

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JULY 23, 2018
MINUTES**

Chairman Richard LaBelle called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:00pm 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 for all or parts of the meeting were Mike Adams, Abby DiPietro, Jason Juskewitch, Tammy Lyons, and Lincoln Nye.

Recitation of Pledge of Allegiance.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept minutes for July 9, 2018 selectmen's meeting.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Resident Lincoln Nye, representative for Rome Ruff Riders Snowmobile Club addressed the board. The local snowmobile club has recently lost their meeting place due to the passing of a long-time member of the club. They are in search of a new clubhouse and are asking permission to use the Rome Community Center as their meeting place until the snowmobile club finds a more suitable location to meet. The meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of each month from September thru May.

Charles/Stratton Motion to authorize Rome Ruff Riders Snowmobile Club to use the
community room at the Rome Community Center at no charge.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Mr. Nye also gave the board a quick overview of what the club has been working on during the off season. Nye and his son-in-law have been working to complete a new trail in the Hampshire Hill/Ridge area of town. So far, they have removed rocks and brush, installed 3 culverts. The club also intends to level some areas, and will apply hay and seed. Nye has been in contact with BRCA as well, Nye stated that BRCA is happy at the present moment with the work that has been completed.

Selectman Stratton has received two more donations to go toward the flagpole revitalization project.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept donations for the flagpole project from Alan LaBelle in
the amount of \$50.00, and from Lawrence Garrison in the amount of
\$100.00.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Charles Motion to accept donation of \$250.00 to Rome Rescue and \$250.00 to
Rome Fire from Tall Pines Charitable Foundation (John & Wendy
Schlosser).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Previously discussed adjustments have been made to the "Town of Rome Purchasing Policy" including setting limits, creating procedure as well as adding a competitive bid policy.

Stratton/Charles Motion to adopt "Town of Rome Purchasing Policy"
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/Stratton Motion to adopt layout of proposed purchase order form.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Charles Motion to order 1000 purchase order forms, to be paid out of the
contingency fund, from Bromar Printing (formerly, Skowhegan Press).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

The Board received an invitation from the 7 Lakes Alliance. Chris and Matti Bradley have extended an invitation to their home on Friday August 10, 2018, from 5-7pm. The gathering is to introduce the organization's new Chief Executive Officer.

Charles/Stratton Motion to select "option one" for utilization of membership dues credit
for payment of 2018-2019 Maine Municipal Association dues.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

The Town of Rome served as a grant sponsor for the Travis Mills Foundation's application for a community development block grant. The project was successful in gaining approval of up to \$50,000 in support for the projects. More information will become available soon.

Maine Municipal Association (MMA) has asked the Board to cast a vote for MMA Vice President as well as Executive Committee members.

Charles/Stratton Motion to vote for the unopposed slate of MMA officers.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Discussion continues regarding the purchase and installation of a generator for the Westside Rome fire station. So far 2 bids have been received, cost is comparable in each estimate, and both estimates offer a 5 year warranty. One estimate is suggesting an 11 kw/h generator for the project, the second estimate recommends a 14 kw/h generator. Selectman Malcolm Charles would like to see more than enough energy generated rather than just enough energy for the current application. The Board also discussed the need for fencing around the generator as well as locking capability for the enclosure.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept \$319.93 from toll bridge for Rome Fire.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept a \$50.00 donation for the flagpole project from Patrick
McMahon.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Robert and Katherine Swegart requested a tax abatement due to the fact that their assessed value includes 7.0 acres of land. Per their deed, their lot is only 5.0 acres.

Stratton/Charles Motion to abate the value of Mr. and Mrs. Swegart's property, RE
account 198 (Map 8, Lot 6-A).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Watson Pond Road residents Craig and Julie LaRue have requested 50% abatement on their property taxes due to the conditions of the property located directly across the road from their residence. The Board agreed to consider the request, but requested that Tax Collector Tammy Lyons reach out to the LaRue's and have them fill out a formal abatement application for review by the assessing agent. The Board will consider the request once it has been processed through the normal channels.

Charles/Stratton Motion to enter executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(E) to consult with the Town attorney regarding the DiPietro litigation.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Enter executive session at 7:00pm.

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

Executive session adjourned at 7:28pm.

Selectman LaBelle called the meeting back to order at 7:31pm in the Community Room.

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept bid of \$800.00 from Cristian Rodas for Bid #1, RE Account 1276 (Map 14, Lots 50 & 51).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept bid of \$801.00 from Toby Halperin for Bid #2, RE Account. 702 (Map 14A, Lot 133).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept bid of \$1,301.00 from Toby Halperin for Bid #3, ER Account 1275 (Map 14A, Lots 69 & 70).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept bid of \$2,500.00 from Mike Adams for Bid #4, RE Account 1205 (Map 15, lot 268).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept bid of \$2,500.00 from Mike Adams for Bid #5, RE Account 1002 (Map 15-II, lot 001).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Tax Collector Tammy Lyons indicated she spoke with prior owner of Map 15-II, lot 001 earlier in the day. The previous owner stated that they had not received the notices mailed to them regarding the foreclosure, but that they would like the property back. They are willing to make any payment of back taxes and fees owed to re-claim the property.

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept bid of \$500.00 from Mike Adams for Bid #6, RE Account 347 (Map 29, lot 84).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept bid of \$350.00 from Jason Juskewitch for Bid #7, RE Account 506 (Map 29, lot 130).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/LaBelle Motion to accept bid of \$400.00 from Mike Adams for Bid #8, RE Account 911 (Map 30, lot 154).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept bid of \$400.00 from Mike Adams for Bid #9, acct. 1040 (Map 30, Lot 166).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman Charles opened a letter received from a resident on Wentworth Court. The resident was unhappy with the lack of calcium on the gravel road. The resident is asking for reimbursement of money spent on calcium that they personally spread on Wentworth Court.

LaBelle/Stratton Motion to not reimburse resident for calcium spread on town roadway.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to adjourn.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby DiPietro
Assistant to the Selectman