

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SEPTEMBER 12, 2016
MINUTES**

Chairman Richard LaBelle called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room 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 Kimberly Brooks, Carroll Bubar, Peter Fotter, Albert Knight, and Tammy Lyons,

Archer/Charles Motion to accept minutes for September 6, 2016 selectmen's meeting
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Resident Peter Fotter wanted to discuss the recent litigation regarding Tuttle Cemetery with the Board of Selectmen. Selectman LaBelle stated that the Board was not willing, nor prepared, to discuss the settled litigation. Mr. Fotter continued to attempt to address the board regarding the litigation; he was ruled out of order.

Winter snow removal contractor Cecil Merry has previously offered off-site storage for excess salt storage. Any excess salt will be retained by the supplier and delivered upon demand. The standard procedure for stockpiling will not be changed.

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar provided an update on the status of town roads, in addition to an update on the planned stockpiling of salt and sand. Bubar is intending to begin stockpiling on Monday, September 19. He has called Harcross Chemical, the salt vendor, to coordinate delivery.

Code Enforcement Officer Andrew Marble provided an update on his office. Susan Day-Donna has left town and will not return until May/June 2017. Marble suggests sending her a consent agreement with a revised fine, in an effort to resolve the situation.

Charles/LaBelle Motion to reduce fine to \$6,000 in consent agreement with Susan Day-Donna
with a due date of November 1, 2016.
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Code Enforcement Officer Marble stated that he had mailed notices of violation to Michael Burnham and Sandra Mitchell. Mitchell heard second-hand that she was in violation of local and state regulations. She contacted Marble stating that the material in question was not trash; it is returnables. Marble states that the material is still in violation and must be removed.

Resident Michael Burnham has made "some" progress in correcting his violation. Marble will continue to ensure progress is being made or enforcement measures are taken.

Marble has also notified Larry DiPietro regarding the licensing of his junkyard on Augusta Road. The license expires October 1. DiPietro has agreed to meet with the Code Enforcement Officer of September 19 at 4:00PM to review the condition of the property and compliance with junkyard statutes.

Resident Albert Knight questioned when grading would be done on Foss Hill Road. The Road Commissioner stated that no roads will be graded until there is rain to keep down the dust.

Tax Collector and Treasurer Tammy Lyons emailed Maine Municipal Association Legal Department regarding the supplemental and abatement situation with Batchelder and Cerrato. She has not yet received a response back, but will call for follow-up.

Discussion and action related to modifying the regular meeting schedule for the Board of Selectmen was delayed from the last meeting to allow for public comment and input related to the proposed changes.

Charles/Archer Motion to adjust Board of Selectmen meeting schedule to every other week, beginning September 19 (October 3, 17, etc.).
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Discussion and action related to posting registered sex offender information at the Town Office was delayed to allow for employee and resident feedback. Selectman LaBelle stated that he spoke with employees who maintained no objection to the posting. There has been no objection noted by any member of the board against this proposal.

Charles/LaBelle Motion to post registered sex offender information is a conspicuous location at the Town Office.
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman LaBelle inquires as to the long-term plan for Town-maintained roads. So many of the roads are in poor condition or disrepair; the Town must develop a plan for repair and maintenance. LaBelle expressed the desire to see bond proposals explored. With the current spending plan continued, the Town may not be able to afford to finish Watson Pond Road next summer. Considering the condition of North Pond Road, Jamaica Point Road, Wooster Hill Road, and others, the Board should request the exploration of bonding roadwork.

Selectman LaBelle states that while he doesn't support bonding, it is important to determine options, costs, and leave the decision with voters. Selectman Charles said he supports the idea of exploring bond financing. Selectman Archer stated total opposition to any bonds.

Selectman LaBelle asked Treasurer Tammy Lyons to seek out preliminary information related to possible bonding. This information would allow for the board to make an informed initial decision, while offering necessary information to the public. Treasurer Lyons will inquire with Maine Municipal Bond Bank in addition to Camden National or another large commercial bank.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly R. Brooks
Assistant to the Selectmen

Richard A. LaBelle, First Selectman

Kelly Archer, Second Selectman

Malcolm Charles, Third Selectman