

Board of Selectmen
March 4, 2024
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Present: Selectmen Ed Haskell, Bob Berti and Isaac DeWever
Town Administrator, Joe Chivell

6:30 PM Meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Ed Haskell.
Payroll and accounts payable checks were reviewed and signed.

Documents to review & sign:

- Payroll worksheet
- Revised Cemetery Plot Deed
- Septic Design 12-009 001 – The design noted a reduction in the number of bedrooms from seven (7) to five (5) in the former residence building. A grease trap had been added for the former restaurant building. It had been indicated that the restaurant building will be a “Take-out” style pizza and sandwich shop, with minimal customer (10) and staff (4). The key seemed to be missing the wetlands designation. The Board agreed to sign the design so that it could be forwarded to DES for their review process.

6:45 Fire Department Update –

Fire Chief, Evan Hacker, was scheduled to meet with the Board of Selectmen to provide a Department update. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported that Chief Hacker had contacted him to advise him he was at a multiple alarm structure fire in Thornton and did not see being cleared from that call in time to make the Board meeting. Chivell was able to provide information on the following items that Chief Hacker was going to discuss with the Board.

Fire Chief Hacker had received a quote to reprogram the radios that had been donated by the City of Laconia to the Town of Rumney. OME quoted the cost of \$50.00 per radio. The Board approved the expenditure.

The Fire Chief's monthly active report along with the monthly Department Activity Report was provided to the Board for their review.

Chivell reported that Chief Hacker was in the planning stages to make the trip to conduct the pre-delivery inspection of the new fire engine. Hacker hopes that long time Fire Department member, Frank Simpson, will agree to make the trip with him.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, stated Chief Hacker and he had talked about dry hydrant projects for the summer of 2024. The last discussion centered on the Groton Hollow Road dry hydrant installation. The funding is still in place from Groton Winds. The location is the bigger question at this point. Hacker indicated that he would walk the

brook along Groton Hollow Road to locate an accessible deep area. Hacker is also working on plans and RFQ's for installation of other dry hydrants.

6:50 PM Highway Department Update –

Road Agent, Nick Coursey, was scheduled to meet with the Board of Selectmen to discuss Highway Department operation items. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, explained that Road Agent Coursey was at the same multiple alarm structure fire in Thornton and did not see being cleared from that call in time to make the Board meeting. Chivell was able to provide information on the following items that Road Agent Coursey was going to discuss with the Board.

Road Agent Coursey will be requesting that the Board approve the reduction of the “Mud Season” road posting from 10 Ton to 6 Ton. This reduction will not be placed into action this year but would be a plan for 2025. Coursey has reported that several of the roads posted in Rumney lead onto roads of neighboring Town's that are posted at 6 Ton. Coursey also feels that the increased volume of heavy traffic is causing damage to the Town roads. Coursey will need to order new signs for the lower limits. Chivell explained that local officials have the statutory duty to maintain all Class V roads on a year-round basis, RSA 231:190 and :191 allow them to take special steps to protect the roads from damage by imposing limits of the weight of vehicles that use the roads. The limits can be either permanent or temporary. The weight limits are sent in consultation with the Road Agent. Following a brief discussion, the Board will support the Road Agents' request following an in-person meeting with him. They will want an equal enforcement of the Posted Roads. The Board also agreed to allow the expenditure on new signs.

The Road Agent would also like to speak with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the removal of a few hazardous trees on East Rumney Road. Since East Rumney Road has been deemed a Scenic Way, the Road Agent will need to either discuss the tree removal with the Board of Selectmen or with the Rumney Planning Board. No action will be taken on this matter until the Road Agent can meet with the Board in-person.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, stated that the Road Agent wanted to speak with them about the timing of ordering the replacement highway truck, pending the warrant article passing at Town Meeting. A brief discussion amongst the Board members resulted in them asking for the different dealership bids on the cab and chassis. They also wanted to see the bids for the build of the truck.

7:00 PM Public Forum –

No one was present to take part in the Public Forum.

Town Administrator Report –

Meeting minutes for the February 5, 2024, Board of Selectmen Meeting were provided for review. Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to approve the February 5, 2024,

Approved Meeting Minutes of the March 4, 2024, Board of Selectmen Meeting

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes. The motion received a second from Selectman, Bob Berti. Selectman, Isaac DeWever, stated that he would abstain from voting on this motion as he was not at the February 5th Board Meeting. The motion passed 2-0.

Meeting minutes for the February 19, 2024, Board of Selectmen Meeting were provided for review. Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to approve the February 19, 2024, Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes. The motion received a second from Selectman, Bob Berti. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The Board members were asked how they would like to staff the Polls for the Local Elections next Tuesday. Selectman, Ed Haskell, stated he would cover the morning. Selectman, Bob Berti, stated he would cover the afternoon. Selectman, Isaac DeWever, stated he would cover the evening until the vote was concluded.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported that the Annual Town Reports are out and available for the public. A PDF version has been placed on the Town Website as well.

It was reported that the December 2023 Winter Storm had been declared a disaster. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, and Road Agent, Nick Coursey, will work through the process to request reimbursement for the damages to the Town of Rumney roads.

The Town received notice that the Emergency Generator Grant has received final approval. Chivell reports that the installation of a propane tank and connection by the electrician will be an early spring project.

The Rest Area Committee is scheduled to meet this Wednesday, March 6, at 3:00 PM.

The January 2024 Treasurers Report was provided for review.

The January and February 2024 Expenditure and Revenue Report was provided for review.

The assessing company contracted by the Town will be visiting properties and accepting calls from designated areas in Town March 12th through 14th. Letters had been sent to those property owners.

The Three Bearing January report was provided for review.

7:15 PM Old Business –

The new boiler has been installed at the Town Office building. The chimney is not being used with the new system, so the top was capped to eliminate the cold draft and protect the liner from the weather in case it is needed in the future.

Employment Agreement for the Police Chief was discussed. At 7:20 PM Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to enter nonpublic session as allowed by NH RSA 91-A:3, II (a).

Approved Meeting Minutes of the March 4, 2024, Board of Selectmen Meeting

The motion was seconded by Selectman, Isaac DeWever. There was no discussion on the motion. Following a roll call vote the motion passed 3-0.

At 7:40 PM Selectman, Ed Haskell, made a motion to leave nonpublic session and return to public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman, Isaac DeWever. There was no discussion on the motion. Following a roll call vote the motion passed 3-0. There was no decisions made during the nonpublic session.

The RFP for the library roof replacement will be posted soon. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, had asked the library members to clarify where the funding was expected to come from for the roof work. It was reported that part of the funds will be requested to come from the Library Capital Reserve Fund account and part of the funds will come from a library account.

A second reading of the proposed Fire Chief Job Description was completed. The Board members are happy with the wording. They agreed that once the new Fire Commissioners were elected, they should have a chance to provide input on the job description.

7:47 PM New Business –

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, provided a first draft copy of an updated Highway Department Laborer Job Description. The Board members reviewed the job description and will be ready to accept and approve it at an upcoming meeting. Selectman, Bob Berti, asked if a new job description could be drafted for the new Highway Foreman Position. Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported that he has been working on that, and a copy will be provided during an upcoming meeting.

Town Administrator, Joe Chivell, reported that no residential abatement requests had been submitted for the Tax Year 2023. Chivell did state that he will need to watch for any post marked requests to come in during the next few days.

7:55 PM

Selectman, Isaac DeWever, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion received a second from Selectman, Ed Haskell. There was no discussion on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Sincerely submitted,

Joe Chivell
Town Administrator
Rumney, NH

Up-coming Meeting Dates

Rest Area Committee	March 6, 2024
Trustee of Trust Funds	March 7, 2024
Town Elections	March 12, 2024
Town Meeting Business Session	March 14, 2024
Board of Selectmen Meeting	March 18, 2024
Planning Board	March 26, 2024
Board of Selectmen Meeting	April 1, 2024