



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes*
October 12, 2010

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Attendance: Chairman Joe Bruno; Charles Leavitt; Mike Reynolds; Lonnie Taylor; and Dana Desjardins.

Absent: None.

Town Staff: Town Manager Don Willard; Fire Chief Denis Morse; Public Works Director Nathan White; and Recording Secretary Danielle Loring.

1) Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Joe Bruno at 7:00pm and a quorum was declared.

Mr. Bruno asked for a moment of silence for two members of the community who had recently passed away: Mack Mains and Duce Lester.

2) Minutes of previous meeting September 14, 2010:

MOTION: Mike Reynolds motioned to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2010 meeting as submitted. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

DISCUSSION:

Mike Reynolds asked that the following items be corrected:

Page 1: In regards to setting the mill rate, the maximum rate should be "\$10.93" not "\$10.90."

Page 4: In regards to the County Tax Return, the motion should say "sending" not "spending..."

Joe Bruno asked that the following item be corrected:

Page 2: In regards to the road name changes, Tomahawk only has one "m."

VOTE: APPROVED- 3/0/2 abstentions due to absence (Leavitt and Taylor)

3) New business.

a) 90 Day review of Contract GIS Program with Town of Windham- Dave Sawyer, Windham Assessor

Mr. Sawyer referred to the memo that was enclosed in the ePacket as the primary source of reference for what had been accomplished. To save time he would answer questions rather than reiterating it. However, he felt that the most important task was establishing GPS points and connecting as many of those points together as well as bringing the quality level of information to a Level 2, from a previous Level 1.

Mr Bruno wanted to know if this information was going to be made available to the public. Mr. Sawyer

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responded that as much of the information that the Town wanted published was possible. He commented that he felt that it was always important to have the public be informed, without overwhelming them.

Mr. Leavitt wanted to clarify what was meant by a “Level 2” rating and if it was the same thing as the “Phase II”. Mr. Sawyer responded that Phase II was part of the objects that were created for the project and that Level 2 was a Maine standard measuring the accuracy of information that was available. A Level 1 means that the information is a seamless bunch of parcels, whereas a Level 2 was tying all those parcels together on the face of the earth. This process was much more particular about the placement of points and lines, whereas the phases were objectives. Every level denotes a level of higher accuracy.

Mr. Leavitt asked about job shadowing/sharing in the event that something happened to the Windham employee currently managing the project. Mr. Willard said the primary objective of the project, at this point, was rebuilding the database and in the future there may be a possibility of adding an assistant, but no one would be able to reach the level of expertise that Elisa has reached. Mr. Bruno wanted to remind everyone, that because of the contract with Windham, it was their responsibility to find a replacement in the event that position became vacant.

Mr. Desjardins wanted to know how this program was going to be funded in the future. Mr. Willard responded that it currently came from the fund reserve, more specifically the TIF. In the future, he felt that it would have to be made a budget item, if they decided to continue with the project. Mr. Desjardins continued by stating that he was concerned with invasion of privacy for the citizens of Raymond. He mentioned that he was displeased that Vision made information public and adding this geographical element, he felt, was further invasion. He felt that citizens should have the right to opt out from having their information shared. Mr. Sawyer responded that it was a policy issue for the Town and it was up to the Selectmen to decide what level of information sharing and censorship they would implement.

b) Appointment of Election Warden for the November 2nd elections, Laurie Forbes - Board of Selectmen

Louise Lester, Town Clerk, asked the Selectmen to appoint Laurie Forbes as the warden for the November 2, 2010 election. She explained that it is required before each federal and state election.

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to appoint Laurie Forbes as the November 2, 2010 election warden. Seconded by Mike Reynolds.

VOTE: APPROVED- 4/1 (Leavitt)

c) FY 2010-11 Road Construction Presentation- Nathan White, Public Works Director

1. Mr. White made reference to the memo that was available in the ePacket as the primary source of information and said that, in the interest of time, he was available for questioning, rather than reiterating it. He reviewed energy improvement projects that were being undertaken at the Town Office, District #2 and Public Safety Building. He also spoke briefly about road construction projects that were being wrapped up. Mr. Leavitt suggested adding pavement management to the list of winter projects.

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d) New elderly tax deferral law, LD 1121: 36 MRSA §941-§942 - Joe Bruno, Chairman
Chairman Joe Bruno explained that this law was passed by Maine Legislature this past spring and became effective in July. It allowed municipalities create a program to freeze property taxes at a certain level. During this time frame no interest would accumulate and payments would not be due until there was a change of ownership. Some qualifications are that resident(s) must be at least 70 years of age and have a household income 300% of the federal poverty limit. Though Mr. Bruno agrees with the concept, he is concerned with the loss of revenue that would occur for the duration that property taxes are not being collected.

Mr. Willard suggested that information about the law be put on the website and made available to the public in order to gauge interest. Mr. Bruno confirmed for Mr. Reynolds that citizens would have to apply for this program, if the Town chooses to adopt one. Mr. Reynolds expressed his concern that once the property changed hands, the new owner was going to be dealing with a lien for the unpaid taxes.

Mr. Bruno decided that they would attempt to gauge public interest and go from there. He wanted the public to know that Town staff was always willing to help citizens to be able to pay their taxes to help someone from losing their home. Mr. Reynolds pointed out that the information needed to be presented in a way that was easy to comprehend and clearly stated the pros and cons of this program.

e) Municipal Ordinance Review: Peddler's Ordinance

Mr. Bruno explained that this issue was coming before the Selectmen to stop the loophole that was allowing businesses to put secondary businesses in front of their licensed businesses. Mr. Desjardins felt that there were many instances where business owners were changing the intent of the businesses without disclosing this. This causes problems in the flow of traffic and such changes should really be reviewed by the Planning Board first.

Mr. Bruno feels that the Town should have a resource so that individuals know how to open a business in Raymond or do a Change of Usage. He felt that it was the Code Enforcement Officer's responsibility to be enforcing non-licensed businesses. He would like to see a report back from the Fire Department and Chris Hanson, CEO, regarding this matter.

4) Old (unfinished) business.

a) Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A): Discussion of draft IAFF Local 4095, AFL-CIO-CLC Agreement- Fire Chief Denis Morse

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A): Discussion of draft IAFF Local 4095, AFL-CIO-CLC Agreement. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL - 5/0; in Executive Session at 7:50pm

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to come out of Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(A): Discussion of draft IAFF Local 4095, AFL-CIO-CLC Agreement. Seconded by Charles Leavitt.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL - 5/0; out of Executive Session at 8:16pm.

Mr. Bruno announced that in executive session an issue was found with the draft contract and it would have to go before the membership, so there would be no vote tonight. Mr. Leavitt apologized to J.P. and Fire Chief Denis Morse for having to postpone this item last meeting.

5) Public Comment: None.

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6) Town Manager Report and Communications.

a) Confirmed date for next meeting on Tuesday, November 9, 2010.

b) Town was able to get a surplus patrol vehicle at no cost which will have a GPS and laptop installed for Chris Hanson, Code Enforcement Officer, to use while on job sites. He has agreed to be trained in driving fire equipment on Fire/Rescue calls in exchange for the car. The maintenance on this vehicle is going to be paid out of the \$400 stipend that was originally for Mr. Hanson's mileage.

7) Selectmen Communications:

a) Election Day Reminder

Mr. Reynolds reminded the public that Election Day was November 2, 2010 and that absentee ballots were available at the Town Hall.

b) Farewell from Dana Desjardins

Mr. Desjardins wanted to thank the citizens of the Town of Raymond for supporting him and voting him in as a Selectboard member. Though he had a difference of opinion with some, he had made many friends. Mr. Bruno thanked Mr. Desjardins for his almost nine years of service and for his devotion and time.

c) Thanking the Public

Mr. Leavitt wanted to thank Peter Dunn of his presentation at the last meeting as a private citizen and for his work on the Budget Finance Committee. He also wanted to thank Deb Baker for her appearance at the last Planning Board meeting, on September 8, and being the voice of the public concerning the conditional rezoning issue.

d) Public Hearing Reminder

Mr. Bruno wanted to remind the public that there was going to be a combined Planning Board and Board of Selectmen Public Hearing, on October 20, 2010 at 7pm at the Broadcasting Studio, concerning the proposal for the conditional rezoning to allow for a wireless communication facility on Farm Road.

e) Memorial Page Policy

Mr. Bruno mentioned the moment of silence that was held at the beginning of the meeting. He recognized that the current Town Report was going to be dedicated to Dr. Painter and he wanted the creation of a policy that would outline the procedure for creating a memorial page for the yearly Town Report. Mr. Willard suggested that they do what his previous town had done, which was at the end of the fiscal year, the town clerk would present a list of the citizens who had passed the year before and the Selectmen would approve that list to go into the Town Report as a memorial page. Mr. Bruno thought that sounded like a good idea and wanted to see a draft policy at the next meeting.

8) Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – October 12, 2010

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Treasurer's Warrant in the amount of \$1,220,811.10, which included bond payments totaling \$550,992.32 and the County Tax Payment of \$544,946.00.

Seconded by Mike Reynolds.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL- 5/0

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9) Adjournment:

MOTION: Charles Leavitt motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL – 5/0

Joe Bruno adjourned at 8:36pm.

Danielle Loring
Recording Secretary