

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
NOVEMBER 28, 2016
MINUTES**

Chairman Richard LaBelle called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:02 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office at the Rome Community Center in Rome. Selectmen LaBelle, Archer, and Charles were present. A quorum was declared. Also present at all or parts of the meeting were Kimberly Brooks, Carroll Bubar, Tammy Lyons, and Ed Pearl, Jr.

Archer/Charles Motion to accept minutes for November 14, 2016 selectmen's meeting
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Assistant Fire Chief Ed Pearl questioned the recent letter received regarding budgets and the \$200.00 spending cap placed on departments until the end of the year. Pearl asks he was the only one to receive such a letter; he thinks this is wrong. Pearl states that this should be applied to all offices. Selectman LaBelle stated that all department heads received the same letter with the same spending limits. The limit was approved by the Board of Selectmen at the last meeting to eliminate the typical year-end spend-down on departmental accounts. LaBelle said he would support a flat budget, but strongly discouraged departments from spending unnecessarily ahead of budget season.

Pearl requests that the Fire Department be approved to service trucks in December (each of which will exceed \$200.00) and purchase four carbon air filters (each of which will exceed \$200.00). Selectman LaBelle states he believes maintenance should be regular and the department shouldn't be waiting until the last minute to make essential purchases. The new truck has not been regularly serviced in about 18 months.

Archer/Charles Motion to approve the expense of three fire/rescue vehicles annual
maintenance and the purchase of four carbon air filters.
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Code Enforcement Officer Andrew Marble provides a brief update on the status of his office. He issued a notice of violation to property owners on Crystal Springs Lane and North Pond Road for unlicensed junkyards. Marble also received a call from an individual on behalf of Susan Day Donna, who has been previously cited for violations. Ms. Day Donna, through her advocate, claims that this violation can be dealt with in the spring.

LaBelle/Archer Motion to authorize Code Enforcement Officer Andrew Marble move ahead
with the process of enforcing the code violation against Susan Day Donna,
under Rule 80K.
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman LaBelle reads a letter received via email from property owner Brian Drolet. Mr. Drolet contends that his property is accessible only by way of Drury Lane and that the section of Drury Lane access to his property is inaccessible. The Board maintains that the section of road in question is a discontinued county road. In a recent lease on file at the Registry of Deeds, a map notes that this property is accessible via Route 27 and that the access from Drury Lane is discontinued. The Board will send a response letter stating that and the fact that the Town is not responsible.

LaBelle/Archer Motion to sign response letter to Brian Drolet regarding access to his property from Drury Lane.
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Treasurer and Tax Collector Tammy Lyons provides an update on the status of her office. She notes that a resident has requested an abatement due to an error in acreage assessment. The Assessing Agent recommends approval.

Archer/Labelle Motion to grant an abatement for Robyn LeGrand on Map 19, Lot 49A (RE Account #701) in the amount of \$577.07
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman LaBelle questions the validity of the lien and foreclosure against the Nagel properties. The Wildwood Estates road association has a significant lien filed against the property, yet the association was not notified. LaBelle asks Lyons to contact Maine Municipal Legal Services to provide clarification on the lien process and to determine whether the lien is viable.

LaBelle/Charles Motion to rescind the order to sell the Nagel property back to the owners from whom the property was taken, until legal advice can be sought.
LaBelle, Archer, Charles in favor (3-0)

The Board of Selectmen set a special meeting time to begin work on the 2017 budget. The Board will meet on Monday, December 5, 2016, at 6:00PM for a budget workshop. The meeting will be posted on the Town website, at the office, and in the Morning Sentinel.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly R. Brooks
Assistant to the Selectmen