

**BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S MEETING MINUTES**

**May 3, 2018, 2018 6:30 p.m.**

**Rumford Falls Auditorium**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS MUST BE ADDRESSED FROM THE PODIUM FOR DIGITAL RECORDING PURPOSES. PLEASE RAISE YOUR HAND TO BE RECOGNIZED BY THE CHAIRPERSON OR COME TO THE PODIUM.**

**Present:** Christopher Brennick-Chairperson, Michael Peter Chase-Vice Chairperson, Mark Belanger-Selectperson, James Windover- Selectperson

**Attendees:** Dale Roberts, Richard Coulombe, Candice Casey, Morgan Flagg, Cheyenne Carrier, Robin Hayes, Cameron Payne, Dylan Knox, Chris Glover, Ryan and Shauna LaMontagne, Steven Dymont, Isaiah Thornton, Rick Thornton, Randall Therrien, Linda Pepin, Deborah Laurinaitis, Glenn Gordon, Eric Giroux

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Moment of Silence In Memory and Respect: Jackie Cote, Served on the Rumford Police Department for many years.

3. Public Hearing: Liquor License- LeParsseux Inc.

No Comments

4. Special Presentation or Award:

None

5. Comments

A. Public Comment

Chris Brennick made the motion to allow Randy Therrien, a non-resident to speak. Seconded by Mr. Belanger

Vote-4-0

Envision Rumford- Band Stand Structure (approx..16'x20') construction to begin on May14, 2018. Asking for experienced volunteers, to help with construction, on dates of May 17, 18, 19 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) Have funding/donations of Approx. \$7000.00 for materials. Do not have funding for ADA compliant access ramp( approx..30'). Requesting funding for the ramp at approx. \$5000.00, through Economic Development. Not an official request this evening. Asking the Board to consider this request for a future meeting.

Mr. Therrien suggested that the Board will discuss this matter for a future meeting.

Mr. Belanger asked for renderings of this structure. Mr. Therrien did not have rendering for this meeting. He did explain the design and placement of structure to the Board. Mr. Belanger expressed his concern for cost of this project. Mr. Therrien explained that this structure would be a value of \$20,000.00. The volunteers and suppliers are providing services at a much reduced rate.

Mr. Brennick asked about electrical receptacles. Mr. Therrien explained items that could be investigated and added at a later date, when funding opportunities arise.

Jim Adenlphi spoke of upgrades and updates to the Hotel Harris. He asked questions regarding paving around the corner of the building.

Mr. Brennick addressed his questions.

Town Manager also, addressed his questions. To reduce the cost of the project, per request of the Board to reduce costs, certain areas had to be excluded from the project.

## B. Town Manager's Report

- Attended the annual dinner of the River Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Met with firefighters and administrative staff to plan for the pinning ceremony of Fire Chief Chris Reed
- Met with Cheryl Dickson to plan the invitation for the May 24<sup>th</sup> Business after Hours. The Town of Rumford is hosting this and you are invited to attend. It will be from 5-7pm in the auditorium

## DOWNTOWN PROJECT

- Attended pre-construction meeting with all departments as well as funding agencies
- Facilitated three separate Downtown project overview meetings
- Sat with others on two occasions to review the construction plans
- Contractor began mobilization for the downtown project on April 30<sup>th</sup>
- Efforts have concentrated on temporary water service and some preliminary sewer work
- We have a project look out for the next three weeks. This will be posted on the website with a link to it from our Facebook page as early as tomorrow morning. Please bear in mind these are preliminary plans and are subject to change
- Our inspector is on site. He is available in the temporary office where Poland Spring is located as well as on the project. His name is Gary Violette and may be reached on [garyviolette308@gmail.com](mailto:garyviolette308@gmail.com) for concerns with the project

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

Mr. Belanger had questions for Mr. Coulombe regarding a property on Penobscot Street and Rt.2. Mr. Coulombe answered Mr. Belanger's questions.

### D. Selectperson's Report

Mr. Belanger brought forth concerns on a Bid for equipment, from Public Works, in his box. Town Manager responded. Mr. Belanger should speak with Mr. Mills to have his questions answered.

Mr. Chase attended Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner on, April 26, 2018. Congratulated to award recipients. Also, gave appreciation and congratulations for all those involved in the Clean-Up Day, on Sunday, April 29.

Mr. Brennick also, expressed his appreciation and congratulations for both events.

## 6. Old Business

None

## 7. New Business

### A. Approval of Minutes from Select Board Meeting of April 19, 2018

Mr. Belanger made the motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Windover.

Vote-3-0-1 Mr. Chase Abstained (was not present at April 19, 2018 BOS Meeting)

B. Approval of the Town Warrant dated May 4, 2018  
Mr. Windover made the motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Chase  
Vote-4-0

C. Approval of Liquor License for LePasseuseux Inc.  
Mr. Belanger made the motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Windover  
Vote-4-0

D. Discussion and Action on Quitclaim Deed- 323 Knox Street  
Mr. Belanger made the motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Windover  
Vote-4-0

E. Discussion and Action on Reversionary Deed- 226 Knox Street

Mr. Brennick explained covenant for this property. He asked Mr. Coulombe, CEO to come forward for any questions. Quitclaim Deed with Covenant on, September 21, 2018, received two extensions- a two month extension. No compliance with the extension from April 17, 2018. Mr. Coulombe expressed his many attempts including certified mail with no response from owners/ holder of deed.

Mr. Chase expressed the great lengths the Board has gone, in assisting the deed holders with no compliance.

Mr. Belanger made the motion to instruct Town Manager to construct a reversionary deed with Town Attorney-Mr. Coulombe CEO to make recommendations on the property. Seconded by Mr. Brennick  
Vote-4-0

F. Approval for Code Enforcement Officer to Obtain Asbestos Removal Bids- 16 Free Street  
151 Route 108  
153 Route 108  
207 Spruce Street

Mr. Belanger made the motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Windover  
Vote-4-0

G. Approval for Request from Rumford Fraternal Order of Eagles Close/Use of Oxford Avenue, from Corner of Cumberland Street to Byron Street for, Child Advocacy Day Event, From 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. on, Saturday, May 19,2018

Mr. Windover made the motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Belanger  
Vote-4-0

H. Discussion and Action on Property Disposition Policy DRAFT dated September 14, 2017

Mr. Brennick and Town Manager reminded the Board of the general information and summation of the policy with additions and corrections requested by the Board.

Mr. Chase made the motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Brennick  
Vote-2-1-1 Mr. Belanger -Abstained, Mr. Windover -Against

I. Discussion and Action on UDAG Loans

Mr. Brennick explained and expressed the content of paperwork given to the Board. He also, explained the processes involved, confirmed by Finance Director.

Town Manager asked the Board to allow Finance Director to speak concerning UDAG.

Town Manager expressed the concern of these discussions and line of discussion; she does not appreciate an audience member calling out these business owners by name, in this manner. The UDAG is an operational matter with a long history of helping Businesses. This should not be a discussion for the Board.

Mr. Brennick expressed his concern regarding the discussion of these matters, as well as, the purpose of these discussions.

Mr. Belanger expressed his concerns regarding the contracts.

Mr. Chase expressed his exasperation with these discussions and purpose of these discussions. This does not promote the "Business Friendly" aspect of the Town of Rumford.

Mr. Belanger expressed his desires and concerns for the need for accountability of these contracts.

Finance Director gave history on UDAG, VRAP loans and processes and procedures for collecting on these loans, etc.

Mr. Windover expressed his concerns and interpretation of contracts

Town Manager again, expressed that it being not in the best interest of the Board or Business Owners to have these issues aired in a public forum. Provides no service to our Town businesses or owners. These are strictly operational specifics and not in the purview of the Board. We are not a lending agency, But, a service to the Community. This should be handled by the Town Manager and the Finance Director, not the Board.

Mr. Coulombe also, expressed his concern; these issues be discussed behind closed doors and handled by the Town Manager and the Finance Director.

Mr. Brennick expressed his strong concerns for bringing this matter to the forefront, as well as, the negative effect these discussions have on the Business Owners and Economic Development in its entirety.

Mr. Gordon (Mexico resident/ Rumford business owner) – Good Karma Café asked to speak to the Board.

Mr. Chase made the motion to allow Mr. Gordon to speak. Seconded by Mr. Brennick  
Vote-4-0

Mr. Gordon expressed in gratitude for the UDAG Program.

Mr. Belanger expressed his strong desire and need for accountability on these loans, specifications, amitization, up to date contracts, etc.

Mr. Windover congratulated Mr. Gordon and other new business for choosing Rumford to locate their businesses.

Audience member came to the microphone to agree with both parties in their desire for accountability. But, also, expressing the value of these loans and this program for new business and existing business in need of help and support.

Resident came to the microphone Board to express his desire that the Board discuss these matters in Executive Session, not putting people and these businesses in this position of having to defend themselves in public, drawing attention to them.

Mr. Brennick expressed the process and criteria for Executive Session.

Finance Director explained past experience of, UDAG being the purview of the Town Manager and the Finance Director in handling these programs.

Mr. Belanger expressed that these businesses and people should be coming to the Board for extensions and rewriting of these contracts with deadlines, renegotiations, criteria, etc. Mr. Belanger raised his voice and questioned the Finance Director.

Town Manager expressed her displeasure with Mr. Belanger grilling the Finance Director.

Mr. Windover expressed his desire and need for updates and accountability.

Mr. Brennick suggests making a decision on what exactly the Board is asking for.

Mr. Chase expressed his exasperation with this line of questioning and discussion. These businesses are bringing millions of dollars into the Town. He expressed the need to give these businesses leeway and discretion.

Mr. Brennick made a motion to allow Mr. Carter to speak. Seconded by Mr. Chase  
Vote-4-0

Mr. Carter came to the microphone, declined Executive Session; his desire for transparency. Explained the situation for his investors in regard to VRAP and UDAG, as Pennacook Falls Investment, LLC. His name is on these loans! Personally guarantees his loans and assets to back them up. Is requesting a 90 day extension. Would be happy to meet with the Board at any time for discussion and shareholders information, more than happy to sign a guarantee for payment.

Mr. Brennick suggested consolidating the three loans into one.

Town Manager expressed and explained the procedure for regular residents and regular business properties, having three years leeway before addressing the Board on liens, etc. This is a non-issue which she explained is embarrassing, insulting and unnecessary to the administration.

Mr. Windover made the motion allowing an informal extension of 90 days with late fees. Seconded by Mr. Belanger  
Vote- 4-0

Mr. Belanger requested a meeting with Moon Tide. Mr. Brennick and Town Manager will facilitate that. Town Manager will forward an email update from Mr. Milligan to the Board members

#### 8. Adjournment

Mr. Windover made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Chase at 8:15 pm  
Vote-4-0

Linda-Jean Briggs  
Town Manager

LJB/pc