

The event occurred last week during a storm and they have received several repair estimates. The recommended repair would be to remove the motor to have it re-machined and re-installed at a cost of \$12,000.00. The cost would come from the Fire Department's maintenance budget of \$10,000.00 and the remainder from capital reserve. Mileage is at 22,000 and the chassis is in good shape. If other maintenance is needed on other vehicles it will need to come from the capital reserves.

Mr. Belanger asked why the motor would fail. Mr. Adley noted that this particular motor is known to have a high failure rate. The repair would include upgrades to the motor.

Mr. Adley made a motion to allow up to \$12,000.00 for repairs to the 2003 rescue truck motor by Hight Ford Skowhegan.

Dale Roberts asked the cost of a new motor. Mr. Adley responded that it would be \$15,000.00. Chief Chase added that there are additional costs upwards of \$2,000.00 plus.

Vote on the motion: 5-0

Public Works Superintendent Andy Russell reported that the contractor [Insituform] relining the sewer lines in the Sunnyside Terrace area ran into equipment problems and had to stop temporarily. They will be back January 6, 2015 to complete the job. AVCOG has sent information about a possible opportunity for funding to help make our infrastructure less susceptible to weather events in the future.

Town Manager John Madigan added that because of the problems the Town experienced from Tropical Storm Irene, it places us at the top of the priority list.

Mr. Adley noted that Ted Berry, a local contractor from Livermore, has recently been certified to provide this type of service.

Kevin Knox asked how much the relining will cost the Town. Andy Russell responded that the cost will be approximately \$175,000.00 as the size of the pipe is 12 inch rather than 8 inch which was specified in the bid originally and there was a change order needed.

D. Board and Committee Reports (as needed)

None were presented.

5. Old Business

A. Discussion on Town Ordinances and Policies regarding Snow Removal and Snow Plowing

Copies of the Town Ordinance on snow removal, permit application for snow plowing across the roadway and the policy for snow removal from Town owned property were provided to the Board.

Police Chief Stacy Carter explained the problems with enforcing these ordinances as this is happening all over the town.

Roger White believes it is the home owners leaving snow in the roads and sidewalks that are the worst problems.

Don Boucher was concerned about a property owner pushing snow to another private property without permission.

Mr. Buccina believes citizens should do better in keeping snow off the roadways and sidewalks.

Mr. Belanger suggested we repeal these ordinances if we are not going to enforce them.

The consensus of the Board was to have the Police Department enforce the existing Ordinances to the extent possible. More????

The Town Manager will draft an advertisement for the newspaper to inform residents that the Town will be enforcing our ordinances regarding snow plowing and snow removal.

Mr. Adley asked to see the priority list for snow removal. The hospital and church have not been done but Waldo Street has been and there is concern about that.

Mr. Belanger asked if there was a possibility of a night crew and day crew. The Town Manager believes the union contract specifies the working hours.

Kevin Knox wanted to know why the Town does not contract out for private trucking as was done in the past. Andy Russell said that the Town now owns 3 trucks to move the snow.

Mr. Russell explained the process of adherence to the snow removal priority list.

Fire Chief Chase observed that there seems to be a sense of entitlement by the citizens that believe the Town will take care of the snow. He believes some warnings need to go out and that most people should know about not placing snow near fire hydrants, for example, yet they still place snow there.

B. Discussion on Use of Town's Sand Pile and Snow Dump

Kevin Knox asked if the snow dump will be open to residents and contractors and can people get two buckets of sand if needed. Mr. Buccina responded that the Board already stated that citizens can get a couple buckets of sand.

Mr. Belanger asked who will monitor the sand pile at Public Works so that people will not take truckloads of sand. Mr. Russell answered that there is no one available to police the sand pile. Mr. DiConzo suggested a security camera. The Town Manager said that Mexico had the same problem and placed jersey barriers near the sand pile so that pickup trucks cannot get close to the sand pile, yet would allow people to get through with buckets for sand. He also suggested a separate designated sand pile for resident's access. If people are still accessing the main sand pile it is without permission, and could be noted by employees for follow-up.

The Town Manager asked about MDEP permitting for use of our snow dump. Andy Russell reported that we do not need permits, but the Town must work within the parameters that the MDEP has set up for use, and they have reduced the size that can be used for snow storage.

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to open up the Snow Dump [Rumford Avenue] to residents or general contractors who are hauling snow.

Mr. Belanger suggested an application process to use the Snow Dump. The Board was in agreement for such a process and guidelines are to be written up and given to those who apply.

Dale Roberts mentioned that the mill has security cameras that can zoom in on who is dumping at the snow dump.

Vote on the motion: 5-0

The Town Manager is to write up an advertisement to notify citizens of the availability of the Snow Dump and an application and guidelines for use will need to be drafted.

C. Discussion on Repair of Traffic Light on Portland Street

Andy Russell recently discussed the issue with Stan Koski, who maintains our traffic lights at no cost for labor. Mr. Koski believes there is a component at fault yet he has no schematics to work with. Mr. Koski had the problem diagnosed by Highway Tech, a subsidiary of AD Electric, and the needed part was \$250. Mr. Russell approved ordering this part and Mr. Koski will replace the part in the traffic light. At a recent meeting with the MDOT bridge engineers, they suggested that we may want to eliminate the traffic light altogether as most people have been stopping four ways since the light has been blinking for several months. Mr. Russell suggested having the MDOT study and recommend their findings on this issue. Mr. Madigan mentioned that the MDOT will be looking at that traffic light due to the prospective highway work near the Island.

6. New Business

- A. Approval of Minutes from the Selectperson's Meeting of December 4, 2014 and Joint Select Board Meeting with Town of Mexico of December 11, 2014

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectperson's Meeting of December 4, 2014. Vote: 5-0

The December 11, 2014 minutes were not available for approval at this meeting.

- B. Approval of SCBA Face Masks Bid

Fire Chief Robert Chase explained that they have been approved for a safety grant from MMA for up to \$2,000.00 which would cover 2/3 of the cost. The Town would only need to pay the balance.

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to approve the only bid received from Fire Tech & Safety for \$3,075.00. Vote: 5-0

C. Approval of Town Owned Property Bids

The Town Manager reported on the Town Owned Property Bid opening:

41 Lochness Road (half duplex in Strathglass Park)
Richard Scagliola, \$100.00, \$10.00 deposit included with bid.

614 Prospect Avenue
Clyde and Jane Wardwell, \$1,200.00, \$120.00 deposit included with bid.

The back taxes for 41 Lochness Road for 2009, 2010 and 2011 are \$1,286.00.

The back taxes for 614 Prospect Avenue for 2012, 2013 and 2014 are \$2,641.80.

There was no minimum bid specified for either property.

Mr. Wardwell stated that they have acquired 18 buildings and have maintained them up to code. He is also interested in the former Barnboard Tavern (12 Oxford Avenue). The Town Manager indicated that this property may be assessed by a realtor before going back out to bid.

Mr. Adley made a motion to accept the \$100.00 bid from Richard Scagliola for 41 Lochness Road.

Fire Chief Chase reviewed the recommendations for this property, that it is half of a duplex. The Town does not have the option of letting this property stay vacant for some time because of deterioration. He wanted to be sure that the bidder had the means to properly maintain the property. The market analysis for these properties is available upon request.

Vote: 2-3, Mr. Sterling, Mr. Belanger and Mr. DiConzo opposed.

The Board will determine what to do with this property at a future time.

Mr. Sterling made a motion to accept the \$1,200.00 bid from Clyde Wardwell for 614 Prospect Avenue.

Fire Chief Robert Chase recommended covenants for permits and code upgrades and a time frame for completion.

Mr. Wardwell believes it would take a couple weeks to bring it up to code.

The Town Manager suggested a six month time frame.

Vote on the motion with covenants of permitting and code upgrades to be done within six months or the property would revert back to the Town: 5-0

The Town Manager said they will try to have the Quit Claim Deed ready by the January 8, 2015 meeting.

D. Discussion on Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee Report

Frank DiConzo reported that the report from the Implementation Committee was also given to the Planning Board, but they cancelled their last meeting due to weather. He is not sure if they will

take charge of the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan at this point. The Ordinances charge the Planning Board with this responsibility.

Kevin Saisi believes the Planning Board has delegated this to the Implementation Committee.

Mr. DiConzo believes that they are only an Ad Hoc Committee.

Mr. Sterling believes that this issue should be taken up with the Planning Board.

Mr. Saisi believes the Planning Board members did not have the time to dedicate to this process and delegated it to the Ad Hoc Committee.

The Town Manager suggested that the Planning Board review this matter and that this is their jurisdiction.

Mr. Adley made a motion to table until the Planning Board reviews the report from the Implementation Committee.

Mr. Buccina would like this to be placed on a Board agenda in January 2015.

Mr. Saisi suggested that the Town Manager contact the Planning Board to be sure this will be addressed at their next meeting in January.

E. Discussion on Collective Bargaining with AFSCME (Public Works)

The Town Manager asked if any Board members would like to be involved in the negotiating process along with the Town Manager. The Union usually submits their list of concerns or requests and the Board can also have their own requests. The process will be held in Executive Session with the Board.

Mr. DiConzo requested that a copy of the current contract be given to the Board members.

The consensus of the Board was to wait until they receive a request from the union.

Mr. Adley made a motion to allow non-resident Richie Philbrick to speak. Vote: 5-0

Mr. Philbrick stated the Union will begin after the first of the year.

F. Approval of the Town Warrant dated December 19, 2014

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the Town Warrant dated December 19, 2014. Vote: 4-0-1, Mr. Adley abstained.

7. Adjournment

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. Vote: 5-0

John E. Madigan, Jr.
Town Manager

JEMJr/tp