

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 11, 2016
MINUTES**

Chair Kelly Archer called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:32 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office at the Rome Community Center in Rome. Selectmen Archer, LaBelle, and Charles were present. A quorum was declared. Also present at all or parts of the meeting were Kimberly Brooks, Carroll Bubar, Tammy Lyons, Andrew Marble, Kathleen Ross, John Schlosser.

LaBelle/Archer Motion to accept minutes for January 4, 2016, selectmen's meeting
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar reviewed his report submission for 2015. Bubar also stated that he has been in regular contact with snow removal contractor Cecil Merry, of Pavement Plus, to ensure proper winter road maintenance. Bubar stated that the mix of salt and sand in the town's storage was inadequately mixed and he encouraged members of the board to look at the mixture. A review of the proposed road budget was completed; Bubar is satisfied with the proposals put forward by the Board of Selectmen.

Animal Control Officer Kathleen Ross inquired as to the proposed compensation for her position in the 2016 budget. As a matter of contract, unless otherwise altered by Town Meeting vote, her compensation will remain the same. The current, non-finalized proposal shifts the position to a per-call and hourly compensation package, with the standard addition of mileage. This transition may result in a pay decrease; however, it aligns compensation with work performed.

LaBelle/Archer Motion to recess
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Meeting recessed at 7:27 p.m.

Chair Kelly Archer called the meeting back to order at 8:37 p.m. after attending the meeting of the Planning Board.

Animal Control Officer Kathleen Ross continued discussion regarding the proposed compensation package. She stated that she would actively oppose the proposal through contacting members of the Budget Committee and at Town Meeting. Ross also stated that her contract had expired on January 31, 2015, and required renewal.

LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve contract for services with Animal Control Officer,
Kathleen Ross, retroactive to January 1, 2016.
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Code Enforcement Officer Andrew Marble provided the board with a summary of tonight's Planning Board meeting. The Porter Trust/Camp Caruso application was approved by a vote of 4-1. The Planning Board also discussed the possibility of implementing an ordinance to cover wind turbines. If the Planning Board is going to actively pursue an ordinance, Marble states that it would be appropriate to insert a warrant article for Town Meeting to propose a moratorium on wind

turbines for 180 days while the Planning Board is developing and approving such an ordinance. Marble will submit this warrant article, as well as his departmental reports before the close of business this Wednesday, January 13.

The Board of Selectmen continues the process of finalizing the proposed 2016 municipal budget for presentation to the Budget Committee.

- LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 1 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 2 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To proceed with voting by Australian ballot system to elect Town officers until 8:00 p.m. when the polls will be closed.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 3 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to allow the Board of Selectmen to spend an amount not to exceed three-twelfths (3/12) of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2016 annual budget during the period of January 1, 2017, to March 11, 2017)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 4 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the town will vote to raise \$3,000 for General Assistance)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 5 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$17,500 for the maintenance and operation of the Rome Community Center.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 6 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$4,500 for building improvements to the Rome Community Center.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 7 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$13,000 for the care and maintenance of Rome Cemeteries.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 8 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for arborist services in the Rome Cemeteries)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 9 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the repair of old cemetery stones in town-maintained cemeteries.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 10 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$30,000 for the repair of town-maintained roads and bridges)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 11 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$7,000 for roadside mowing and the cutting of brush along town-maintained roads)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/LaBelle Motion to approve Article 12 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$63,836 for the snow plowing and sanding of town-maintained roads)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 13 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$50,580 for the purchase and stockpiling of 2,500 cubic yards of sand and 420 tons of salt. Sand to comply with the State specifications and stored at the Town's facility on Hillside Lane.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/LaBelle Motion to approve Article 14 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500 for roof maintenance at the Town.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman LaBelle notes the need for a one-time increase in the warrant article for insurance. While the annual premiums will be less than they were with our previous insurer, we must pay to catch up with a fixed cycle of our new insurer. With Maine Municipal Association, we were required to pay a pro-rated amount in January to last through July. In July, another payment will be due that will pay for a full twelve months. After 2016, the approximate appropriation for insurance should be \$21,000.

- LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 15 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$28,000 for insurance premiums)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 16 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$500 for Notary Fees)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 17 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the legally required auditing of Town books and records)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectmen Archer noted that, regarding Article 18, this combines two articles from previous years. The one company that conducts our monthly assessing, as well as our quarterly review/sales analysis bills this as one item. For auditing purposes, it was recommended that previous articles for quarterly review and articles for assessing be combined.

Archer/LaBelle Motion to approve Article 18 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$21,400 for Assessing Services)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 19 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$41,000 for participation in Solid Waste Disposal (Waste Management, Norridgewock)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/LaBelle Motion to approve Article 20 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500 for the Transfer Station Reserve Account)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 21 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,477.23 for the contract with Humane Society Waterville Area)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 22 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$28,853 for the contract with FirstPark/Kennebec Regional Development Authority)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 23 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,440 for membership and participation with Kennebec Valley Council of Governments)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 24 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,912 for membership and participation with Maine Municipal Association)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 25 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,700 for the contract governing the operation and maintenance of the Belgrade Region Dams)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 26 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$7,515.23 for TRIO software licensing, registrations, and training programs)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman LaBelle suggested a need to schedule a meeting later in the week, exclusively for finalizing the 2016 proposed budget. The auditors should be done examining books at the Town Office and there will be a bit more information available for certain articles. The Budget Committee meets Tuesday, so it would be important to finalize the Board's proposals in advance of the weekend.

A budget workshop is scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Selectmen's Office at the Rome Community Center. Posting was made on the Town's website and submission was made to the Morning Sentinel/Kennebec Journal for publication in Wednesday's paper.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly R. Brooks
Assistant to the Selectmen

Kelly Archer, First Selectman

Richard A. LaBelle, Second Selectman

Malcolm Charles, Third Selectman