

BOARD OF SELECTPERSON'S MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
Rumford Falls Auditorium

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

ATTENDEES: Thelma Giberson, Tom Bourret, Bruce Farrin, Thomas Fallon, Terri Palmer, Jim Rinaldo, Emile Barre, Matt Palmer, Richard Scagliola

1. Meeting Call to Order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Adley
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Public Hearing (if needed)
4. Requests of Citizen's Present

Richard Scagliola would like alcohol considered as part of the prevention of domestic violence. He also asked if there was anything done on his report of a car leaking oil near his property.

5. Reports

A. Selectperson's Report

Mr. Chase reported that Pumpkin Fest was a very good time. There were a lot of people on "The Island," and he congratulated those that put the event together. He attended his first MMA Convention last week and it was a good experience. The Keynote Speaker was riveting as he spoke on the Rhode Island nightclub fire and all that was involved and learned from this tragic event.

Mr. Belanger reported that he made some temporary repairs on the water wheel at the Information Center and believes that in the near future the wood will need to be replaced as it is rotting out. He informed Mike Mills from the Park and Rec Department about the condition of the wheel.

Mr. Sterling did not have a report.

Mr. DiConzo asked the Town Manager if an ad was placed in the paper for the Finance Committee members. The Town Manager responded that ads were run in both the Rumford Falls Times and Sun Journal. He also asked about the progress on Jed Martin Road. The Town Manager will address this during his Town Manager Report.

Mr. Adley attended Pumpkin Fest which was very well attended and thanked those involved in planning the event, particularly Kris Howes. He also attended the Mexico Night of Appreciation to give the awards to the Babe Ruth boys. He was appreciative of the night that honors the

employees, volunteers, Citizen of the Year and others and would like to see the Town of Rumford follow a similar format in the future. He also noted that the event was well run. Mr. Chase asked about the cost involved and the Town Manager informed the Board of the costs and of the types of awards that are presented.

Mr. DiConzo would like a discussion on bi-weekly payroll and direct deposit on the next Agenda. He also would like to see street construction bids prepared for Strathglass Park and Hancock Street (near the high school) to sub-contract these jobs before the end of the year and would like this on the next Agenda.

Mr. Adley noted that he has the profit and loss information from Med-Care and copies can be made for the Board members if they are interested. He also brought up the issue with the mess at the Linnell Motel after their fire this summer. Mr. Chase has heard that people have been walking around the building and asked citizens to let the Town know if they see someone so that we can try to catch up with the owner to find out their intents. Thus far, we have been unable to locate them and the certified letters have been returned. The Town Manager noted that there are several property owners that we are not getting responses from and the Town Attorney will be handling these matters. Mr. Belanger asked about the Foley Inn and what is happening there after the recent fire.

Mr. DiConzo said that a lot of people are going through the stop sign on Plymouth Avenue by the stone church and asked to have the police patrol that area.

B. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager visited the Jed Martin Road construction project and reported on the process. He also noted that all the manhole covers have been raised on Maine Avenue and it is ready for paving.

The Board was invited to the Boys State Recognition Supper at the American Legion and can RSVP directly to Kirk Thurston.

There was also a request from Gene Pettegrow for no parking signs along Franklin Street, near the intersection with Essex Avenue. The vehicles that park there obscure his vision in getting out of the driveway at his property. The Board was asked to look this area over to address at the next Board meeting.

The Town Manager attended the MMA Convention and reported on the Keynote Speaker's information that was given on the Warwick, Rhode Island night club fire and that the city was held partially responsible for the code enforcement aspect of the fire. This was litigated for seven years for 175 million. Mr. Chase noted that the city had to float a bond for four million dollars because the codes were not strictly enforced in the building. Over 100 people perished in the fire. He stressed that the Board needs to back up the code enforcement in our town.

C. Department Manager Reports (as needed)

There were no reports.

D. Board and Committee Reports (as needed)

There were no reports.

6. Old Business

A. Approval of State of Maine's General Assistance Ordinance Maximum Amounts, Appendices A-D

Chairperson Adley noted that this item did not pass at the last meeting and asked the Town Manager for further information. The Town Manager believes that if the Town does not adopt the proposed new maximums that they must do a study to establish different maximums. The proposed maximum amounts are based on a study done by HUD (Housing and Urban Development).

Mr. Sterling was not opposed to doing our own study, but believes it is too late to conduct one this year. He noted that the proposed increases for housing seemed negligible.

Mr. Chase noted that he has been reading information that he gathered from the General Assistance Office and also the State Statutes and local ordinance and noted that we have the right to refuse to accept the new maximums; however, it requires an extensive study and if the State does not accept them, then we are back to the same place. He feels we need to adopt the proposed changes at this time.

Mr. DiConzo stands by his original decision and believes the town should have control over what is given out, rather than the Federal government.

Mr. Chase made a motion to accept the maximum amounts set forth.

Mr. Sterling asked who would do a study, if we did one, and assumed they would be paid for this service.

Mr. Belanger also said he would stand by his original decision and wants to see a change in the culture in the town and believes this would be a step towards this.

Vote on the motion: 3-2, Mr. DiConzo and Mr. Belanger opposed.

7. New Business

A. Approval of Minutes from October 1, 2015

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to approve the minutes with the following corrections: remove an attendee's name from Executive Session and correct the attendance of the Public Hearing and Board Meeting. Vote: 4-0-1, Mr. Sterling abstained.

B. Approval of the Town Warrant dated October 16, 2015

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the Town Warrant dated October 16, 2015. Vote: 4-0-1, Mr. Belanger abstained.

C. Appointment of Warden and/or Deputy Warden for November 3, 2015 Election

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to appoint Mark Belanger as Warden and Peter Chase as Deputy Warden for the November 3, 2015 Election. Vote: 5-0

D. Approval of Town Fuel Bid

The Town Manager reported on the Fuel Bid 2015-2016 Opening as follows with figures based on Rack plus from Irving's Terminal in South Portland:

	No. 2 Fuel Oil	Diesel	Gasoline
1. Fabian	.25	.0681	.0681
2. CN Brown	.1419	.2537	.0791
3. Community Energy	.22	.0975	.0975
4. Dead River	.2281	.1800	NA

The Town Manager provided an Excel spreadsheet showing the various bid amounts multiplied by the estimated quantity to purchase as listed on our specifications for the bid. It appeared that one bidder may have made a mistake in the listing of diesel fuel, but the consensus of the Board was to take the figures as written and submitted in the sealed bids.

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to approve the bid from Fabian Oil for \$165,136.40. Vote: 2-3, Mr. Sterling, Mr. Chase and Mr. Adley opposed.

It was noted by Mr. Adley that Community Energy is a local vendor and that they are only 1 percent more than Fabian Oil.

Mr. Chase made a motion to approve the bid from Community Energy for \$166,738.50 (based on estimated usage).

Mr. Sterling would like to contact the vendor who may have made a mistake. Mr. Belanger and Mr. Adley noted that all the vendors had the same playbook and rules to follow.

Vote: 4-1, Mr. DiConzo opposed.

E. Approval to Place Winter Parking Ban to Later Date in November or until First Plowable Snow Event

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve placing the winter parking ban to the first plowable snowstorm. Vote: 5-0

F. Approval of Parade Permit for Greater Rumford Community Center Halloween Parade

Mr. Sterling made a motion to approve the parade permit for the Greater Rumford Community Center Halloween Parade. Vote: 5-0

G. Discussion on General Assistance Clerk Position

In discussion, the Board noted that they would like General Assistance to be open for shorter hours.

Mr. Bourret noted that he would communicate with the Board if he felt changes needed to be made to his proposal.

Mr. DiConzo made a motion to designate the Tax Collector, Thomas Bourret, to handle the General Assistance Program for a trial period of one year with the stipend discussed in the last Executive Session.

Mr. Belanger asked if the new Tax Office Deputy would be a full or part time position.

Mr. Bourret responded that this would be a part time position with no benefits and that the Deputy would also assist in the General Assistance program. He will need a laptop and software to make the administration of the program mobile.

Vote on the motion: 5-0

8. Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRS §405 (6)(C) for an economic development matter

Mr. Belanger made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6)(C) for an economic development matter. Vote: 5-0

Executive Session In at 8:01 p.m.

Executive Session Out at 8:45 p.m.

No action taken.

9. Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRS §405 (6)(C) for discussion of agreement for land purchase for Gateway Plaza

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6)(C) for an economic development matter for discussion of an agreement for land purchase for Gateway Plaza.

Executive Session in at 8:45 p.m.

Executive Session out at 8:50 p.m.

No action taken.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Sterling made a motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Vote: 5-0

John E. Madigan, Jr.
Town Manager

JEMJr/tp