



Selectmen's Meeting  
Town Office  
Wednesday, November 20, 2013  
6:00 P.M.

Present: Selectmen Sam Seppala, Roberta Oeser, Dan Aho and Executive Secretary Nicole Sesia  
**Approved Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Pat Martin suggested redoing the Future of Rindge survey that was done in 2010. Larry Cleveland thinks that we are making great headway in communication between the Town Employees and the Citizens.

Charlie Eicher announced that Monday December 2<sup>nd</sup> the School budget presentations begin. High School and Middle School will be the first budgets presented.

Nicole reminded everyone about Bob Cleland's memorial service on Saturday at 10am.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Roberta made a motion to approve the accounts payable and payroll for 11/20/2013. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Dan made a motion to approve minutes from 10/30, 11/05, 11/06 and 11/12. Roberta seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Public Hearing for acceptance of unanticipated revenue

FEMA reimbursed the town \$22128.64 for the expenditures that were spent during the winter storm NEMO. Rick would like to reimburse \$4300 to call wages and \$700 to emergency management.

Roberta made a motion to accept the unanticipated revenue of \$22128.64 from FEMA for winter storm NEMO. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Rick would like to return the Town Administrators phone and cancel the line. Currently the Town has 5 smartphones.

Roberta made a motion to return the Town Administrators phone ~~back~~. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Sam announced the Board of Selectmen has decided to engage a part time interim town administrator who will be Jane Pitt. She will be here December 2 until March 31st 2014. Jane will be working with

the Selectmen to decide what the exact needs for the position are. It should be a good transition ~~just~~ to have someone in the position that is familiar with the town and its employees.

#### Phones

Fairpoint made a proposal that came in less than Bayring. To lease the new phone equipment it would be \$1454 a month. Fairpoint only charges us \$262 for internet a month. Roberta suggested upgrading the internet in the Town Office. Currently the Town has 20 phone lines in the town. If we do the contract with Fairpoint we will have locked in prices for 3 years. Buying the phone hardware outright would be \$6500 but has upgrades and a 5 year warranty. The Fairpoint contract would be honored no matter what hardware we went with. Sam suggested that we decide how many lines we can eliminate. Voice over IP was the \$20,000-system for all town buildings. The Fire Station, Police Station and Town office each need two copper lines. The town is paying for 4 smart phones and 4 regular cellphones.

#### Webpage

Mainstay Technologies is the better company for the webpage. Mainstay has a lower set-up fee but they charge more per month for the first three years which makes their set-up fee basically the same as that of Virtual Town Hall. Mainstay will be backing up and hosting the system. Roberta would like to pay the \$5,000 upfront and then pay the ~~149\$~~ \$149 a month for the hosting and technical support. Recreation departments are the heaviest users of the webpages. Sam prefers paying the higher monthly fee. Roberta suggested setting up a demo for the department heads.

Roberta explained that the Board needs to give the Technology Committee some direction on what the departments needs are, and what they use. Roberta will send out a request to the department to list what software they are running and the needs of the specific programs for their departments. Their first meeting will be December 10.

Roberta made a motion to authorize Mike to hire someone winterize the Rand Road property. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Southwest Regional Planning Commission will appear on the default budget because we voted in 1993 to remain a member. Larry Cleveland asked if we haven't paid our dues for a few years are they going to make us pay the back fees. A citizen's petition was discussed to put an article on the warrant to withdraw from the Southwest Regional Planning Commission.

Roberta made a motion to reduce the price of dump stickers to \$5 for the rest of the year. Dan seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

#### BUDGET HEARINGS

##### Library budget.

The book line item has been kept at \$16000 for a long time but the library would like to increase another \$1000 due to increase in cost of books/magazines and videos. The library does their own technology and the Town provides payroll service. The alarm system, and Conway office supply (copier) are the contracted services. The heat and utilities are covered with the Town Building budget.

##### Department of Public Works Budgets:

Mike would like to keep cemetery, street lights, and parks and playgrounds budgets all the same as last year.

Solid waste is only increasing due to wages and benefits. The porta potty rental dropped to \$90 a month.

Diesel fuel has been lower due to negotiations with MDS. Diesel fuel can now be \$3,000 instead of \$8,000.

#### Town buildings

The new maintenance employee has a different health plan so the wages are down from last year. The heating fuel is well over \$42,000 but we are locked in at \$3.30 a gallon. Mike would like to reduce heat to \$47,500. We spent \$38368 last year. The BAC and BOS suggested that Mike should look at the heating and possibly reduce.

#### Highway

Mike has removed himself from the family insurance plan to save the town money. He would like to raise his overtime wages to \$29,000 because he has been cutting it too close the past years. He is keeping the budget flat. Sharon (BAC) has the last three years of overtime and none of it has been overspent or close. The Board decided to leave the number at ~~2700~~ \$27,000 pending further research. Mike would like to drop down the radios line item to \$500 instead of \$1500. Tom asked why there was an increase in highway line painting. Mike explained we are simply doing more line painting. We can use the unanticipated revenue to purchase an \$11,000 SCAG riding mower. Mike- are we doing anything with any of the employees (increases). Mike suggests that if the employees ~~if they~~ don't get raises then don't raise their insurance wages. It was questioned: If we raise the stipend would more people join their spouses insurance?

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS / COMMUNICATION

There was a refund for the returning of the Police Repeater totaling \$18,056. This was from a 2012 warrant article and the money will go into the surplus  
October Fire Call Stats were handed out.

Roberta made a motion to authorize Dan to sign the time cards and bills on Tuesday. Sam seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

Adjournment