

TOWN OF RAYMOND
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071

BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE & SELECTMEN
MINUTES

Tuesday, January 17, 2008
* Amended 1/28/08

ATTENDANCE: Selectmen: Mark Gendron, Chairman; Joe Bruno; Dana Desjardins; Mike Reynolds; and Lonnie Taylor (8:04 pm)

SELECTMEN ABSENT: None.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Teresa Sadak, Chairman; and Kevin Woodbrey.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ABSENT: Roger Ginn, Lisa Friedlander, and Wendy Trask.

BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE: Rolf Olsen; Ralph Bartholomew; Dennis Cole; Jean Carter; Susan Accardi; and Charles Leavitt.

BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE ABSENT: Bob Gosselin; Jerilyn Ward; and Tucker Cole (resigned)

STAFF ATTENDANCE: Don Willard, Town Manager; Nancy Yates, Finance Director; Nathan White, Public Works Director; and Bruce Tupper, Deputy Fire Chief.

OTHERS: Mike McClellan; and Marshall Bullock.

1. Call to order. Rolf Olsen called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm at the Broadcast Studio announcing the resignation of Tucker Cole. The Selectmen will be appointing Marshall Bullock next week at their regular Selectmen's meeting to fill that position until the next municipal election.
2. Approval of the Minutes of December 10, 2007.

MOTION: Dennis Cole motioned to approve the Minutes of December 10, 2007. Seconded by Jean Carter.

VOTE: Unanimous 6-0

3. Special Town Meeting Warrant for February 5, 2008.

DISCUSSION: It was announced that this warrant would need another meeting of the Budget/Finance Committee for a vote on the recommendation for the school Article #3.

4. Provider Agencies.

DISCUSSION: There was a question about the process and responsibility of funding passage for provider agencies. Mr. Olsen said that at one time it was left to the town meeting without a recommendation on the warrant. Mr. Bartholomew asked if representation tonight by those agencies determined who would be considered. Mr. Willard said that they all provided applications and

information about their service to Raymond, but they were not told that they had to appear at this meeting to be considered. He added that the Lake Region Transit Service presented to the Selectmen previously is included as a new candidate. Raymond Mentoring Partnership is also new this year.

Family Crisis Service for \$1,000. No representative.

Home Health Visiting Nurses for \$4,000. Charity Hearst represented. 145 families served in 2007.

PROP for \$5,500. Susanne McCormick Director represented. Served 329 families or 350 residents in 2007. Requesting a representative from Raymond to sit on their board of directors.

RED (Raymond Extended Daycare) for \$3,500. Jody Durant, Assist Director represented. 47 children are being helped at present which is a low enrollment from previous years. The cost is: morning \$5; afternoons \$10; and Wednesday afternoons \$20. There is a sibling discount of 10%. They discussed the summer program with enrollment last year of 60+. Mr. Desjardins asked for more financial information from the Director.

Regional Transportation Program for \$3,032. No representative.

Southern Maine Agency on Aging for \$1,950. No representative.

Tri-County Mental Health for \$4,500. Tina Clark represented. Actually serve four counties. Now have outpatient offices in Windham from which they've seen 130 people from Raymond. Their request is based on population. They may have a financial crisis situation with MaineCare budget cuts because their budget is 98 % funded by the state. They do get some funding from Cumberland and Franklin Counties. This money will be used for Raymond residents. They would appreciate a member of their board of directors from Raymond.

Raymond Mentoring for \$1,900. Candice Woolston represented. Service about 35 to 40 students per year though the school year. Partial support is from the State Office of Substance Abuse. Mr. Gendron felt this should come under the school budget. Mr. Olsen didn't feel that it was an issue because of the level of funding. He also felt that it might be funded under the TIF. There was discussion how this might be entertained by the School Board to be included in their budget.

Greater Bridgton Lake Region Chamber of Commerce for \$1,000. Mike McClellan represented. Their information service is open six days a week during the winter and seven days from Memorial Day through Fryeburg Fair week in October. They have an active email list serve for information. They also sponsor classes provided for businesses etc. They have been an integral part of the Raymond Beautification Committee which maintains Raymond's public gardens.

Lake Region Transit Service for \$3,848. Previously presentation by David Willouer, GPCOG, before the Selectmen, but Mr. Willard felt that if asked he would talk with the Budget Committee as well. Mr. Leavitt asked how the Selectmen feel about this program. Mr. Gendron felt it was an opportunity to provide comprehensive public transportation which is not available now. Mr. Reynolds noted that the program on the coast between Portland and Brunswick has been successful. Mr. Bruno questioned whether it would be used by our residents to its full extent.

5. CIP (8:45 pm)

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard noted that the town office improvements have been moved into the CIP and the total is less than last year. He reviewed the CIP budget. Mr. Bartholomew asked if he could see a report of the funds in the CIP, and Mr. Willard said that he could supply that report. Mr. Gendron explained that the Board of Selectmen were in favor of not putting money aside for a future purchase but purchasing equipment as they need it and borrow for it. Mr. Olsen said that this CIP program began when the interest rates went so high that it wasn't cost effective to borrow for purchases. Mr. Bruno noted that the interest rates are such that it is less expensive to borrow to purchase equipment than put it aside until we need to purchase it. Mr. Olsen felt it was prudent to plan for future purchases. Mr. Gendron reported that the department heads are taking inventory of equipment and planning is being done for the future. Mr. Willard allowed that there has to be a balance between the two scenarios. Mr. Leavitt asked what the plan is for a future revaluation. Mr. Gendron said that our assessor Mike O'Donnell says that it should be done about every 5 years to avoid a spike in the valuation - hence taxes. Mr. Leavitt asked about paving. Mr. Bruno felt that because of the current interest rates it might be prudent to bond a large amount and get the majority of roads improved rather than putting funds aside for smaller yearly improvements. Mr. Willard said that with a new plowing contract to cover and the general cost of fuel, it will be difficult to keep the mil rate with a zero increase.

PUBLIC WORKS

Nathan White discussed the next vehicles which would need replacement. Mr. Willard noted that to save money they don't expect to purchase new equipment. He said that they would need a plow truck. He added that they would finish Cape Road this next year. Mr. Olsen asked about approaching Frye Island to help maintain Cape Road which is their only way to get to their island. Mr. Willard said that they could be asked again. Mr. White said that the fuel storage tank pump had to be replaced, and might go to using a bid arrangement with a private source for a gas card and keep the diesel at the town garage.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Bruce Tupper explained that this year their budget has increased and have added to the CIP with improvements to Engine 2 and other work. Items for replacement have increased in price to the point where planning must be involved i.e. Scott Airpacs. Under statute air bottles are only good for 15 years. Added state and federal requirements will require different or extra equipment. He reported that they have applied for a grant to replace Airpacs for Casco, Naples and Raymond so that all the equipment would be new and the same, but he didn't have confidence that it would be granted. Mr. Desjardins asked about the patrol boat. Deputy Chief Tupper said that the Sheriff's Department will be involved and a private donation has been offered for \$5,000. Mr. Willard said that Portland Water District and Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife might also be involved. Deputy Chief Tupper said that it presently isn't a part of the CIP. *Ms. Accardi asked if Point Sebago has been approached for a donation. Mr. Gendron said that safety boat personnel is a challenge but not impossible. All personnel will be fully trained and certified on the boat. Mr. Cole asked if these boat calls were charged to the caller. Deputy Chief Tupper said that rescue service would be charged. Mr. Leavitt encouraged the Fire Department to broaden their base of support for the boat. Deputy Chief Tupper said that 8 of the Scott Airpac bottles must be replaced this year because they will be 15 years old. Then we will have to replace 8 a year for the next three years. Mr. Leavitt asked from both Nathan White and Deputy Chief Tupper a breakdown for equipment.

5. Special Town Meeting Warrant

Teresa Sadak said that packets are available in the Selectmen's boxes and will provide them to the Budget/Finance Committee. Mr. Woodbrey explained that because the heat circulation is poor, the outside vents were closed to make it warmer for the students which makes the carbon dioxide level increase, which isn't dangerous to the children but does not give them maximum oxygen. He felt it wasn't a health issue but a learning issue. Mr. Gendron said it has been tested three times with the same conclusion. He continued that the selected solution seems to be the least expensive but will give the most advantage. Mr. Woodbrey concurred. Mr. Desjardins asked why it had to be tied into the Siemens system at Raymond Elementary. Mr. Woodbrey said that didn't cost anything more, but the digital equipment would be new to monitor the vents and control them. Turner will be doing the engineering and preparation for the RFP.

6. Next Meeting

Mr. Olsen called a meeting for Monday, January 28, 2008 to vote on the school article #3 at 7:00 pm at the Broadcast Studio.

7. New member

Mr. Olsen announced that there would be a new member of the Budget/Finance Committee Marshall Bullock who will replace resigned Tucker Cole. He thanked Mr. Cole for his participation.

8. Adjourned

Mr. Olsen adjourned the meeting at 9:57 pm.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk