

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 23, 2016
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 Bob Ascanio, Kimberly Brooks, Carroll Bubar, Paul Daigle, Summer Daigle, Dave Holinger, Tammy Lyons, and Andrew Marble.

LaBelle/Charles Motion to add executive session to the agenda, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E)
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Archer/Charles Motion to accept minutes for May 16, 2016, selectmen's meeting
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Dave Holinger, representative speaking on behalf of Snow Pond Academy for the Arts (SPAA), provided the Board of Selectmen with a brief informational update regarding the academy. The academy is located on the site of the New England Music Camp. Charter schools are relatively new to Maine. They offer education without any additional tuition beyond a Town's contribution to education. SPAA has contracted their transportation services with RSU 18. The academy will serve needs for children that may not be met otherwise. There will be smaller class sizes, as well as a smaller school population. The school receives EPS funding and is required to raise any additional funds privately.

Seasonal resident Bob Ascanio of Hillside Lane spoke about the conditions of Friedrichs' Beach property and its current misuse. The property has been the site of illegal activity and other derelict behavior. He believes the property requires enhanced monitoring or should be closed.

LaBelle/Archer Motion to appropriate monies from contingency to pay for Planning Board and Appeals Board member attendance at Maine Municipal Association training.
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar had previously expressed an interest in contracting for the stockpiling of salt and sand. Bubar states that he will provide the stockpiling service at the same price as was paid in 2015. He will also provide proof of having his own liability and workers' compensation insurances.

No action will be taken on the 2016-17 snow plow contract until June 13, 2016.

Selectman LaBelle provided the list of eighth-grade students from Rome who will be the recipients of the three \$50.00 scholarships: Dylan Mercier, Alexander Pierce, and Erin Haggerty. Certificates, letters of congratulations, and a check will be prepared for award at their June 4 event.

Tax Collector and Treasurer Tammy Lyons provided a brief update regarding her office activity. The Town has received a substantial amount of tax revenues as a part of the 30-day tax discount period. The discount period closes on May 26, 2016; all payments must be postmarked or received before the end of the day.

Selectman Archer states that Mark Tracy will be servicing the Community Center furnace within the next couple of weeks. It will be on a Tuesday to allow for easy entry to the building, while an office is open.

Selectman LaBelle has presented a draft letter to the Board that is to be sent to all responding departments to the French's Mountain fire. There were 10 community fire departments that responded and did an exceptional job in limiting the damage.

Charles/Archer Motion to accept the cost-share agreement with Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance (BRCA) for work to be done on Watson Pond Rd. LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/LaBelle Motion to enter executive session to discuss pending legal matters pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)(E) LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Executive session entered at 7:05 p.m.

LaBelle/Charles Motion to adjourn executive session LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Executive session adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

BRCA Executive Director Charlie Baeder addressed the board regarding the previously agreed to cost-share agreement. Baeder states that there is a question on what is labeled on the project as *Culvert 8* and its direct impact on water bodies. He is unsure of whether or not this culvert will have a significant enough impact in order to justify allocating grant monies from the DEP. Baeder answered all questions regarding the status and funding of the project.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly R. Brooks
Assistant to the Selectmen

Richard A. LaBelle, First Selectman

Kelly Archer, Second Selectman

Malcolm Charles, Third Selectman