Board of Selectmen  
January 21, 2019  
Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes

Present:  Select Board Members Present – Robert Berti & George Bonfiglio  
Town Administrator - Joe Chivell  
Excused Absence – Ed Haskell

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

Police Chief, Brett Miller, meet with the Board to give the Police Department’s update.  Miller provided the bi-weekly activity report and statistics.  He stated that activity is up, almost like summer activity numbers.  Chief Miller provided an overview of the department’s February schedule.

A Prosecutor contract, with the Office of the Grafton County Attorney, was given to the Board for review and signature.  It is a one-year contract that provides case prosecution, as needed, for a flat fee.  The Board members that were present agreed to sign the contract.

Chief Miller provided a copy of the Part-time Officer ad he would like to run in the local paper.

A cruiser update was given by the Chief.  The 2010 Cruiser battery has been died twice in the past couple of weeks.  It has been determined that the 2015 Cruiser does have a problem with the Rack and Pinion, more information will follow on the repair status.

The Board had asked that the Chief provide additional justification on the request to purchase a radar traffic sign.  A handout describing the sign the chief had been looking into was provided for review.  A discussion followed covering the features the sign provided: number of cars, time of day vehicle count, speeds travels, among others.  The information gathered will provided information to allow for directed patrols to address traffic issues.  Traffic pattern information could also be provided to the Highway Department to target high travel periods to assist with scheduling road maintenance.

7:05 PM  
Transfer Station Superintendent, Milton “Sonny” Ouellette, and invited guest, Gary Lavine, of Casella Waste Systems, met with the Board to follow up on a meeting that was held November 19, 2018.  Mike Casella was scheduled to be at the meeting but was not able to attend due to weather and a road closure.  Lavine delivered a new, reduced, rate for hauling the transfer station canisters from Rumney to the Casella facility.  Although the rates had been reduced the Board has questions that Lavine was unable to address.  It was agreed to reschedule the meeting and or have Mike Casella providing the updated information in a letter to

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7:25 PM Gary Lavine left the meeting. Ouellette stayed to discuss the issue with the compactor that caused the transfer station to shut down last weekend. Water had made its way into the hydraulic fluid reservoir and during the extreme cold last weekend froze. The freeze up did not allow the compactor ram to function. There was a discussion on the possibly placing a thermostat-controlled heating system in the reservoir, at the cost of $2,400. It was determined that the fluid could be flushed, gaskets could be replaced, and a space heater could be used to warm the reservoir at a more cost-effective manner to avoid this issue from reoccurring.

7:40 PM Town Administrator Report

• Meeting minutes of the following Board of Selectmen meeting were proved to review: 11/29/2018, 12/03/2018, 12/17/2018. Selectman George Bonfiglio made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the meetings held on 11/29/2018, 12/03/2018, 12/17/2018. Selectman, Bob Berti, seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

• Intent to Cut, 14-3-7, was reviewed and signed.

• A copy of the warrant articles for the 2019 Town Meeting were presented for review. The articles have been submitted to NH-DRA and town legal council for review. An updated cost for the EMS heart monitor had come in prior to this meeting. The budgeted cost was $35,000. A new purchasing price of $32,016 had just been obtained by the EMS director. With the recommended addition to the EMS Major Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, the account will have funding to cover the purchase without any additional taxes be raised. The Board directed the warrant article to be changed to address the new cost and the complete funding from the EMS Major Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

• A budgeting price to raze the buildings on the town owned property located at 1140 Old Route 25 requested by the Town Administrator and submitted last week. Chivell asked about adding $4,000 to the Tax Deeded Property line item. Chairman, Bob Berti, did not want to act on this until selectman, Ed Haskell, was in available to discuss the item.

• Emergency Services Contracts for Groton and Dorchester were provided for review. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, explained that the Fire Protection agreements showed a considerable increase. As in all prior years this year’s agreements are based off of the prior year’s costs of operation. The Fire Department experienced increases primarily due to the purchased self-contained breathing apparatuses - $35,000, increase cost of protective clothing - $6,961.42, replacement furnace and chimney $15,245.68, and vehicles repairs - $10,822.33. Selectman, Bob Berti, requested that the cover letter sent with the agreements outline the reason for the increase. The agreements were signed by the Board members at the meeting. The agreements will be mailed to the Groton and Dorchester
Boards of Selectmen.

- The Transfer Station agreement was reviewed and signed. The agreement will be mailed to the Dorchester Board of Selectmen for review.
- The utilities appeals are still ongoing. There will be a mediation meeting scheduled soon to discuss rate setting. The Board directed the Town Administrator to attend the meetings.
- The Annual Town Report is on schedule and drafts have been given to the printers. The final pages can not be submitted until after the Public Budget Hearing.
- The Town Administrator had received two items that were advised to be discussed in nonpublic session.
  - At 8:05 PM, Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion under RSA 91-A:3, II (c) to go into nonpublic session. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.
  - At 8:15 PM Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session. Selectman, Bob Berti, seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.
  - Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to seal the nonpublic session minutes indefinitely, in that they could adversely affect the reputation of any person other than a member of the Board. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.
  - No action required by this Board at this time.
  - At 8:20 PM, Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion under RSA 91-A:3, II (c) to go into nonpublic session. Selectman, Bob Berti, seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.
  - At 8:35 PM, Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.
  - Selectman, Bob Berti, made a motion to indefinitely seal the nonpublic session minutes, in that they could adversely affect the reputation of any person other than a member of the Board. Selectman, George Bonfiglio, seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0.
  - No action will be taken until the full Board can meet on this issue.
- Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, brought the status of Rumney’s Boston Cane to the Select Board attention. It is Chivell’s understanding that there is a need to recognize a new “Eldest Resident of Rumney”. Upon confirmation it was requested that the Boston Cane be reassigned at either the Town Elections or the Annual Town Meeting. The Board agreed with this action and asked that it be addressed as soon as possible.

8:50 PM     Old Business:
- Russell School Bond and informational Hearings. Selectman, Bob Berti, reported that both he and the Town Administrator have attended the Bond and Informational Hearing, regarding the proposed $6.2 million
building project at Russell School. The information that was gathered was:

- If the School Board Option 1, is voted into action there will no longer be a request for Capital Reserve Funding.
- The re-payment includes the continued use of unrestricted fund balances.
- School Board option 1, is completely contingent of the State School Funds request being granted.
- Of concern is the length of time the School Board choices to repay the bond.

8:55 PM Selectman, George Bonfiglio, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Selectman, Bob Berti, seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 2-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator

Up-coming events:

January 28th    School Board Informational Meeting
January 29th    Planning Board Meeting
February 4th    Board of Selectmen Meeting with Public Budget Hearing
February 6th    School Deliberative Session
February 11th   Fire Commissioners Meeting
February 13th   Conservation Committee Meeting
February 18th   Board of Selectmen Meeting
February 26th   Planning Board Meeting