

TOWN OF RAYMOND
Thursday October 14, 2004

TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Note: 158 checked in voters.

TO: Jack Cooper, a resident of the Town of Raymond, in the County of Cumberland and State of Maine.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Raymond, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Jordan-Small School, in said Town of Raymond on Thursday, October 14, 2004, at 7:00 PM, then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a moderator to preside at said meeting.

MOTION: There was a nomination for Joseph Bruno for moderator. Seconded.

MOTION: There was a motion for nominations to cease. Seconded.

VOTE: Carried.

VOTE ON NOMINATION: Carried.

NOTE: Town Clerk Louise Lester swore in Joseph Bruno as moderator.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the town will vote to adopt a document entitled Town of Raymond Comprehensive Plan 2004.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this article.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee recommends adoption of this article.

MOTION: There was a motion and second to approve.

MOTION: There was a motion and second to allow non-residents to speak before the meeting.

VOTE: Carried.

MOTION: There was a motion and second to postpone this article to a time certain being the next annual town meeting.

VOTE: Defeated.

MOTION: There was a motion and second to stop discussion.

VOTE: Carried.

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: Carried.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$58,000 from undesignated fund balance (surplus) for the purpose of the construction of a digital broadcast studio.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this article.

The Budget/Finance Committee make no recommendation.

Explanation: Approval of this article will facilitate the receipt of a \$48,000 grant from Time Warner Cable to supplement the town's funds for a total project construction cost of \$106,000. Construction of the digital broadcast studio will enable the live broadcast of municipal, school and community meetings as well as the playback of pre-recorded tapes.

The towns present surplus is \$1,484,552 with an expected increase from under-expenditure of fiscal year 2003/2004 appropriation accounts of approximately \$80,000 and revenue collections over estimates by approximately \$73,000 for a total expected increase to fund balance of \$153,000.

Funding this article would reduce the amount of money going to surplus to approximately \$95,000 resulting in a total estimated surplus of \$1,579,552.

MOTION: There was a motion and second to table this article to a time certain being the next annual town meeting.

VOTE: Carried.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the town will vote to approve the formation of a local board of assessment review as authorized under Maine law Title 30A M.R.S.A. 2526.

Explanation: A local board of assessment review would be comprised of Raymond citizens appointed by the Board of Selectmen to hear property tax appeals not resolved by the Board of Assessors. Appeals from the local board of assessment review can then be made, if necessary, to Superior Court. The local board of assessment review would replace the present system, which utilizes the Cumberland County Commissioners as the town's initial appeal authority. The Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article.

The Selectmen recommend adoption of this article.

The Budget/Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

MOTION: There was a motion and second to approve Article 4.

VOTE: Carried.

MOTION: There was a motion and second to adjourn.

VOTE: Carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Joseph Bruno adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Louise H. Lester

Town Clerk