

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MAY 1, 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, Stratton, and Charles were present. A quorum was declared. Also present at all or parts of the meeting were Kimberly Brooks, Carroll Bubar, Abby DiPietro, Tammy Lyons, Ed Pearl, Jr., and Chip Ridky.

Charles/Stratton        Motion to accept minutes for April 18, 2017 selectmen's meeting  
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/Stratton        Motion to accept donations to Rome Fire & Rescue, made in memory of  
Irwin Pearl.

Gerald & Barbara Stevens        \$20.00

Viola Begin                                \$20.00

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

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar provided an update on current roadwork projects. Ditching has begun on Watson Pond Road. Central Maine Power walked sections of Watson Pond Road, in consideration of supporting tree removal. In the interest of the power company, CMP's contractor Lucas Tree, will be trimming and removing trees on Watson Pond Road in the coming days. The trees shall be cut and brush removed; larger pieces of wood will be left for property owners, in compliance with state law.

The Road Commissioner discusses the possibility of closing Watson Pond Road during construction or limiting through-traffic. The general consensus is that it is best to limit through-traffic. Mr. Bubar will look to borrow relevant signage from a local contractor.

Resident Chip Ridky spoke regarding his concern for noise along Route 27 (Augusta Road). Jake brakes, excessive engine noise, among other things contribute to a high level of noise along the corridor. He is requesting the Board of Selectmen support a request to Maine DOT for consideration of installing "Please limit engine noise" along the Rome section of Route 27. Mr. Ridky states he does not seek enforcement, rather it would provide additional awareness for drivers.

Selectman Charles states that the more sensible and effective option would be to consider revising speed limits on the route, but that an adjustment is unlikely. Selectman Charles is not supportive of installing signs that cannot be enforced.

LaBelle/Stratton        Motion to submit a request to Maine Department of Transportation,  
requesting the consideration of installing "Limit Engine Noise" signage along  
Route 27 from approximately Denny & Sandy Phillips' residence to Rome  
Farm.  
LaBelle, Stratton in favor; Charles opposed (2-1)

Selectman LaBelle submitted a request to MaineDOT a couple of months ago to participate in the speed trailer loan program. The list has been announced and Rome will have use of the trailer from August 21 – September 3. The Road Commissioner is responsible for picking the trailer up in

Mount Vernon; it will be picked up from Rome by the next community. The Board will work with the Road Commissioner to determine the most effective/impactful location.

The Code Enforcement Officer provided an update on his office. Applications have increased significantly, but there is little activity requiring Planning Board review. CEO Andrew Marble issued a notice of violation to Debborah Henry to clean up her yard; he has given her until May 15 to correct the violation.

Selectman Stratton stated that she has received a concern over a camper trailer being used as a residence at 70 Mercer Road. There appear to be extension cords running from the house to the trailer and people living in it. The Code Enforcement Officer will conduct a site visit to ensure there are no violations and if there are, he will issue a notice of violation.

Selectman LaBelle stated that he believed the DiPietro property, permitted as a junkyard on Augusta Road, had fallen into worse condition than usual. Trees have been removed and much more of the yard is exposed. He suggests reviewing the status of the permit.

LaBelle/Charles        Motion to direct the Code Enforcement Officer to conduct a site visit at the DiPietro property to check compliance with State junkyard statutes.  
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman Charles received an estimate from Custom Electric to replace two lights inside of the salt/sand shed. The new LED replacements would cost \$2,350. There is no action taken at this time.

Treasurer and Tax Collector Tammy Lyons provided an update on the status of her office. Lyons states that resident Philip Clement has purchased Lot 52 at Brookside Cemetery; the Selectmen copy of the cemetery map is updated. Lyons notes that the Town currently does not file cemetery deeds with the county. She inquires as to whether or not these deeds should be filed.

LaBelle/Charles        Motion to file all Town-initiated deed with the Kennebec County Registry of Deeds; the direct costs to be directly assessed to the grantee.  
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Charles        Motion to send a letter to RSU 18 Chief Operating Officer Bobbi Avery requesting Rome's planned assessment for 2017-18, based upon the proposed budget, as approved by the Board of Directors.  
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

The Board has received five surveys from residents regarding the Town of Rome Academic Options Exploratory Committee. One individual stated she did not wish to be considered for the committee. Surveys of interest were completed by: Barbara Russell, Lynn LaBelle, Chip Ridky, and Elaine Eadler.

LaBelle/Charles        Motion to table action on Town of Rome Academic Options Exploratory Committee appointments and extend the deadline for survey completion to June 9.  
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman Lois Stratton provided an update on a training she attended in Freeport. The two day training was the annual meeting of the Maine Welfare Director's Association. The training focused on the administration of General Assistance. She was pleased with the material presented, found it to be very informative, and was glad to have been in attendance.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly R. Brooks  
Assistant to the Selectmen