

MINUTES
RUMFORD SELECTPERSONS MEETING
April 4, 2019 at 6:00 pm and 6:30 pm
Rumford Falls Auditorium

Present: Michael Peter Chase-Vice-Chairperson, Mark Belanger- Selectperson, James Windover- Selectperson, John Pepin- Selectperson, Scott Cole- Interim Town Manager

Absent: Christopher Brennick- Chairperson

Attendees: Steven Dymont, Candice Casey, Kevin Knox, Deborah Laurinaitis, Len Greaney, Tony DeSalle

6:00 pm

1. Convene in Open Session in Jury Room
2. Executive Sessions
 - A. Board to Consult w/ Legal Counsel re Negotiations
 - B. Board to Discuss Negotiations re Real Estate Matters
3. Return to Open Session and Recess

6:30 pm

1. Call to Order in Auditorium
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
3. Adopt Agenda w/ Amendments as Needed

Mr. Chase made a motion to amend the Agenda-add the following two items to the End of the Agenda:

7. J Approval of Quitclaim Deed for 127 Washington Street- Michael and Heidi Bean
7. K Approval to Waive Fee for Building Use-Auditorium for Healthy Oxford Communities Event

Seconded by Mr. Belanger

Vote- 4-0

4. Public Hearing re Liquor License: Sons of Italy
NO Comments
5. Action Following Public Hearing: Approve Liquor License for Sons of Italy

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

Vote-4-0

6. Comments

A. Public Comment

Mr. DeSalle spoke of concerns regarding easement request Smithville Road and the purpose of the request.

Interim Town Manager replied- depends on nature of the easement; not uncommon, for major rebuild of a road, if designers feel the final product is better served...

Mr. Chase explained the road (back field) is very narrow, which may require the easement. He suggested asking Mr. Mills to be in attendance for the 4/18/19 meeting to answer Mr. DeSalle's concerns and questions.

Mr. DeSalle requested viewing the plans/maps for the project.

Town Manager's Report

Updated Task List (most pressing business for the Town)
Successful completion of Island Project and Town Warrant Scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:00p.m., Rumford Falls Auditorium

B. Department Heads and Committee Chairs As Needed

NONE

C. Selectpersons

Mr. Chase apologized for missing DARE Graduation

Mr. Windover expressed attending and enjoyed the evening

7. Items for Discussion and/or Action as Needed

A. Approve Minutes of Selectpersons Meetings Held On:

a. March 21

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

b. April 1-

B. Presentation of FY 18 Financial Audit by RHR Inc.

**Mr. Windover made the motion to TABLE for May 16, 2019 BOS Meeting; Mr. Smith from RHR Smith, can be present for explanation and discussion. Seconded by Mr. Chase
Vote-4-0**

C. Review Draft Warrant for June, 2019 Town Meeting w/o Action

Mr. Chase suggested shortening the warrant by using synopsis/clean-up language associated with Ordinances instead of a complete explanations if prudent, to reduce the number of pages and reduce confusion, etc.

Mr. Belanger agreed, using a brief synopsis and posting the complete language for voters to review if they choose to.

Interim Town Manager suggested comments, concerns and questions be addressed on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 -Thursday, April 11, 2019.

Mr. Chase asked Interim Town Manager to speak with Board Chairperson and Town Attorney regarding housekeeping matters related to the Warrant.

D. Discuss Need for Special Town Meeting and Identify Tentative Date

Interim Town Manager explained the questions intended to be addressed:

Anticipated shortfalls in MedCare Budget, expenditure, Town Manager Budget
Street Light Project
Money Articles
Legalities for Special Town Meeting

Interim Town Manager spoke of Town Charter and Ordinance requirements, as well as, State Statute change

Mr. Chase suggested speaking with Town Clerk/Treasurer for time frames and requirements...

E. Review Status of FY 19 Budget

Finance Director explained no real changes. She would like to bring the Board up to date on:

Street Light Account- Estimated overage of \$35,000.00, will need to be added to the Warrant for June 11, 2019 Election. Suggest language from Town Attorney, to transfer monies from Fund Balance.

General Fund- Town Manager's Account- Estimated overage of \$42,000.00, due to Town Manager situation.

Assessor's Account- Estimated overage of \$65,000.00, due to legal fees for the Hydro. \$1.5 million in taxes was saved through litigation.

Carry Forward-2019 Absorption of \$100,000.00 in, Economic Development Account Carry Forward-2018 was \$209,000.00 (Economic Development Director salary of \$48000.00 comes from account)

Finance Director explained the policy and procedure for this process.

Cable Franchise Fees of \$47,954.69- provided for the Board, Chapter 13- Financial Procedures. After subtraction of Initiated Articles, Western Valley Access Channel, Fireworks Committee Request and Donation to Envision Rumford; leaving approx. \$5,984.90. Amount owed to MedCare is \$4,564.00 (remainder of Special Assessment-\$18,000.00 paid from Contingency per a 3-2 Vote). Possible option to use those monies for MedCare payment.

Two Articles to be added to Town Warrant:

*Street Light Project

*MedCare Assessment

Mr. Chase reminded the Board of the proposed Warrant Article for the entire \$22,000.00 request from voters to repay the Contingency Fund. He suggested following through with the Warrant Article. Mr. Belanger agreed.

F. Approve Sale of Certain Tax Acquired Properties

Mr. Belanger made the motion to sell, 1364 Route 2, to Black Mountain Penobscot, LLC for \$9,200.00. Seconded by Mr. Windover

Vote-4-0

Mr. Windover made the motion to sell, 626 Pine Street, to Royal River, LLC for \$29,000.00. Seconded by Mr. Belanger

Vote-4-0

Mr. Belanger made the motion to TABLE, 226 Pine Street. Seconded by Mr. Windover

Vote-4-0

G. Authorize Expenditure to Replace Message Board on Hancock Street

Interim Town Manager brought the explanation forward, along with estimates for two levels of upgrade and replacement (best option) \$15,995.00 or \$23,995.00.

Mr. Belanger asked questions concerning reasons for replacement.

Finance Director replied, software is obsolete and is no longer supported.

Discussion ensued from audience member and Select Board of both pros and cons.

Mr. Windover made the motion to TABLE pending Bid specs. Seconded by Mr. Belanger.

Vote-4-0

H. Discuss LD 1469 (Amend Charter of Rumford-Mexico Sewer District)

Interim Town Manager further explained... Charter amendments to the Rumford-Mexico Sewer District; upgrades at the plant, rate increase, USDA subsidized loan funding,+ Bond Counsel for Sewer District believes certain amendments need to be made to the Charter of the Sewer District, which amounts to legislation in Augusta. He went on to say, the original draft of LD 1469 had numerous housekeeping measures; one in particular would have altered cost methods between Rumford, Mexico and Dixfield; not appropriate for the Town of Rumford. Concerns were raised and with conversation, the Superintendent of the Sewer District agreed with the Town of Rumford. Amendment from 3% total expenditure surplus retainage to 10% retainage. He suggested supporting the legislation as proposed.

Mr. Belanger made the motion accept proposed amendment, as recommended by Interim Town Manager and provide letter of support to the legislature Seconded by Mr. Windover.

Mr. Belanger asked if the 10% would go toward Capital. Interim Town Manager replied, yes and gave further explanation.

Further discussion of concerns ensued, between members of the Board... Requesting updates, upgrades, notifications, etc. from the Sewerage District on a semi-annual basis at least.

Vote-4-0

I. Approve Expenditure Warrant #41

Mr. Chase made the motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Pepin

Vote-3-1 Mr. Belanger Opposed

K. Approval to Waive Fee for Building Use-Auditorium for Healthy Oxford
Communities Event

Mr. Chase made the motion requesting additional supporting information/explanation and details of the event prior to making a decision on this matter. Seconded by Mr. Belanger

Vote-4-0

J. Approval of Quitclaim Deed for 127 Washington Street- Michael and Heidi
Bean for \$1,111.00

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

Vote-4-0

8. Adjourn

Mr. Belanger made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Pepin

Vote-4-0

7:45 pm