

TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
APRIL 2, 2018
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, Larry Garrison, Tammy Lyons, Andrew Marble, Steve McCarthy, Ed Pearl, Jr., and Nancy Smith

Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept minutes for March 19, 2018 selectmen's meeting.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept minutes for March 26, 2018 selectmen's meeting.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Code Enforcement Officer Andrew Marble provides an update on his office and the status of pending and potential violations. His office is in receipt of an application from landowner Volodkevich off Route 27/Augusta Rd. There is a potential for a consent agreement between the Town and the landowner to allow them to proceed, but there are several potential scenarios for moving forward. The Board requests that Mr. Marble present a draft consent agreement for consideration at the next regular meeting.

It has been reported by several individuals that Mr. Leathers is living in the building known as the old town office (owned by Joseph Barbioni). Mr. Marble will be issuing a notice of violation. This is also related to an active civil matter, which may be resolved the week of April 23.

Susan Day-Donna has returned locally for the season and the Town will continue its enforcement of previous violations. Ms. Day-Donna would not allow the Code Enforcement Officer to conduct an inspection for compliance. Mr. Marble has drafted a citation and complaint, which will be served upon Ms. Day-Donna. This may ultimately lead to court action.

Stratton/Charles Motion to authorize the correction of the following street names: Friedrichs Lane, Beck Lane, Bets Taylor Trail.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar provides an update on current roadwork. Arbormore Tree Service is currently cutting brush on North Pond Road. They have been on site for three days and one more day is expected. Asplundh has also been doing tree work, at the expense of Central Maine Power Company. In addition to work on North Pond Road, Arbormore also removed a tree in the public right of way on Mercer Road in front of the Turner residence.

Tax Collector and Treasurer Tammy Lyons presents the Board with information on Camden National Bank. A brochure and letter from Nancy Smith, Oakland branch manager, regarding current services and interest rates. Bank representative Nancy Smith and Treasurer Tammy Lyons present in favor of maintaining current banking relationships.

Selectman LaBelle reiterated his opinion of negative experiences related to the recent check that was covered by the bank, for which the Treasurer did not maintain a sufficient balance in the

checking account to cover the check. The bank covered the check as a courtesy. Bank officials lacked clear and transparent communication regarding this transaction, but have also failed to establish strong working relationships with Town officials. Further, LaBelle believes that the bank should be working harder to review the Town's portfolio and making investment suggestions.

Selectman Stratton states that she believes the bank and/or treasurer should have provided the Board with notification of their intention to make a presentation at the meeting; the approach with no communication lacks professionalism.

Selectman Charles has no comment on the item of business.

LaBelle/Stratton Motion to begin the process of transferring the Town's treasury from Camden National Bank to TD Bank, as soon as possible.
LaBelle, Stratton in favor; Charles opposed (2-0-1)

Stratton/LaBelle Motion to accept the resignation of Kimberly Brooks for the positions of Excise Tax Collector, BMV Agent, and Assistant to the Selectmen, effective April 10, 2018.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Charles Motion to accept the resignation of Kimberly Brooks from the Recreation Committee.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Belgrade Town Manager Dennis Keschl has contacted the Board regarding the pursuit of potential grant funding. The available Grant for the Efficient Delivery of Services would provide funding for the exploration of cost-savings through regionalization. Kennebec Valley Council of Governments would be responsible for most of the administrative work related to the grant application.

Selectman Charles notes the need to trim the tree in front of the Town Office. He would also like to add an extension to the existing flagpole. Selectman Charles will contact Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar to see if he is willing to assist with trimming tree branches.

Stratton/Charles Motion to sign appointment papers for Cheryl Hasenfus for a two-year term on the Recreation Committee.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to appoint Edwin Charles to a one-year term as an alternate member on the Board of Appeals.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to appoint Charles Randall, Jr. to a one-year term as an alternate member on the Board of Appeals.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman LaBelle states that he is currently working on grant applications for traffic safety, which will benefit road budgets and fire/rescue. Applications are due at the end of April.

The Board discusses the potential of converting the dump sticker process to one that is tied to motor vehicle registration and/or property tax payment. Stickers expirations would align with

motor vehicle registration, would be assigned to vehicles by plate number, and would be issued only to those demonstrating the payment of excise or property taxes to the Town of Rome. The Board will continue researching options for moving ahead with this proposal.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly R. Brooks
Assistant to the Selectmen