



*SELECTMEN'S e-Packet
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September 18, 2007*

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
AGENDA
Tuesday, September 18, 2007
7:00 p.m.
JSMS Broadcast Studio

- 1) Call to order.
- 2) Minutes of previous meetings:
 - dated August 7, 2007
 - dated September 4, 2007
- 3) New business.
 - a) Commit 2007 property taxes, set tax rate – Contract Assessor Michael O'Donnell, O'Donnell & Associates
 - b) Discussion on condition of the Egypt Road and the transfer of responsibility to the Maine Department of Transportation – Public Works Director Nathan White
 - c) Consideration of resignation of Nelson Henry from Planning Board
 - d) Voting credentials for the MMA Annual Business Meeting – Delegate Town Manager Don Willard and Alternate Delegate Town Clerk Louise Lester
 - e) School consolidation information update – Selectman Joe Bruno
 - f) Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Legislative Policy Committee discussion – Vice Chair Mike Reynolds
- 4) Old (unfinished) business.
 - a) none
- 5) Town Manager Report and Communications.
- 6) Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – September 4, 2007.
- 7) Adjournment.

The Selectmen may take items out of order at their discretion.



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
AGENDA SUMMARY
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1) Call to order.

2) Minutes of previous meetings:

- dated August 7, 2007
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3) New business.

a) Commit 2007 property taxes, set tax rate – Contract Assessor Michael O'Donnell, O'Donnell & Associates

At this writing Contract Assessor Michael O'Donnell is on vacation and unavailable to provide information regarding his recommendation for the 2007 Raymond municipal tax rate. According to Dennis Berube at O'Donnell & Associates, Mr. O'Donnell will bring this recommendation to the Board of Selectmen meeting on Tuesday evening. If, by any chance, this material is received earlier, it will be posted to the e-packet. The Selectmen had hoped to hold the current property tax rate of 10.20 per thousand of valuation, set last year. The ability to accomplish this outcome is largely dependent upon the growth in municipal valuation from last year to this year. These calculations are also being completed by Mr. O'Donnell. The Selectmen did, as a budgetary priority, carefully scrutinize all new spending proposals while also reducing and restructuring certain elements of the municipal budget, where possible, to minimize the level of tax increase. This year's municipal budget was approved at an increase of 3.175% which was below legal limits set by LD 1. Hopefully the growth in the town valuation will be sufficient to absorb this increase, and the increase of the school and county budgets, in order to allow the tax rate to remain as closely as possible to last year's level.

b) Discussion on condition of the Egypt Road and the transfer of responsibility to the Maine Department of Transportation – Public Works Director Nathan White

The e-packet contains documents related to the request of the Town of Gray to reclassify portions of Egypt Road and North Raymond Road (in Gray) as minor collector / state aid roadways. This designation was initiated by the Town of Gray and later supported by the Town of Raymond. Subsequent to this correspondence the Maine Department of Transportation did agree to reclassify these roadways as minor collector / state aid roadways. This approval was subject however to work being completed in Gray that included guard rail work and a culvert replacement project. Unfortunately the work in Gray did not proceed as quickly as anticipated and time passed from the original letter of intent received from the state to assume maintenance responsibility for these roadways. Now, August 14, 2007, Division Engineer David Sherlock (see enclosed) is indicating that road upgrade work will be required on the Raymond side, before the Egypt Road acceptance can occur. Public

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Works Director Nathan White and Town Manager Don Willard disagree with this determination in that the state made a representation in 2005 to assume summer maintenance responsibility at which point the town began to plan for the orderly transition of the roadway to the state. Raymond did not anticipate having to do any paving work on this road to satisfy the transfer of maintenance responsibility. It is unfortunate that the Town of Gray took so long to complete the required work but this problem should not now result in additional costs for the Town of Raymond. Public Works Director Nathan White will be prepared to talk about the history of the possible transfer of summer maintenance of Egypt Road back to the State of Maine. (Raymond will still be responsible for plowing this roadway.) It is important to note that prior to 1982, Egypt Road was in fact a state road that was transferred to the Towns of Raymond and Gray.

c) Consideration of resignation of Nelson Henry from Planning Board

The Selectmen are being asked to accept the resignation of Nelson Henry from the Planning Board. See attached memo from Planning Board Chair Pat Clark.

d) Voting credentials for the MMA Annual Business Meeting – Delegate Town Manager Don Willard and Alternate Delegate Town Clerk Louise Lester

This is the annual authorization from MMA for voting delegate and voting alternate from the Town of Raymond. In prior years the Town Manager and Town Clerk have served in these capacities. This is the recommendation once again this year.

e) School consolidation information update – Selectman Joe Bruno

As has been the case for the past few meetings, Selectmen Joe Bruno will update the Board of Selectmen and the public on the activities of the regional consolidation committee.

f) Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Legislative Policy Committee discussion – Vice Chair Mike Reynolds

4) Old (unfinished) business.

a) none

5) Town Manager Report and Communications.

6) Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – September 4, 2007.

7) Adjournment.

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