

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
FEBRUARY 6, 2017  
MINUTES**

Chairman Richard LaBelle called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office at the Rome Community Center in Rome. Selectmen LaBelle, Archer, and Charles were present. A quorum was declared. Also present at all or parts of the meeting were Carroll Bubar, Andrew Cook, Gary Foss, Tammy Lyons, Andrew Marble, Ed Pearl, Jr., and Kathleen Ross.

Archer/Charles            Motion to accept minutes for January 23, 2017 selectmen's meeting  
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Fire Chief and Rescue Chief Gary Foss submitted his department reports for the Town Report. He also submitted a cost estimate for truck refurbishment, initially estimated at \$50,000, but now over \$70,000.

Chief Foss spoke about manning the fire station 2-3 weekdays days per week on a per diem basis at a rate of \$11-12.00 per hour. He would like to start this in April or May. Selectman LaBelle suggests that if such a program is to be piloted, it should be done from mid-June through August and should be focused on weekends when the Town's population is at its greatest. Selectman Charles supports LaBelle's notion. There is no decision made.

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar states that when the salt and sand shed is emptied out, he would like to arrange to have the sidewalls washed and coated to protect against salt. This should be possible if funding is approved at Town Meeting. Bubar also questions whether the Town may have an interest in considering Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife establishing a boat landing at Friedrich Beach. The landing would be intended for small fishing vessels only. The board is agreeable to hearing proposals on this plan. Maine IF&W would be responsible for costs associated with any development.

The Road Commissioner will also speak with snow plow contractor Cecil Merry about having banks pushed back at the Community Center.

Treasurer and Tax Collector Tammy Lyons provided an update on her office. She was made aware of an error in stipend check issuance to an alternate member of the Planning Board. When reviewing payroll warrants, the Board mistakenly approved for one alternate and not a full member. The Board of Selectmen has a discussion regarding the role and activity of alternate members of the Planning Board. The Planning Board is active and well attended by both full and alternate members, all of whom wish to remain educated and informed.

LaBelle/Archer            Motion to appropriate \$400.00 for 2016 Planning Board stipends.  
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Lyons provided an update on the audit process. The on-site audit is complete; the firm is currently working to finish up reports. At the request of the Board of Selectmen, Lyons will contact the auditor with a priority request to determine the current balance in the Undesignated Fund (surplus) so that final budget adjustments may be made. It was also noted by the auditor that when stockpiling salt and sand, all load slips should be retained in order to prove date of receipt.

LaBelle/Charles        Motion to appropriate \$4,079.36 from contingency to cover the overdraft on the 2016 snow plow contract.  
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Code Enforcement Officer Andrew Marble has scheduled a public hearing on the proposed changes to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. Floor area will become footprint to eliminate confusion. The second public hearing on the proposed Ordinance Prohibiting Retail Marijuana Establishments and Retail Marijuana Social Clubs in the Town of Rome will also be held on that evening. Hearings are scheduled at the Community Center for Monday, February 13, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

The Board reviews submissions solicited from the Request for Proposals for Municipal Legal Services. Of the eight firms, Selectman LaBelle believes the field should be narrowed to two. Code Enforcement Officer Marble, often requiring the assistance of the attorney, would like the opportunity to speak with the finalist firms prior to final decision.

LaBelle/Charles        Motion to declare Jensen, Baird, Gardner & Henry and Rudman-Winchell as the two finalists in the Town's search for new municipal legal counsel.  
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman Archer reported receiving a resident complaint regarding deer being fed in close proximity to Route 225 and Mercer Road. The resident believes this is a safety concern. The Board discusses the jurisdiction of Route 225 and the probable lack of local authority as it relates to this matter. It is suggested that the resident contact Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and lodge a complaint.

There is still surplus information missing in order to properly complete the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. There is no action taken to finalize and sign the warrant.

LaBelle/Archer        Motion to appoint Greg Brown as KRDA/First Park General Assembly Member Alternate, term to expire March 10, 2018.  
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/Archer        The meeting be adjourned.  
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly J. Archer  
Second Selectmen