

Town of Raymond
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071
207-655-4742

Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 20, 2004

Attendance: Ada Brown, Chairman; Betty McDermott; Charles Leavitt; Dana Desjardins; Christine McClellan; Diane Goosetrey, Food Pantry Director; Nathan White, Public Works Director; and Don Willard, Town Manager.

1. Call to order. Ada Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Town Office.

2. Consideration of previous minutes dated January 6, 2004.

MOTION: Christine McClellan motioned to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by Betty McDermott.

VOTE: Unanimous.

3. Review and approval of contract with Vision Appraisal Technology for 2004 Tax Equalization Program (Revaluation) – Assessor’s Agent Amanda Simpson.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard explained that Vision had not responded to the contract because it wasn’t delivered to them in time for this meeting. Our town attorney had approved the contract. He asked if they wanted to continue this item until their next meeting.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to authorize Don Willard to sign the contract when received back from Vision Appraisal as presented to them. Seconded by Christine McClellan.

VOTE: 3 in favor (McDermott, McClellan, Brown) 1 opposed (Leavitt, Desjardins)

4. Relocation Raymond food Pantry – Diane Goosetrey, Pantry Director and Jennifer Hall, Christ Chapel.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard explained that the Food Pantry has been in the Town Office basement for several years. At this time it has been deemed inadequate because of access and poor environment for the food i.e. critters. There has also been a problem with getting volunteer help. He felt that moving the Pantry to Christ Chapel on Main Street was a positive move. He asked that the accrued donated funds being held by the Town for the Pantry of \$2081.76 be turned over to the new administrators. He inquired whether the Town would still be accepting donations for the Pantry in food and/or money contributions. Mrs. Goosetrey said that she would still oversee the Pantry and solicit donations for it. She continued that it would still be known as the Raymond Food Pantry and that Christ Chapel would not be more than a location for it. Mr. Willard asked what would happen to the Pantry if Christ Chapel sold the building on Main Street. Ms. Hall replied that they would probably move it to their church on Northern Pines Road and house it on the main floor. She said they would continue to have a free meal once a month and that date would

probably be the best time for people to pick up food from the Pantry. It was noted that St. Joseph's College would help with the Pantry and the moving thereof. Mrs. Goosetrey added that the shelving would be moving with the food. Mrs. Hall noted that they would welcome help for the Pantry from anyone. They didn't want the Pantry to be just a Christ Chapel function. Mr. Leavitt asked how the donations were handled. Mrs. Goosetrey answered that she purchased supplies and then was reimbursed from the account by Elizabeth Cummings. She now felt that they would have a checking account specifically for the Raymond Food Pantry which would have two signatures – hers and someone from Christ Chapel. Mr. Leavitt asked if this would keep a non-profit status for donations. Mr. Willard responded that as a town entity it could be considered like a 5013C entity for donations. Mr. Leavitt asked that they find a way to officially transfer the Pantry account to Christ Chapel and make a clean break from the town. Mr. Willard said that Raymond Public Works would be willing to help with the move.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to relocate the Raymond Food Pantry to Christ Chapel including the funds being held by the town of \$2,081.76. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous.

5. Consideration of Bids – 1995 GMC, One-ton, 4x4 Dump Truck.

Accepted bids:	Rodney Knights	\$ 7,200.00
	Todd Southwick	\$ 2,195.99
	Kenneth Allen	\$ 6,510.00
	Richard Spear	\$ 7,125.00
	Lenny Colello	\$11,199.99
	S.A. McLean & Son	\$10,400.00

MOTION: Dana Desjardins motioned to sell the 1995 GMC truck to Lenny Colello for the amount of \$11,199.99. Seconded by Christine McClellan

VOTE: Unanimous.

6. Communications and other business.

a. Budget Issues

Mr. Leavitt hoped that tonight's State of the State message from Governor Baldacci would affirm that he wants to do more for the town's taxation problems, and continue to propose regionalization where possible. He felt that with the work being done in Raymond that Mr. Baldacci would use Raymond as a model town for this type of compromise. Mr. Leavitt also hoped that in President Bush's State of the Union address he would increase funding to local schools to cover the cost of the No Child Left Behind mandate.

Mr. Leavitt continued that Raymond's budget process has started with CIP discussion as well as the School Budget. He said that a solution to the school's \$375,000 deficit needed to be found. He noted that the auditor suggested paying it over 5 years. He wanted to understand how this happened and had concern that the School Budget presently shows a 9.5% increase but with this addition it might be considerably more. He suggested a meeting with the School Committee and the

auditors to decide on how this would be covered. Mr. Willard explained that the school and the town used the same auditing firm. Mrs. Brown felt that this type of meeting should be arranged through the School Committee and not the Selectmen. Mr. Willard concurred that the School Committee should be asked to have this as an agenda item and that the Budget Committee and the Selectmen be invited to attend that meeting. Mrs. McDermott asked that the School Committee be left to deal with this item by itself. She said it wasn't a Selectmen's issue. She continued that any individual can ask for an item to be put on the School Committee's agenda. Mr. Leavitt noted that he had asked for the history of this problem but hadn't received a reply as yet. He saw it as an unfunded liability because everyone apparently was paid. He considered this a Selectmen's problem as well because it had bearing on the budget. Mrs. McDermott reminded everyone that the last School Committee meeting was a workshop with the Budget Committee at which the budget itself was not to be discussed but rather what the Budget Committee wanted to receive from the School Committee. Mr. Leavitt said he would withdraw his request for the discussed meeting with the auditors and leave it to the School Committee. But he said that he was very interested in finding a creative way to deal with the problem. Mrs. McDermott informed him that she didn't believe that the School Committee had received the letter but would get it at their next meeting tomorrow night. Mr. Leavitt reiterated that he would like to help with the resolution of the debt because he didn't want it to happen again and to deal with it in the least impacting way for the taxpayer. Mrs. Brown suggested waiting until after the School Committee's next meeting and finding out what their thoughts were on the subject.

7. Review and authorize January 20, 2004 Treasurer's Warrant.

MOTION: Betty McDermott motioned to approve the Treasurer's Warrant in the amount of \$133,353.91. Seconded by Christine McClellan.

VOTE: Unanimous.

8. Adjourn.

MOTION: Dana Desjardins motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Ada Brown adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk