

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 14, 2016
MINUTES**

Chair Kelly Archer called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 3:06 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 was Lois Stratton.

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

Archer/Charles Motion to approve Question 1 for insertion to the municipal referendum (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$225,000 for the paving and reconstruction of 2.14 miles of Watson Pond Road and to appropriate all monies received from the Local Roads Assistance Program (LRAP) to offset the total expense of this proposal.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Question 2 for insertion to the municipal referendum (To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to contract a credit card payment system for receipt of Town revenues. Any fee associated with credit card use is to be directly assessed to the cardholder at the time of the transaction.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Question 3 for insertion to the municipal referendum (To see if the Town will authorize the Sexton to post cemetery cleanups at all Town-maintained cemeteries dated May 1, and October 15 of each year. Weather-permitting, all remaining decorations will be removed from burial sites. All decorations will be retained for claiming by owner at the Rome Community Center for a period of two weeks after the cleanup, at which time all remaining decorations will be disposed of.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/LaBelle Motion to approve Question 4 from the municipal referendum as a Town Warrant article, to be considered in Town meeting (To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector to discount tax bills 2% if paid in full 30 days from tax billing date and allow discounts and real estate abatements to be taken from overlay.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 27 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$93,923 for Town Officer's salaries.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 28 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,500 for the Town's contribution to Social Security and Medicare.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 29 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$7,450 for expense accounts.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 30 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,657 for the printing of the annual town report)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Charles/Archer Motion to approve Article 31 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000 for the payment of street lighting, to include lighting at the salt/sand shed on Hillside Lane.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 32 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$300 for the purchase of street signs for town-maintained roads)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 33 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$250 for the Town's Emergency Management Agency)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 34 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$33,300 for Rome Fire Department)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Charles/LaBelle Motion to approve Article 35 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 for deposit into the Fire Department's New Truck CD.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 36 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$11,900 for Rome Rescue Department.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

- LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 37 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 for deposit into the Rome Rescue Department's New Truck CD.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/LaBelle Motion to approve Article 38 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,932,25 for regional emergency dispatching services)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Charles/LaBelle Motion to approve Article 39 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for legal expenses.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Charles/Archer Motion to approve Article 40 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 for donation to Family Violence)
Archer, Charles in favor; LaBelle opposed (2-1)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 41 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$900 for donation to Kennebec Behavioral Health.)
Archer, Charles in favor; LaBelle opposed (2-1)
- LaBelle/Charles Motion to remove Article 42 from the 2016 Town Warrant, due to a lack of written request submission (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$490 for donation to the Children's Center)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Charles/Archer Motion to approve Article 43 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$638 for donation to Spectrum Generations)
Archer, Charles in favor; LaBelle opposed (2-1)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 44 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$336 for donation to Crisis & Counseling Centers)
Archer, Charles in favor; LaBelle opposed (2-1)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 45 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$505 for donation to Life Flight of Maine.)
Archer, Charles in favor; LaBelle opposed (2-1)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 46 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$100 for donation to Maine Public Broadcasting Network.)
Archer, Charles in favor; LaBelle opposed (2-1)

- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 47 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,500 for donation to Belgrade/Rome Special Needs Food Pantry)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/LaBelle Motion to approve Article 48 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for donation to the Belgrade Lakes Association to mitigate milfoil in Great Meadow Stream and Great Pond.)
Archer, LaBelle in favor; Charles opposed (2-1)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 49 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,600 for Rome's proportionate share of Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance's (BRCA) Conservation Corps program to protect and preserve the seven Belgrade Lakes)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 50 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 for donation to Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance's (BRCA) Courtesy Boat Inspection program.)
Archer, Charles in favor; LaBelle opposed (2-1)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 51 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 donation to North Pond Association for courtesy boat inspection)
Archer, Charles in favor; LaBelle opposed (2-1)

Articles 52 (raise and appropriate to cover overdrafts) and 53 (appropriate from surplus) have been tabled until auditing work has been finalized.

- LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 54 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to set the due date for 2016 property taxes (October 31, 2016) and to charge interest at the rate of 7.00% per annum on taxes unpaid as of November 1, 2016)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 55 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to dispose of any property acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes, and to execute quit-claim deeds or bills of sale, as the case may be. Before putting the foreclosed property up for sale, the Tax Collector may offer the property to the previous owners for payment of all back taxes, fees, and interest. If they decline, the property will be advertised for sale and sold by sealed bid. The Selectmen shall have the right to accept or reject any and all bids, and to allow the Selectmen to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosures when it is in the best interest of the Town. The

sale of the property shall be advertised in three conspicuous places (Community Center, Eastside Fire Station, Mt. Phillip Grange) within the Town and a local daily newspaper (Morning Sentinel) for three consecutive days at least two weeks prior to the sale.)

Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/LaBelle

Motion to approve Article 56 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to authorize all monies received from any sales to be applied against the respective expense accounts)

Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Archer

Motion to approve Article 57 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant To see if the Town will vote to apply all franchise fees, tree growth reimbursements, and veteran tax exemptions to the contingency fund and allow the Selectmen to use the funds for unexpected expenses and/or to cover overdrafts.)

Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles

Motion to approve Article 58 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell by bid or auction, or on such terms and conditions as deemed in the best interest of the Town, such equipment, vehicles, or furniture as are no longer necessary for Town operations.)

Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Archer

Motion to approve Article 59 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept or reject any conditional gifts/grants of money, or personal property, to the Town and to appropriate and expend funds for the purpose for which the gift/grant was made, in accordance with any conditions imposed by the donor.)

Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Archer

Motion to approve Article 60 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to adjust office copy fees charged to: 15¢ per single-sided black and white copy, 25¢ per double-sided black and white copy, 75¢ per single-sided color copy, \$1.25 per double-sided color copy, 50¢ fax page incoming or outgoing, \$1.00 per 11"x17" map page.)

Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Archer

Motion to approve Article 61 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to charge \$100.00 per event rental of the Rome Community Center with \$10.00 to be paid to the employee responsible for unlocking the building and \$10.00 to be paid to the employee responsible for securing the building.)

Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

- LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 62 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the town will vote to appropriate all of the money received from the State for snowmobile registrations to the Rome Ruff Riders for the maintenance of their network of snowmobile trails, on condition that those trails be open in snow season to the public for outdoor recreation purposes at no charge, and to authorize the municipal officers to enter into an agreement with the Club, under such terms and conditions as the municipal officers may deem advisable, for that purpose.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Charles/Archer Motion to approve Article 63 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote from the floor 3 members to serve on the Budget Committee to review all items to be inserted into the Town Warrant requiring the appropriation of monies and their recommendations noted.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Charles/Archer Motion to approve Article 64 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote from the floor 5 members to serve on the Recreation Committee.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Charles Motion to approve Article 65 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to accept the “Dedication of the Tuttle Cemetery to the Town of Rome” by the Personal Representatives of the Estate of Margaret S. Robinson, dated January 5, 2016.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Archer Motion to approve Article 66 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will authorize the use and expenditure, in current and future years, for Rome Fire Department operations of all funds now held or later acquired by Rome Volunteer Fire Department (ME Charter #19690014ND) for its services, by donation, or otherwise, with any excess funds annually to be deposited into a reserve account to be established and expended for use by said Department in consultation with the Board of Selectmen.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Charles Motion to remove Article 67 from the 2016 Town Warrant, due to a lack of written request submission (To see if the Town will vote to enact the ordinance entitled “Board of Appeals Ordinance”)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Archer/LaBelle Motion to approve Article 68 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to enact the ordinance entitled “Planning Board Ordinance”.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles Motion to approve Article 69 for insertion into the 2016 Town Warrant (To see if the Town will vote to enact the moratorium entitled “Wind Energy Facility Moratorium Ordinance”.)
Archer, LaBelle, Charles in favor (3-0)

It was noted that a public hearing is required at least ten (10) days in advance of the vote for any referendum questions. Absentee ballots are required at least thirty (30) day in advance. To accommodate both of these requirements, and in the best interest of the Town, the public hearing on the three proposed referendum questions will be held on February 1, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at the Rome Community Center. In the event of a weather-forced cancelation, the public hearing will be held at the same time and location on February 2, 2016. Legal public notice will be provided.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. LaBelle
Second Selectmen

Kelly Archer, First Selectman

Richard A. LaBelle, Second Selectman

Malcolm Charles, Third Selectman