

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
NOVEMBER 27, 2017
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, and Tammy Lyons.

Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept minutes for November 13, 2017 selectmen's meeting
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar states that Wayne French will be hired to remove brush from roadsides, as a result of the October 30 wind/rain storm. This will likely cost \$1,000 per day and could take two to three days. Selectman Charles notes that it is important that this brush is removed before snowfall.

Mr. Bubar received pricing from Pike Industries with proposals for 2018 road reconstruction. Proposed costs for paving include: North Pond Road at \$289,332.50; Jamaica Point Road at \$162,565.50; Wooster Hill Road at \$220,950.00. These numbers do not include roadwork. The Road Commissioner will provide earthwork pricing from Rick Labbe at the next meeting. Selectman Charles suggests approaching Pine Tree Camp to seek support for financial support for road reconstruction. A letter will be drafted for review and consideration at the next meeting.

Emergency Management Director Ed Pearl, Jr. submitted the Town's Damage Assessment Form 7 just prior to this meeting. Expenses incurred, to date, related to the October 30 storm totaled approximately \$13,000. If approved at State and Federal levels for assistance, the Town may be reimbursed up to 75% of expenses. This form was finalized and Selectman LaBelle submitted the form via email.

Charles/Stratton Motion to accept \$250.00 donation from Belgrade Lakes Association for the picnic table placed at the Friedrich's Beach property.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Stratton Motion to authorize Selectman Charles, on behalf of the Board, to demand all fire/rescue logs/information available in order to assess department response.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman Charles asked about an update on the status of Rome Country Auctions, at the intersection of Routes 225 and 27. Selectman LaBelle attended the last Planning Board meeting where the application was tabled until a permit from MaineDOT could be obtained. Until a permit is granted, there shall be no auctions held at this location.

LaBelle/Charles Motion to appropriate \$400.00 from Contingency to pay \$200.00 per alternate Planning Board member.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman Charles discusses his thoughts about developing a preferred vendor list for the Town. This will help streamline operations and ensure that reliable vendors are used. Such a list would be ordered by the Board of Selectmen and observed by all departments. Selectman Charles will create a draft list for consideration at the next meeting.

Budget workshops for the Board are set, as follows; December 11 at 5:00PM and December 13 at 8:30AM. As a reminder, the second meeting in December will be held on Tuesday, December 26 at 6PM.

Charles/Stratton Motion to deny abatement request by Sandra LaBelle and Sara LaBelle, for which the applicant contended all lakefront property in the Town of Rome was over-assessed relative to other land.
Stratton, Charles in favor; LaBelle abstains (2-0-1)

Code Enforcement Officer Andrew Marble provides a brief update on his office. He has received complaints that the DiPietro property on Augusta Road has declined in condition, rather than approved, since ordering cleanup of the junkyard. Mr. Marble did not have time during daylight to conduct a site visit; he will do so in the coming days.

On November 1, Owner DiPietro was served with a notice to begin cleanup of the junkyard within 90 days; no more than 90 days thereafter, the cleanup must be complete.

Selectman LaBelle asks if the Recreation Committee will be organizing a giving tree this year. Recreation Committee member Tammy Lyons and Kimberly Brooks state that the program will be organized. Selectman LaBelle stated that he was very discouraged with the organization of the program last year and that he believed that the program should not be supported by tax dollars. Any items given away should be sourced privately; he does not support cash expenditures from Town accounts in order to fulfill applicant requests.

LaBelle/Stratton Motion to sign dispatch agreement with the City of Waterville, absorbing an increase of 3% over previous year.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce has invited the Board to attend Meet the Representatives on December 6 from 5:30 to 7:00pm. The event will be held in Waterville and requires an RSVP.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly R. Brooks
Assistant to the Selectmen