

TOWN OF RUMFORD BOARD *of* SELECTPERSONS MINUTES

September 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Municipal Building Auditorium

1. 5:30 PM Workshop with Dept. Heads ref ARPA Funding

Discussion about American Rescue Plan act monies we are scheduled to receive. We have received \$303,000 and the other \$303,000 will come a year from now. Town Manager Carter read ways in which ways this money could be used. Carter reminds the board to keep in mind we are still in Covid conditions so whatever we decide to spend he suggests we keep a percentage for unexpected Covid expenses. Carter notes he has had many requests/suggestions on where/how to spend this money. Carter noted a packet contains a request from Police and Fire Unions for hazard pay. Brennick read a list of suggestions that were sent in on ideas of use of the money to benefit Rumford citizens. Brennick opened the floor for a roundtable discussion. Many ideas were shared by and with the board. Brennick noted he thought the money should be used for one time things Carter, Roberts and Diconzo spoke on pumping station that date back to the 70's for upgrade. Chief Reed spoke on tracks for rescue vehicle for winter rescue. Chief Reed noted Cross Country Skiing has increased from Black to White Mountain and they have no ability to get to extreme places he noted the vehicle was donated by military. He also noted the addition of extreme sports in the river as well being motivated by increased outdoor activity because of Covid and they have limited rescue equipment to respond to the added activities. O'Keefe spoke on Façade improvement Grants with 50/50 match. Linnell Gironda spoke that she would like to see some of the first responders get some of those funds as they were constantly exposed during Covid. Chief Milligan spoke on what it was like for RPD to prepare to respond, exposure to subjects with Covid. Chief Reed spoke on the stress on his department as well. He also spoke on keeping in mind that the Delta variant exposure may come with additional costs. Chief Milligan spoke on camera system he has inquired about would have the capability of identifying where a Covid exposure contacts had taken place. Roberts discussed that the Fire station site would need some water and sewer updates. Workshop closed at 5:57 p.m.

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Hearing.

Discussion/ Approval of Liquor License and Special Amusement Permit for Black Mountain of Maine and Gatch's Food, Spirits and Catering.

No Comments.

4. Action following Public Hearing:

Discussion/ Approval of Liquor License and Special Amusement Permit for Black Mountain of Maine and Gatch's Food, Spirits and Catering.

Motion to approve liquor license and special Amusement Permits for Gatch's Food, Spirits and Catering made by DiConzo and seconded by Theriault. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Motion to approve liquor license and special Amusement Permits for Black Mountain of Maine by Brennick and seconded by DiConzo. Vote 4-0-1 (Chase abstaining)

5. Public Hearing

Adoption of Local General Assistance Ordinance and Yearly Appendices for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Maximums.

No comments.

6. Action Following Public Hearing

Adoption of Local General Assistance Ordinance and Yearly Appendices for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Maximums

Motion by DiConzo and seconded by Theriault to adopt Local General Assistance Ordinance and Yearly Appendices for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Maximums prepared by MMA. Vote 5-0 in favor.

7. Adopt Agenda

Motion to adopt agenda adding Ex Session 1MRS 405 (6) LE- Legal matter By Brennick and seconded by DiConzo. Vote 5-0 in favor.

8. Comments

a. Public Comment: None

b. Town Manager's Report

Carter noted he postponed the Clock Tower Project as the Engineer has not shown up as scheduled and it is getting too late to paint this year. Carter noted he got an email from the Dept. of Labor that minimum wage has had an increase again from \$12.15 to \$12.75 effective Jan 1, 2022. Carter stated the VA had their groundbreaking and they hope their building will be constructed by December so they can work inside through the winter.

c. Department Heads and Committee Chairs

Dale Roberts from Public Works reviewed what they had accomplished of late and that he had hired replacement for Troy Duguay who resigned.

Chief Milligan updated on his staffing issues including an Officer out since July on sick leave and another Officer is at The Police Academy and will return to the department in December. Chief Milligan noted a resignation of an Officer who took on a full time position as a resource officer for Norway Police Dept. Chief stated they have been able to utilize our part-time Officer to take on some of these hours. Chief said there are many requests for time off by Officers that are being denied because of coverage needs. Chief Milligan mentioned recently we had hired a full time Officer coming over from the Town of Mexico. Chief Milligan noted the call levels are high and are on pace to be higher than last year. Chief Milligan reviewed the types of calls the Department is handling. Chief Milligan noted the loss of life of an Officer this week from Hancock County who was killed after responding to a call.

d. Select Board

Jim Theriault spoke of Condolences to the Hancock Sheriff's Deputy. Theriault also noted the lights on Hancock going north are changing very quickly.

9. Approve Minutes Sept 2, and Sept 15th, 2021

Motion by DiConzo and seconded by Theriault to approve the minutes of Sept 2 and Sept 15th, 2021. Vote 5-0 in favor.

10. Approve Warrant number #13

Motion by DiConzo and seconded by Theriault to approve Warrant #13. Vote 5-0 in favor.

11. Discuss/Approve Resolution of Credit Enhancement Agreement with Penacook Falls Investments LTD.

Brennick discussed the TIF and some of the terms.

Brennick made a motion that read:

The Board of Selectpersons hereby approves the following modifications to the TIF agreement.

- a. Moving the Reimbursement Period back one year such that it will commence with the with the Town's 2021-2022 Fiscal Year and continue through and include the Town's 2030-2031 Fiscal Year; and

- b. Moving the Placed in Service Date back from March 31, 2020 to March 31, 2022, by which time, if the Project is not placed in service, the Town may declare that the TIF Agreement shall be terminated.

Motion seconded by DiConzo. Vote 5-0 in favor

Motion by Brennick that read

The Board of Selectpersons hereby authorize the Town Manager, in the name of and on behalf of the Town, to enter into an amendment to the TIF Agreement consistent with this Resolution, with such other terms and conditions as he deems reasonably necessary or convenient.

Motion seconded by DiConzo. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Motion by DiConzo that read:

The Town Manager be and hereby is authorized to take any and all additional action or to execute and deliver any other acknowledgments, documents or agreements to reflect the consent of the Town evidenced by the foregoing resolutions.

Motion seconded by Theriault. Vote 5-0 in favor.

12. Discuss/Approve hiring of new Police Officers

Chief Milligan spoke on hiring Amos Abbott as a new fulltime Police Officer he is currently part time. Chief Milligan also requested to hire a part-time position to Robert Nejad.

Motion by Brennick and seconded by DiConzo to hire Amos Abbott to the full time position and Robert Nejad to part time position. Vote 5-0 in favor.

13. Recognize Individual Designated Fund Balances at June 30, 2021

Brennick reviewed the balances in the Individual Designated Funds.

Motion by DiConzo and seconded by McLean to approve the balances. Questions asked and answered by the board. Vote 5-0 in favor.

14. Discuss using Town funds to expand Broadband on Cedar Lane

Citizens of Cedar Lane spoke on request to have help funding expansion on a private road in Rumford. A resident sited needs for children's educational needs, medical

needs and other needs. A letter was presented to the board prior to the meeting. The board discussed the issue. The Town Manager stated he does not support buying utility services on private roads. He understands there are programs to pay for that and he supports George O'Keefe applying for anything available. Carter notes it's an inherent cost when you build on a private road. Carter notes he too lives on a private road and has to pay for these types of things. He notes the residents of that road that already have it had paid for it privately. He notes that if one private road was done all the private roads would want to be done as well and the town does not have the funds to do so. Points were discussed by residents and board members. Residents requested what the Grant was that the town received from Northern Borders Grant. It was explained that was for the Island and the grants were already spent.

Motion by Brennick and seconded by DiConzo for the Economic Developer to search for a grant to extend broadband on Cedar Lane. Vote 5-0 in favor.

15. Discuss ARPA funding categories.

Discussion on how to use this money keeping in mind a portion of this money is kept for more supplies or lost time as we are still dealing with Covid. The board discussed when individual requests come in if it should be out of that monies or the capital.

16. Discuss/Approve waiving fee for Pumpkinfest Hawkers and Peddlers.

Chase made a motion and Brennick seconded motion to wave the application for Pumpkin Fest. Vote 4-0-1 (McLean abstained)

17. Discuss/Approve Electronic Message Sign Bid

Carter discussed that 3 bids were received, described the cellular connection that is included in the cost for the lifetime of the sign. Carter noted the sign will go back in the same place as the disabled sign. Carter stated the sign should be in place in a few weeks' time.

Motion by Brennick and seconded by Chase to approve the bid made by Bailey Signs for \$17,800.00 out of Capital funds. Vote 5-0 in favor.

18. Executive Session ref Labor Negotiation 1 MRS §405(6)(D)

Motion to go into executive Session by Brennick and seconded by DiConzo. Vote 5-0 in favor. In session at 8:18 p.m. Out of session at 8:54 p.m.

Diconzo made a motion to approve MOA with Police and it was seconded by McLean. Vote 5-0 in favor.

19. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by McLean and seconded by DiConzo to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Vote 5-0 in favor. Adjourned.

