



Selectmen's Meeting
Rindge Town Office
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2010
Time: 6:00 P.M.

Meeting Minutes
(approved 09/22/10)

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizen's Forum – David Drouin was present in reference to the RAMS and the article that was in the Monadnock Ledger about the Police, Fire and RAMS association that the RAMS have done a lot of good, but that they have caused a lot of headaches. This was stated by a town official and he wanted to know if this was the feelings of the town. There has not been a rebuttal or a clarification in the paper, and it has been almost a month. Goodrich stated that the RAMS have done a lot of good for the town and the town appreciates all of what they do. Pini stated that she could write up a response letter to the RAMS if the board so wanted. Barry stated that she was not contacted about this article before it was printed, because that would not have been her comment or feeling. Not many towns can say that they have a group like the RAMS that do so much for their town. She stated that this is not the view of the town and wished that they had the opportunity to speak on it before it went to print. Brummer stated that Pini and himself had a meeting with Rob Clark and expressed his concern with this issue. The board supports the RAMS, The Police Association and the Fire Association. Barry wants to know how they move forward and if there is anyway to mend the fences. Pini stated that if they review the letter and respond to it, then that is a good first step. Goodrich feels that Pini is right on target and that they should send a response to the RAMS they should know of the Selectmen's support and appreciation of all that they have done. Drouin stated that he was here for himself and just wanted to make sure that this was reported accurately.

Coffey asked why it takes two weeks for something to enter the paper from a Selectmen's meeting, especially something as big as fixing the fire station. He would think it should be in the next possible paper. The reporter is not always present at the meetings, so sometimes it takes a little longer to get the information to him. Coffey asked if the meetings were taped and Pini stated that they were taped for minute preparation, but that Labonte was not present at the last meeting and she is the one that prepares the minutes. The reporter stated that he was only part time and has other jobs that he is trying to manage.

Approval of Minutes - None to approve.

General Business

Quote to Re-do Site Plan for Proposed Fire Station – Chief Donovan was present with a quote for the board. He stated that he did meet with Sanford about the fire station renovations, dog pound moving and an impound yard for the Police station. The proposal is not to exceed \$9500. He is also looking to get some donation time for the septic design. He is still looking to cut some cost on the building and get some donations from local businesses. Goodrich asked if we have a line item for this. Pini stated that they took a look at the Impact Fee account and there is approximately \$19,000 in that account. Goodrich stated that this is a necessary next step. Barry stated that she has heard nothing but good things about this since the article in the Ledger. She believes that it is money well spent. Brummer thinks that the project is sound. Barry made a motion to authorize up to \$9500 to be spent from the Impact Fee account, 2nd by Brummer. All

members were in favor. Kauer made mention of the RSA in reference to Impact Fees. Pini explained what the Impact Fee money has been spent on already and that we can not sit on it for more than 6 years, or we need to pay it back to the homeowners.

Transfer Funds to Cover Fire Truck Repair – Goodrich stated that he understands that Engine 2 has been repaired and is back in the rotation. Donovan stated that it has a rebuilt pump, new radio and exhaust. Pini stated that Donovan worked closely with the Highway Department and they were able to do a lot of the work in house. Donovan was allowed to spend up to \$25,000, he was able to get the repairs done for \$16,659.27, of which \$15,785 will be transferred from the Recreation Department to cover the expense and the remainder will be absorbed by the Fire Department. Brummer would like to make a motion to authorize the transfer of \$15,785 for the repairs to Engine 2, 2nd by Barry. All members were in favor. Donovan stated that he feels that Rich Cloutier and George Fish need some recognition. They really pulled it together, working several nights up at the station to get it fixed. Drouin asked if there were any discretionary funds to buy anyone a gift certificate for a dinner. Pini stated that we did not, but that she would get a thank you card out to them.

Roadway Committee re: Policy for Doing Work on Class 6 Roads – Pini went over this for the board. The Roadway committee had met and had a lengthy discussion on the issues that were brought up at the last Selectmen’s meeting and fixing a Class 6 road in an emergency situation. There was a clause that was written up and Pini read it for the benefit of the Selectmen and the citizens. There was discussion on this and the ability to fix up Class 6 roads and emergency issue. Barry made a motion to accept the policy with two corrections, plural roadways, and in the sentence, such maintenance shall be limited to that necessary to allow emergency passage, add the word work so it says “to that work necessary”, 2nd by Brummer. All members were in favor.

2011 budget & personnel committee recommendations – Rick Kohlmorgen stated that the personnel committee would like to present a preliminary recommendation and be able to come back to the board should it change over the next year. They are recommending a 2% merit pool increase. They are also reviewing surrounding towns data and this is just preliminary and they may come back with a different number. Goodrich stated that it is nice to have them here early in the process so that we do not have quite as much of a crunch in December. Pini stated that the board is planning on presenting a budget goal for the departments and the services that the town provides. Pini had some extra paperwork for the board to review before the next meeting in reference to the economic state and building permits for the county. Goodrich stated that we are going to try something a little different this year. They are planning on building a budget around parameters. Barry stated that this should help with the evaluation process and be able to translate it into the merit pool, if that is the way that the board decides to go. McCummings stated that the evaluations should be done that way all the time. Goodrich stated that the board is also trying to figure out how they can communicate with the citizens about the default budget and what it is doing. This is our town and we need to invest in them. Dr. Hill stated that in the past two weeks that the town has sent out the new evaluations, he presumes that like himself that everyone went down. You are going to have to counteract that, people need to know that if their values went down, that does not mean that the taxes are going down. Hill suggested that the town come out early and advise about the tax rate and that it wont go down or it might go up. Sielicki stated that if the personnel committee is going to look at the top and bottom, but also look at where the person is placed in that bracket. Goodrich thanked the personnel committee for all of the work that they have done.

Pini stated that Bruce Hall from the Budget Advisory committee is present and the BAC has been meeting. They have also assigned two budget committee members to each department. Some of them have already met with their departments and others are in the process.

CATCH Grant Awarded to Recreation Department – Pini stated that Craig Fraley was not able to be present tonight. He asked that she share a memo with them. The Recreation

Department applied for and was awarded a grant. The grant will pay for services and equipment for the Afterschool program. This is to teach kids to live healthier lives, exercise more and get moving. We are not getting any money; we are getting services and equipment. Pini would recommend that we accept the grant. Brummer made a motion to accept the grant that was initiated by our Recreation Department from CATCH to the Town of Rindge, 2nd by Barry. All members were in favor.

Proposed Social Media Policy – Pini had taken the template that Pat had found from another community and adapted to Rindge. Pini stated that we have certain administrators and we have made it a practice to put our initials next to our post, but we have town employees that are posting from their own account. We don't want the town to get confused that it is coming directly from the town or it is a town comment. Pini suggested having only one administrator. Barry suggested that it be clearly stated that the hours of Mon – Fri from 9am – 5pm, so that if someone posts something during the weekend that it will not be responded to until the next business day. McCummings stated that often there are Planning Board questions and sometimes Jane Pitt, as the Planning Board Director will respond to. Where is her role in that and it is ok? Barry stated that it would be ok, since she is just stating the facts. Pini would like it to officially come from the Town of Rindge administrator and it would make it official. Brummer asked Kauer, who is a citizen that uses Facebook and gets onto the Facebook account and posts on there. He does feel that it is feasible and it stops the rumor mill in certain areas. Pini stated that there is different media that certain people find out their information. Barry stated that certain people when they are researching a town; they do a lot of their research online.

Payroll Manifest – Motion made by Barry to accept the Payroll Manifest, 2nd by Brummer. All members were in favor.

Accounts Payable Manifest – Motion made by Brummer to accept the Accounts Payable Manifest, 2nd by Barry. All members were in favor.

Town Administrator's Report

Ongoing Business – Pini stated that a sub-committee has been reviewing Argent Communications financials. They have drafted their report and we will bring that back to the Telecommunications committee.

We have been involved in the Fast Roads project. Pini has joined the board of Fast Roads to get this going in the Town of Rindge. The Planning Board has sent out a survey this week that went out to all the households in Rindge. Three of the questions deal with high speed internet. Need to make sure that everyone fill out the survey and return them to the town.

Last year Charlie Eicher has served as our representative to the School Budget Committee. If the board is in agreement, Pini would like to ask him to continue to serve. The board would like him to continue to serve.

The Personnel committee is looking for two members. Pini stated that as valuable as an ad is, we should also think about reaching out to people.

We are still waiting on the 2010 audit.

Pini has received a draft of the MRI internal controls report. She will be passing that around and getting input before they finalize that.

Goodrich stated that they are finalizing the revaluation. They had approximately 24 interviews and they also received a dozen letters or so that are also being responded to.

Goodrich stated that we have a member of the community and has served the Conservation Commission, Monadnock Conservancy has recognized Richard Mellor for his years of service on the Conservation Commission. Brummer would like him to be recognized from the Town of Rindge with a resolution, 2nd by Barry. All members were in favor.

Mellor stated that the Conservation Commission had some problems last year at Converse Meadow with the culvert. This year they got back to their engineer and have finally got it restored.

Follow Up on Labor Board's Review of Comp Time Policy – Pini went through the policy with a Labor Board representative and she did not see a problem with the policy.

Informational Items / Communication

Email re: Transfer Station Stickers – A gentleman wanted to inform the board that he was not pleased with the price of the transfer station sticker.

Goodrich stated that he believes that Mr. Coffey had asked the question of building stats and he wanted to make sure that the issue was resolved. Pini has spoken with Donovan on this. Goodrich would like a written report through September. Donovan stated that there is a lot more commercial building this year than in years past. Those are also more expensive permits than residential. New house construction is down, but the renovation, additions and remodels have doubled.

Goodrich stated that the other item that was requested by Mr. Call, about the RVA's storage of their float. Pini has spoken with our insurance company and they do not have a problem with it. Mr. Call was suppose to contact Mike Cloutier and work out the arrangements.

Brummer read a letter from Monadnock Septic and Design in which they were praising the Planning Department and all the help that they have given to them over the years.

Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II.(a) for Personnel – Motion made by Brummer to go into non-public for personnel, 2nd by Barry. All members were in favor. Brummer made a motion to go out of non-public and into public session, 2nd by Barry. All members were in favor.

Brummer wanted to know where VanDykes junk yard permit is and his site plan. He wants to know where the junk yard permit came from and who authorized the renewal of it. According to the site plan in 1985, there is nothing in his site plan to be able to have unregistered cars.

Barry asked about the T-1 line in Taggart Meadows and how do they get on that line. Labonte stated that she could get her Jared's email.

Barry asked about candidates standing outside of the gates at the Transfer Station and if the person needed permission from the Board of Selectmen. It was stated that they did not and as long as there were out by the sign, they would be ok.

Adjournment – With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.