

TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 30, 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, Andrew Cook, Tammy Lyons, and Ed Pearl, Jr.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept minutes for May 15, 2017 selectmen's meeting
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept minutes for May 16, 2017 selectmen's meeting
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman Lois Stratton provided an update on applications of interest received for the Town of Rome Academic Options Exploratory Committee. There were two additional expressions of interest: Doris Mathias and Jan Bileau Nivus.

Rome resident, FirstPark General Assembly Representative, and FirstPark Sales Lead Andrew Cook provided a brief update on the status of FirstPark. The Executive Director resigned at the end of March and the organization is moving forward to find a new ED. *Next Move* has been selected as the qualified executive search firm. Two representatives from Next Move were in the area for one week to meet with community members to get a better understanding of the organization and current expectations and shortfalls. Selectman LaBelle was one of the individuals with whom Next Move met. Dr. Cook believes the current FirstPark Executive Board is getting a message for change and that we must realign goals in order to be successful.

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar provided an update on the status of local roads. Bubar states that Watson Pond Road is expected to be finished within the next few days, pending weather and crew availability. He is pleased with the progress made so far and has received numerous compliments from residents on the project.

Tax Collector and Treasurer Tammy Lyons provided an update on the status of her office. Lyons is requesting authorization from the Board of Selectmen to offer recently foreclosed properties back to previous owners.

LaBelle/Charles Motion to authorize Tax Collector Tammy Lyons to send letters to six
property owners offering the property back (release the Town's interests) for
total back taxes and filing fees.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

It was brought to the attention of the Board of Selectmen that the local appropriation figure used in the May 16, 2017 commitment was short approximately \$28,500.

LaBelle/Charles Motion to amend the commitment of 2017 property taxes utilizing a mil rate of 8.98.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
Note: This commitment utilizes \$10,000 in county-designated overages and \$58,500 in school-designated overages

Selectman LaBelle stated that the annual bill for landfill use has been sent to Pine Tree Camp in the amount of \$1,200.

The Town is in receipt of \$2,568 for a refund of workers' compensation insurance, following the insurance audit.

LaBelle/Stratton Motion to authorize the Tax Collector to generate and mail tax bills based upon the enclosed mil rate calculation sheet. Formal commitment documents to be prepared by the assessing agent.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Tax Collector Tammy Lyons states that tax bills should be mailed on June 6, which would close the 30 day discount window on July 6, 2017.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly R. Brooks
Assistant to the Selectmen