Board of Selectmen  
August 20, 2018  
Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes  

Present: Select Board Members Present – Robert Berti, George Bonfiglio  
Ed Haskell - Present to sign documents excused early  
Town Administrator - Joe Chivell  

6:30 PM Meeting opened by Selectman, Robert Berti.  
Payroll and accounts payable checks reviewed for signature.  

6:30 PM Chief Miller Police Department update;  
The department September Schedule was given to the Board. Selectman, George  
Bonfiglio asked why Officer Maes was not scheduled for shifts during September.  
Chief Miller explained the Maes had other obligations and vacation planned  
during that time.  

The 2010 cruiser failed its State Safety Inspection because the fuel level sensor is  
not working, in the past it was not required for the safety inspection, but it now is  
a requirement. The cost of the repair will be determined by the amount of rust  
that is encountered around the gas tank during the repair. The right front hub is  
having a vacuum issue that will need to be repaired.  

Chief Miller presented a revised Parking Ordinance for the Boards’ review. The  
revised ordinance was first given to the police department liaison, Ed Haskell, and  
Administrative Assistant, Joe Chivell for input.  

The Chief and the Board briefly discussed the parking directly in front of the  
library and parking on the common. The common parking issue has been  
minimized. Chief Miller will speak to Librarian, Susan Turbyne, before the next  
meeting.  

The revised parking ordinance will be discussed again at the next Board meeting,  
and when ready will have a public hearing scheduled.  

Selectman, Bob Berti, voiced his concern of the tractor trailer unit that is still  
being parked on the side of Old Route 25. Chief Miller reported back that he  
spoke with the driver of the unit and it seems to be off the road, but he will check  
on it periodically. The unit will not be able to park along the road side during the  
winter months as it will cause an issue with road maintenance.  

6:45 PM Terri Downs, of Main Street Rumney, asked to speak with the Board concerning  
the road side gravel that was put down after Main Street/Stinson Lake Road was  
paved. Mr. Downs understands this road is a State road but did not feel his issue  
was addressed by the State DOT staff when he went to the State DOT Shed. The  
Board members agreed that is was a State Road but would attempt to have some  

Approved Version of Meeting Minutes of the August 20, 2018 Selectmen’s Meeting
Gerard Thibodeau, Chairman of the Planning Board, requested that the Board of Selectman representative to the Planning Board, George Bonfiglio, control his tone while taking part in Planning Board meetings. Bonfiglio stated that he has a tone that he knows is loud, but it is who he is. Bonfiglio stated that he has, and will apologize, to people when he thinks he has been too loud.

The Board of Selectmen July 16, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion to accept the July 16, 2018 meeting minutes. Selectman, Bob Berti, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Fire Chief, David Coursey, had asked to meet with the Board along with the Fire Commissioners, Gerard Thibodeau and Charlie Buckley to discuss the Depot Street Fire Station.

Selectman, Bob Berti, started the discussion by reporting on the resent visit by Tarm Biomass Heating. The projected cost to change from a traditional oil heating system, to a Biomass heating system, that would heat both the Depot Street Fire Station and the Rumney Town Office Building is in excess of $100,000.00. The cost, even with the long-term energy credits was far too costly. This same company offered a basic furnace replacement at a cost of approximately $12,000.00.

Fire Chief, David Coursey had received one other furnace replace cost of approximately $13,000.00. The town will obtain a furnace replace cost from Pemi River Fuels, after which the discussion of heating the fire station can resume.

Gerard Thibodeau stated he served on the Facility Needs Committee when it was last asked to convene, during the summer and fall of 2016. Thibodeau indicated that Rumney resident, Charlie Buckley, had offered to complete the mechanical designed for the both the Depot Street Fire Station and the Rumney Town Office Building.

Thibodeau stated that during the meetings of the Facility Committee it was recommended to add a 24’X40’ addition to the fire station and move the police department into that building. It was also recommended to place an 18’X30”, with full foundation, addition on to the Town Office Building. Thibodeau indicated he has a contact that could design plans for both additions and place an estimated cost on each.

Selectman, Bob Berti, asked Mr. Thibodeau where this lays in the Capital Improvement Plan. Berti explained that there are two more years on the library
addition loan and the school is asking for an extensive remodel in the next few years. Berti added that he is not against the town office and fire station additions, he just wants to have a plan with real costs and have no major affect the tax rate. Berti explained that the Board of Selectmen must look at the big picture, that it is not only buildings, but equipment needs as well.

Fire Chief, David Coursey, stated he had concerns about the current Depot Street Fire Station, which are; the lack of insulation, wiring issues, the heating system, and the erosion of some of the concrete blocks that make up the walls.

Selectman, Bob Berti, asked if it was a wise decision to place a new addition onto a building that had questionable structural integrity and could have to have major renovations completed to continue its safe use. Berti continued asking if, at some point it was cheaper to start fresh. Thibodeau questioned the cost of a new building, to which Berti replied he was just asking the question and wants to make the best-informed decision.

Fire Chief, David Coursey, stated that the building can continue to receive band aides, but the bottom line is they are getting busier and are growing. Selectman, Berti, asked if that was the fire department or EMS. Chief Coursey replied that EMS needs drives all communities that he knows of.

There was continued discussion concerning capital reserve funding verses bonding. There was also discussion regarding the band aid effect and building a structure that is truly a need and a long-term solution. In the end, the Board of Selectmen need to hear from the Fire Chief and the Fire Commissions the status of the current buildings and a recommendation of moving forward.

Fire Commissioner, Cam Brown, stated the commissioners were not aware that the discussion of the building was going to take place tonight, they were in attendance to speak to the Board about the resent meeting the EMS Director, Dan Medaglia. The Commissioners did not know that the Board of Selectmen had not been made aware of the discussions of merging the Fire Department and EMS. Brown stated that the poor communications were regrettable and that the Commissioners were not trying to undermine the Board by having these discussions. Selectman, Bob Berti, stated that the Board was surprised to read about it in an email attached to last month’s EMS activity report. Selectman Berti stated that a merger could not happen unless it went before the Town at the Annual meeting in March. Berti also stated that the Board was assembling a committee to evaluate the Rumney EMS Department. The Selectmen are concerned about the number of calls that Rumney EMS receive and respond too, Berti stated it’s a coverage issue. Fire Chief, David Coursey, stated there is no coverage issue as long as Plymouth EMS is responding to Rumney calls.

8:45 PM Town Administrator Report:
- On August 20, 2018 Road Agent, Nick Coursey, Selectman, Bob Berti,
and Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, met with Paul Hatch, NHEM, and Craig Rennie, NH-DES regarding a possibility of obtaining a wetland permit to correct storm damaged area of Clarke Brook. The town is proposing reclaiming the brook’s original path by clearing rocks and trees that are causing a blockage. The Town is also proposing placing riprap and stone along the brook bank that is being eroded towards the roadway. Rennie understood what the town was proposing to complete for work and did not, initially, see any issues with obtaining a permit to complete the work. Rennie will forward an application to be completed and submitted to obtain the proper permit.

- Rumney Transfer Station Superintendent, Milton “Sonny” Ouellette, submitted a request to purchase a ramp to be used in conjunction with the loading platform. The ramp was part of the Transfer Station operating budget. The cost of the ramp is also eligible to be reimbursed by a grant that has been obtained by the Town.

- Executive Councilor, Joe Kenney, forwarded information pertaining to the contact information for the correct person to discuss the status of the Rumney Rest Area. The Board authorized the Town Administrator to move forward on requesting status and plans concerning the Rumney Rest Area.

- Labor Day is recognized as a Town Holiday, it is also the first Monday of the Month which would normally be a Selectmen’s Meeting. The Board determined to reschedule the Selectmen’s meeting for September 4, 2018.

- James R. St. Jean Auctioneers provided two dates to host the auction for the tax deed property at 470 Rumney Route 25. The options were either Friday October 12th or Saturday October 13th. The Board agreed on the morning of Saturday October 13th.

- The Tax Collectors Office provided the Board with a list of properties that are due to go to deed next month. There is a time frame for the property owner or the mortgage holder to make payment. The Tax Collector will notify the Board what properties will go to deed after that date.

- Timber Yield Tax Warrant for timber cuts on 9-2-6 and 2-4-3 were provided to the Board for review and signature. To Board signed both warrants.

9:05 PM New Business
- The Board discussed creating an advisory committee to look into the status of Rumney’s EMS department and how the department should move forward. Letters will be sent to potential members; Judy Hall, Isaac Deweever, Mark Andrew, Dan Medaglia and Janice Mulherin. The other member of the committee will be Town Administrator, Joe Chivell. Any Select Board member is invited to attend the meetings.

9:10 PM Old Business
- The Board had a personnel issue to discuss. Chairman, Bob Berti, made a motion to enter into nonpublic session as allowed by NH RSA
91-A:3, II. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

At 9:20 M Chairman, Bob Berti, made a motion to leave nonpublic session and return public session. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Chairman, Bob Berti, made a motion to indefinitely seal the nonpublic minutes as it could adversely affect the reputation of any person other than a member of the Board. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

9:22 PM Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chairman, Bob Berti. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator
Rumney, New Hampshire

Up-coming events

Planning Board Meeting August 28, 2018
Town Office Closed September 3, 2018 (Labor Day)
Selectmen’s Meeting September 4, 2018
Fire Commissions September 11, 2018
Selectmen’s Meeting September 17, 2018