

TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 15, 2017
MINUTES

Chairman Richard LaBelle called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:04 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, Abby DiPietro, Tammy Lyons, Ed Pearl, Jr.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept minutes for May 1, 2017 selectmen's meeting
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar provided an update on the status of seasonal roadwork. Work on Watson Pond Road is well under way. Ditching work is complete and we await Pike Industries to complete paving. This is expected to be completed the first week of June.

In the coming weeks, Bubar hopes to replace culverts on the Ladd Road, as well as adding gravel and grading Oak Ridge.

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept donations to Rome Fire & Rescue, made in memory of
Irwin Pearl.

Richard H. & Lois LaBelle	\$20.00
Stephen & Pamela Giguere	\$100.00
Donald & Lynn Bushnell	\$100.00
Frederick Weston, Jr.	\$50.00
Robert & Leota Clark	\$50.00
Peter & Diane Downing	\$15.00
Lawrence Garrison	\$50.00

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

Road Commissioner Bubar visited the Friedrich's Beach property with the Recreation Committee on May 6. The discussions regarding rehabilitating the property have been well received and there is a consensus that this project can get accomplished. Code Enforcement Andrew Marble has visited the property with Maine DEP to discuss restrictions. Marble will be requesting a Permit by Rule (PBR) on behalf of the Town, in order to complete work on the property.

Selectman LaBelle noted that Firefighter Adam Clement has made necessary arrangements in order for the Town and Fire Department to offer Warden's Report services. Warden's Report is a free burn permit website, whereby residents can submit the necessary information and create an alert to necessary fire agents. Restrictions can be placed on certain fire level days. Links to the site have been created on the Town's webpage.

Code Enforcement Officer Andrew Marble provided an update on current violations and site visits. Marble conducted a site visit on Mercer Road for a possible violation of a camper trailer being used as a residence; he does not believe this is a violation. There was no sewer hookup and only one extension cord from the primary residence to the trailer.

At the direction of the Board, Marble completed a site visit at the DiPietro property to determine compliance with junkyard laws. Marble determined the property to be out of compliance. The junkyard and auto lot were not separated. He will be sending a notice of violation, requesting

cleanup be completed within 30 days. After a period of 30 days, the Board may pursue enforcement against the violation.

Messalonskee Middle School has notified the Board of the top three eighth graders from Rome. Emmie Pelletier, Shelby Lyons, and Allison Wills represent the top group from Rome's eighth grade.

Charles/Stratton Motion to appropriate \$150.00 from contingency to support \$50.00 scholarship each for Rome's top three 8th graders.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

The Board received the annual management letter from the auditor following up on the 2016 audit. There were comments related to petty cash drawers, depositing by the treasurer, as well as late payments. The Board discussed the process of correcting these deficiencies and process for implementation.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept the 2016 Audit Management Letter from RHR Smith.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

The Board will schedule a public hearing for June 12 at 6:00 p.m. to begin the process of considering an increase in cemetery lot fees. It is noted that the public should be included in this consideration. The current lot allows for 5 full burials and costs a total of \$150.00, which is well below regional averages.

Selectman Lois Stratton noted that she completed two days of training in Freeport for General Assistance administration. She found these sessions to be very information and she learned a lot about the process and supporting programs.

The Board has received a request from RSU 18 Superintendent Gary Smith for the appointment of representatives to the district's cost-sharing committee. Mr. Smith requests we strongly consider the reappointment of those who served on the previous committee.

LaBelle/Stratton Motion to appoint Malcolm Charles, Tammy Lyons, and Andrew Cook to the RSU 18 cost sharing committee.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Charles Motion to appoint Lois Stratton as an alternate representative to the RSU 18 cost sharing committee.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly R. Brooks
Assistant to the Selectmen