

**RUMFORD BOARD of SELECTPERSONS MEETING MINUTES October 17, 2019 at  
6:30 pm Rumford Falls Auditorium**

**Present:** Christopher Brennick- Chairperson, Frank DiConzo- Vice-Chairperson, Michael Peter Chase- Select Person, Mark Belanger-Selectperson, John Pepin-Selectperson, Scott Cole-Interim Town Manager.

**Attendees:** Louanne Cameron, Robert Cameron, Pam McInnis-Kaubris, Opal Varnum, Pennie Arsenault, Candace Anne Casey, Stacy Carter, Ellie Hall, Tom Bourret, Dieter Kreckel, Richard Coulombe, George O'Keefe, Jim Windover, Cathy Windover, Deborah Laurinaitas

**6:30pm in Auditorium**

1. Meeting was called to Order at 6:30pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
3. The board voted to adopt the agenda w/ Amendments as Needed Vote 5-0
  - a. Adopt The Rumford Town Hall Building Roof Repairs
  - b. Table the discussion of the Tobacco Free Policy
4. Public Hearing: Liquor License Gatch's LLC  
NO Comments

Action Following Public Hearing

Approve and Sign Liquor License Gatch's LLC  
**The Board Voted to Approve Liquor License  
Vote 5-0**

Public Hearing: Liquor License Fraternal Order of Eagles  
NO Comments

Action Following Public Hearing

Approve and Sign Liquor License Fraternal Order of Eagles  
**The Board Voted to Approve Liquor License  
Vote 5-0**

5. Comments
  - a. Public Comment
    - i. NONE
  - b. Town Manager's Report
    - i. Brief comments on items: Welcomed Dale Roberts- New Public Works Director, and Ellie Hall- New Executive Assistant to the Town Manager.
  - c. Department Heads and Committee Chairs As Needed
    - i. NONE
  - d. Selectpersons

- i. Mr. Chase- The library roof had some damaged shingles that need to be addressed. Also Mr. Chase attended the first budget committee meeting for Oxford County and there was a 7.5-8% increase in their budget.
  - ii. Mr. Belanger mentioned the LED lights that are on canal street bridge that are out. Mr. O’Keefe commented, the responsibility is with the Town of Rumford to replace the light and that will be addressed.
  - iii. Mr. Brennick discussed the MMA officials training, he and Mr. DiConzo went to.
- 6. Approve Minutes of Selectboard Meetings on
  - a. October 3
    - i. Discussion  
NONE

**The Board Voted to approve the October 3, 2019 minutes  
Vote 5-0**

- 7. Approval of the Expenditure Warrant
 

**The Board Voted to approve the Expenditure Warrant  
Vote 3-2 (DiConzo, Belanager)**
- 8. Appoint Wardens for November 5
  - a. Mr. DiConzo (warden) and Mr. Chase (deputy) appointed
 

**The Board Voted to Approve Mr. DiConzo and Mr. Chase  
Vote 5-0**
- 9. Replacement of the Rumford Town Hall Roof
  - a. Hamel Brothers \$7450.00 bid and Saint Hilaire Contractors \$22,000.00

Comments:  
Candace Casey asked what this investment includes

Mr. Brennick explained the project includes an inspection, repairs to the ETDM roof system.

Stacy Carter explained how he took both bidders up to the roof to view the damage. Mr. Carter recommended the Saint Hilaire Roofing company, due to time frame and the estimate.

Mr. Diconzo, Mr. Belanger commented that the roof needs to be a completed job.  
Jim Windover commented about both of the companies.

**The Board Voted to approve St. Hilaire Contractors for the replacement of the roof  
Vote 5-0**

- 10. Approve the Bureau of Parks and Lands Boating Facilities Amended Grant Agreement
  - a. Stacey Carter commented that the grant was increased due to reflect the archeological digs.
 

**The Board Voted to approve the Amended Grant Agreement  
Vote 5-0**

- 11. Discussion and approval Memorandum of understanding RMSD
  - a. Mr. Cole commented that there was a warning about the overflow and another warning from the DEP to address issues.
 

**Mr. Brennick made the motion to TABLE pending additional information. Second by Belanger.  
Vote 5-0**

12. Discussion and approval of Kenneally and Company Marketing proposal

Mr. Brennick asked if Rumford could start off slower with the marketing plan and pick and choose what would best fit for Rumford

Jennifer Kenneally presented information on the company and what Kenneally and Company could bring to Rumford, starting with strategy, branding, bringing tourism to Rumford. Mentioned using videography, social media, and new logos to draw tourism to Rumford.

Candace Casey commented on the \$10,000 that was put towards economic development in the past.

Mr. Belanger explained that money went towards the falls and it was a Western Maine Economic Development project that the Town of Rumford did contribute to.

Mr. O'keefe made a further comment that the economic developer isn't a professional videographer, but can execute that job to a professional who can bring people to Rumford.

Mr. Brennick asked if George had funds in the economic development account for this project.

Mr. O'Keefe explained that this is with the economic development fund and this takes up 5% of the total economic development fund.

Mr. DiConzo is wondering if Rumford is ready/prepared for a project like this. Reasoning: Lack of lodging.

Mr. O'Keefe agreed with Mr. DiConzo, and explained that this will take time, but this is the first step for Rumford.

Mr. Chase proposed the question if the Chamber of Commerce is involved and if they should be.

Mr. O'Keefe and Mr. Brennick expressed that the Chamber is very careful with including all of the River Valley area, and this would become a joint matter and not just about Rumford.

Jennifer Kenneally expressed that whatever footage that was captured by Kenneally and Company Marketing is shareable and could be shared with the Chamber.

Mr. Pepin expressed his concerns regarding uncertainty with what the brand of Rumford really is and what Rumford is selling.

Mr. Brennick asked how do we find our brand and how do we find our path. Also asked if Kenneally and Company Marketing had experience with all aspects of social media.

Jennifer Kenneally answered yes they are well rounded in social media.  
Candace Casey asked how much the program costs

Mr. Brennick answered \$10,000.

Discussion about the current purchasing policy broke out between Cole, Brennick, and Chase.

Mr. Chase expressed that he believes Rumford is ready for a project like this and if Rumford isn't ready then it should be made ready.

Mr. Chase, Mr. Pepin, and Mr. Brennick discuss the importance of bringing the day trippers to Rumford. Discussion of what Rumford offers, such as Black Mountain, the river, and snowmobile trails. Whether or not those attractions are built to handle day trippers.

Mr. O'Keefe uses an example of a man who moved to Rumford from New Jersey to escape the congestion of the city. O'Keefe continued about how people are moving to Rumford.

**Mr. Chase made the motion to accept the proposal, Brennick Second.  
The Board Voted to accept the Kenneally and Company Marketing proposal  
Vote 4-1 Belanger**

Further comments, Mr. Brennick and Mr. DiConzo emphasized communication between the Board and Kenneally and Company Marketing.

13. Discussion and approval as needed of Tobacco Free Policy

**Mr. Brennick made the motion to TABLE pending a presentation on the matter, second by Mr. DiConzo. The Board voted to table the discussion.**

**Vote 5-0**

14. Discussion and approval of Scheduling of Licensing and Permit fees

- a. Mr. Coulombe expressed that there is a need for small and large scale solar farms to be on the permit fees list. Mr. Coulombe has four potential parties interested in the solar farms and there are no permits or fees to back them.

**The Board voted to approve the Scheduling of Licensing and Permit fees  
Vote 5-0**

15. Approval of Parade Permit- Christmas in the Valley

**The Board voted to approve the Parade Permit for the Christmas in the Valley  
Vote 5-0**

16. Approval of Parade Permit-5K Benefit run

**The Board voted to approve the Parade Permit for the 5K Benefit run  
Vote 5-0**

17. Communication from Med-Care re 2020 Subsidy Rate

- a. Med-Care is requesting an increase of 38% increase.

Mr. Brennick proposed that there be a representative from Med-Care be present at a meeting to explain what the increase is for.

Jim Windover proposed that the Town of Rumford Fire Department train all of their employees to be trained in EMT as well. Windover used an example of the Town of Waterville just bought two used ambulance vehicles and are doing both fire and ambulance services.

Mr. Chase stressed his concern that the Town of Rumford needs to talk with Med-Care about their spending, staffing and cost cutting.

Jim Windover commented that Rumford can't deny service to people. Reiterated that other cities have combined fire and ambulance services.

Candace Casey expressed her concern that there needs to be more than two ambulance vehicles in Rumford because there is demand.

Mr. Brennick requests that Dean, Bob, Stephanie, and Stephanie have a conversation about the matter.

18. Consider Request for Handicapped Parking Designation at 123 Washington Street

Candace Casey expresses that there is an abundance of parking around 123 Washington Street. Casey is requesting there be a Handicapped Parking spot in front of her apartment, as a car continues to make it difficult for her and her service dog to get in and out of her house.

Mr. Brennick asked if Mr. Carter has had a chance to look at the space.

Mr. Carter expressed that he has not had a chance to look at the space, but also expressed that Handicapped parking spots are mostly for businesses and not for residential areas. Carter also stated that Handicapped parking spots are for those who have a Handicapped tag and not for taxis.

Candace Casey explained how she does have a Handicapped Parking pass and how many residential areas around apartments in Rumford that have Handicapped parking.

Mr. Chase referenced the photo that Casey handed out, and noted that there is a sidewalk that Casey can walk left or right leaving her apartment.

Candace Casey explained that it is unsafe in the winter for both herself and her service dog to go down the sidewalk.

Mr. Chase made the motion to deny the request. Second by Mr. Pepin

Mr. Brennick expressed that he would feel better if the motion was tabled and then evaluate the parking space by Mr. Carter

**The Board voted on denying the request for a Handicapped space on 123 Washington street, that request was defeated.**

**Vote 2-3 (DiConzo, Belanger, Brennick)**

**The Board voted to TABLE the request until Mr. Carter is able to evaluate the request.**

**Vote 3-2 (Chase Pepin)**

19. Consider Request for Crosswalk Painting Vicinity Hope Association on Hancock Street

- a. Mr. Carter explained that this request has already been brought to the attention of the Public Works Department, and will be done.

Mr. DiConzo made the motion to go into executive session, second by Mr. Pepin.

**The Board voted on going into executive session**

**Vote 5-0**

20. Executive Session for Purpose of Real Estate Negotiations, Union Contract Negotiations,  
Litigation w/ Attorney, and Personnel Matter- **Started at 7:53pm**

**Ended at 8:25pm**

21. Adjourn

**8:26pm**