

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JUNE 11, 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 Andrew Cook, Abby DiPietro, Larry DiPietro Jr., and Tammy Lyons.

Recitation of Pledge of Allegiance.

Pass over May 29, 2018 minutes until next meeting.

Code Enforcement is not present; there is no report.

Road Commissioner Bubar was not present for the meeting. However he did pass along the information that several road signs throughout town have been updated or replaced as needed.

Resident Larry DiPietro Jr. again addressed the board regarding his father's auto graveyard/Junkyard becoming compliant. DiPietro Jr. states that they have just started with the additional shielding discussed in previous meetings. There was discussion regarding the timeline and whether the pending consequences are motive enough for DiPietro, Sr. to come into full compliance. The Board thanks DiPietro, Jr. for attending the meeting and attempting to find a negotiated position; however, the violation has gone on long enough and has not made reasonable efforts to come into compliance.

LaBelle/Charles Motion to authorize and direct the Town Attorney to take any and all action, including, without limitation, the filing of suit in state court, that is necessary and appropriate to enforce the State automobile graveyard and junkyard statute with respect to property owned by Larry and/or Janet DiPietro located on Augusta Road/Route 27, parcels further identified as Tax Map 3, Lot 2; tax Map 3, Lot 4; and Tax Map 21, Lot 24A.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/Stratton Motion to sign LRAP Certification.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Town Clerk Abby DiPietro addressed the board as a follow up to previous discussion of permanent office hour adjustment for the Clerk and Motor Vehicle registration office. As previously discussed effective July 9, 2018 the new permanent hours for Clerk/Motor Vehicle office will be Monday-Thursday from 10am -5 pm, as well as keeping the current 1st and 3rd Saturday hours from 9-1130 am. Clerk DiPietro will make the necessary announcements in the community papers including The Lakes Region Reader as well as the Morning Sentinel.

Selectman Stratton offered an update on her research for upgrading and replacing our current flag pole. Stratton states that she has made many contacts since last meeting checking pricing and

seeking donations for the project. So far the best pricing she has found is with Tri-State Flag. Their current offer is \$565 for the pole and accessories, and an additional \$125 for shipping. Stratton has other companies to check with before any decisions will be made. Selectman Stratton also spoke with Mr. Kevin Hawes, a landowning neighbor of Mrs. Stratton. Mr. Haws has offered to install the new flag and flag pole free of charge once a decision has been made and the necessary materials have been purchased. Selectman Stratton feels that about \$1000.00 will need to be raised to complete the project.

Selectman LaBelle declares the meeting in recess at 6:42pm.

Selectman LaBelle calls the meeting back to order at 6:47 pm.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept \$20.00 check for Fire Dept. craft fair table rental.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept \$1,000.00 check from BRCA for Recreation Committee beach project.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

It is time again to hold a tax acquired property land sale. The town currently has 9 properties to put out for bid. Bids will be due by Monday July, 23, 2018, by 5:00pm. Selectman LaBelle proposes that each bid require a 10% deposit when placing said bid; in the form of a bank check written to the Town of Rome. If their bid is accepted the check will be used toward the winning bid amount. If their bid isn't accepted as the highest bid, the check will then be available for pick up by the bidder.

Charles/Stratton Motion to put 9 properties out to bid as stated in 2017 Town Report.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Tax Collector Treasurer Tammy Lyons has asked the board to sign a quitclaim deed for Mr. and Mrs. Milligan. Their property had been foreclosed on for unpaid taxes in 2016, they have since reconciled their taxes and would like to reclaim their property.

Charles/Stratton Motion to sign quitclaim deed to Robert and Dorothy Milligan, Map 15, Lot 284 BLC sec. 1.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Lyons also let the board know that she will be closed Monday, June 18, 2018 due to a family commitment. She also has vacation planned starting Aug. 7 thru Aug 14, 2018. Her office will be closed these dates.

Selectman Stratton asked Lyons if there has been any progress with the tax commitment update from TRIO. Lyons states that there has been no progress, or any communication from TRIO with an update. Selectman LaBelle will check with TRIO again for an update as well.

Selectman LaBelle also gave an update on the FEMA storm damage reimbursement. LaBelle states that the town should expect compensation of \$18,000-\$19,000 from the wind storm damage in October 2017. The window for reporting storm damage will be open until the end of June 2018. Selectman LaBelle and road commissioner Bubar drove every mile of the town's roads recently to pin GPS coordinates for any reported and repaired storm damage.

The Board discussed implementing a "Purchase Order Policy" requiring any purchases over a said amount to be run by The Board for approval before purchases are to be made.

LaBelle/Stratton

Motion to adjourn.

LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby DiPietro

Assistant to the Selectman