

Minutes of Meeting Held on August 15, 2019

This meeting was held in the Rumford Falls Auditorium which was well-attended.

Prior to meeting commencement, Board Chairman Chris Brennick and resident Barbara Arsenault both delivered salutatory remarks citing the many contributions that resident Patricia Thurston has made to the greater Rumford community and to American Legion Post #24.

Accordingly, Mrs. Thurston was recognized as 2019 Rumford Citizen of the Year which drew sustained applause and a standing ovation from attendees.

The Board then convened its meeting at 6:45 pm. All members were present (Belanger, Brennick, Chase, DiConzo, Pepin).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A meeting agenda was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board following the addition of two items related to fire department operations. An agenda has been attached to these minutes.

The Board conducted a public hearing for purpose of receiving comment on an application for a liquor license/special amusement permit.

The hearing was closed.

On motion of Belanger and second by DiConzo, the Board voted unanimously to approve the application of KAN, LLC for a liquor license and special amusement permit doing business as Hotel Rumford.

The Board then considered comments from the public, town manager and code enforcement officer concerning various municipal matters. In particular, Jodi Campbell of Penobscot Street expressed concern for the conditions of a construction project at 239 Penobscot Street.

Selectperson Chase pointed out that the caucus to select county budget committee members would be held at the MedCare building on August 28.

Chairman Brennick commented on his recent attendance at a Peru Selectmen's meeting where a conversation concerning potential for a future, regional recreation center had occurred.

The Board tabled action on approval of minutes of past meetings. Drafts of minutes for meetings held on June 28, July 18 and August 1 were not yet available.

On motion of Chase and second by Belanger, the Board voted unanimously to approve an expenditure of \$7,341 for unanticipated repairs to a fire truck.

On motion by Chase and second by Brennick, the Board voted 3-2 (Belanger, DiConzo) to approve an expenditure warrant dated August 15, 2019.

The Board tabled a request from Rumford Eagles Aerie #1248 to close a portion of Oxford Ave on September 28 pending receipt of more information.

The Board and an engineer from CES, Nathan Gustafson, discussed the downtown rehabilitation project. Mr. Gustafson outlined several decisions which town officials would need to make in the next several weeks. No action was taken with understanding that said decisions with alternatives would be presented to the Board at its September 5 meeting.

On motion by Belanger and second by Chase, the Board voted unanimously to place a referendum on the November 5 ballot regarding amendment to chapter 19 of town code, said chapter dealing with traffic regulation.

On motion by Belanger and second by Chase, the Board then voted unanimously to place a referendum on the November 5 ballot regarding amendment to chapter 25-H of town code, said chapter dealing with property maintenance.

On motion of Brennick and second by DiConzo, the Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution which authorized the town manager execute a \$428,450 Master Lease Purchase Agreement and related documents, as may be needed, w/ Municipal Leasing Consultants, LLC to finance acquisition and conversion of streetlights.

At 8:10 pm the Board voted unanimously to enter a series of executive sessions in order discuss two matters related to real estate negotiations, an item of pending litigation with a town attorney, and a personnel matter.

The Board returned to open session at 9:50 pm.

Upon motion of Chase and second by DiConzo, the Board voted unanimously to post the position of Public Works Director for a period of 30 days.

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:55 pm.

Scott G. Cole
Interim Town Manager

These meeting minutes were subsequently approved by the Rumford Board of Selectpersons at a meeting held on September 5, 2019.