

Town of Raymond
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday, November 20, 2007

ATTENDANCE: Mark Gendron, Chairman; Joe Bruno; Lonnie Taylor; and Mike Reynolds.

SELECTMEN ABSENT: Dana Desjardins

STAFF ATTENDANCE: Don Willard, Town Manager; Hugh Coxe, Town Planner; and Will Cook, Assistant Code Enforcement Officer.

OTHERS: Marshall Bullock and Charles Leavitt

1. Call to order. Mark Gendron called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm at the Broadcast Studio.
2. Minutes of previous meeting dated October 16, 2007

MOTION: Mike Reynolds motioned to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor

DISCUSSION: Mr. Reynolds said that he had trouble following the discussion about the skateboard agenda item that the paragraph was hard to read. No direction needed.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

3. New business:
 - a. Interview appointment budget/Finance Committee vacancy – candidates Charles Leavitt and Marshall Bullock.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Leavitt added to his submitted resume and noted linkage to the community through his previous municipal positions. He emphasized how the budget is involved with all community affairs and how the budget will affect the human element in the town. He wanted to work through any differences of the elected bodies for the good of the town. Mr. Bruno asked what his fiscal outlook and plan for the future of the town was. Mr. Leavitt felt there was more cohesion in the town than before and saw any programs and committees coming together for the betterment of the town. He added that long term planning was a necessity in all parts of the municipality. He felt he was a minimalist for public services and agreed that this appointment would be to the next municipal election. He felt that looking forward five years was more helpful than further out i.e. ten years. Mr. Reynolds asked if he would be running at the next election for this

position. Mr. Leavitt believed his future was in Raymond, and he would continue to keep his interest and volunteerism here.

Marshall Bullock wanted to contribute to the community. He said he had some fresh ideas and energy. He felt that controlled growth is necessary. He indicated that if he were an asset, he would consider running for a position on the Budget/Finance Committee. Mr. Bullock gave a recitation of his resume upon request from the Selectmen.

All the Selectmen said it was a hard choice to make but this appointment would only be until the next election in 2008. They encouraged both candidates to run for office in the 2008 municipal election.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to appoint Charles Leavitt to fill out the term of this position. Seconded by Mike Reynolds.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

- b. Department Head Quarterly Reports – Contract Planner Hugh Coxe and Town Clerk Louise Lester

DISCUSSION: Hugh Coxe, contract planner, reviewed his written report. He noted that Karen Strout, Code Enforcement secretary, is invaluable to the department. Land Use and Subdivision updates are being reviewed for necessary changes. The Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee (CPIC) has been focusing on the Commercial Zone looking at greater density and design guidelines. Open Space planning is also a part of their work. An open space presentation will be December 5, 2007. Conditional rezoning for the Busque house-a-minium development is also in the near future. He reviewed the budget objectives. He noted the long term goals as: electronic submissions, user friendly presented ordinances, consensus building with developers (briefing and discussion of new plans), and review and preparation for update of the 2004 Comprehensive Plan. He added that they need a new Planning Board member to fill a recent resignation. Mr. Reynolds asked if any new trends need consideration which we're not dealing with at this time. Mr. Coxe said there were two he could think of :1) consensus approach for land use issues i.e. conditional rezoning and involve all people concerned with the application before the engineering begins; 2) forms of development should be considered which allow for more open space i.e. conservation subdivisions.

Mrs. Lester noted that the clerk's office is doing its best to serve the municipality. All deputy clerks are cross-trained to accomplish the work. Almost every duty has at least two clerks who can do the job i.e. BMV, IF&W, Animal Welfare, and other reports to the state. Rita Theriault is learning some of the duties of treasurer, Donna Lovely is the Deputy Tax Collector but the other clerks can accept tax payments and answer some tax questions. The Voter Registrar is Louise Murray, and Rita Theriault and Mrs. Lester are Deputy Voter Registrars. Mrs. Lester coordinates elections and town meetings.

- c. Proposed road names policy – Assistant Code Officer Will Cook

DISCUSSION: Will Cook presented the proposal including road name changes rather than just naming new roads. He felt that road name changes could be dealt with twice a year (June and December), and new development/subdivision road names would be done as needed to cover E911 and postal obligations.

MOTION: Mike Reynolds motioned to approve the road name policy change. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

- d. Public hearing – Consideration of adoption of 2007-2008 General Assistance Ordinance and Appendices.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to adopt the 2007-2008 MMA General Assistance Ordinance. Seconded by Mike Reynolds.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard explained that this action would update our ordinance using Maine Municipal Association's 2007 survey. Mr. Bruno asked if there were any increase in GA applications. Mr. Willard replied yes, but not excessive at this time.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

- e. School consolidation information update – Selectman Joe Bruno.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bruno reported that the meeting November 19th was quite contentious with discussion about merging three ways Raymond, Windham, and Westbrook. It was decided that each town should define 3 to 4 barriers to consolidation for discussion at their next meeting. His first barrier would be that Raymond is debtless and would be expected to pick up debt from the other towns. He felt that Raymond pays the other towns tuition which more than pays for each student. Their next meeting is December 3, 2007 and anyone is welcome. Education of the process is necessary for the public. Westbrook and Windham have a problem with Raymond's ability to continue school choice and they can't. Mr. Gendron was surprised by the number of municipal officials who aren't informed of the consolidation program. Mr. Willard was surprised at the animosity between Westbrook and Windham.

Mr. Bruno explained that Revenue Sharing was discussed in legislative committee and the fact that many towns are getting funding as service centers which shouldn't.

- f. Greater Portland Council of Government (GPCOG) update – Selectman Mike Reynolds.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Reynolds reported that one item being discussed was a regional economic development office. This would be a policy shift for the participating cities and towns in not having individual offices. There will also be required policy training for municipal official certification. Mr. Willard thought it was probably a requirement for NIMS. Mr. Reynolds said this was a new state law that every elected official be certified

by November 2008. He felt this training was necessary for GPCOG to apply for federal funds.

Mr. Reynolds added that CPIC was working on ordinance changes in the Commercial District i.e. a zero setback from the right of way on Roosevelt Trail (Route 302). Also looking at allowing 3 story buildings with mixed use: retail on the ground floor and residential on the 2nd and 3rd floors. These changes will be going to public hearing and the next annual town meeting.

Mr. Gendron reported that the Cumberland County Commissioner Budget Meeting in Raymond on November 6th announced an 8.07% increase for next year. There was one commissioner and 3 budget members attending. This taxation hit would not allow Raymond to meet its LD 1 limit without sacrificing some part of the municipal budget.

MOTION: Mr. Taylor motioned to write a letter to the County Commissioners telling them that Raymond expects them to stay within the annual LD1 limit and not seek additional credits from other years. Seconded by Mike Reynolds.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard felt the letter should tell them that they should stay to the LD1 limits for the current year. Mr. Bruno noted that Raymond would have to make dramatic cuts in our budget to allow us to stay under the LD1 limit in order to cover that County increase. Mr. Reynolds had a problem with the County advertising their budget under LD1 limit when it really isn't for their actual current year limit rather adding other year's "credits". Mr. Bruno noted Raymond's limit is 3.04 for next year 2008-2009.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

4. Old (unfinished) business.
 - a. None

5. Town Manager Report and Communications.
 - a. Beautification Committee
Sharon Dodson asked if they could accept charitable contributions for a Beautification Committee Fund and have a designated fund which would be a non-profit/tax deductible donation.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to approve a dedicated account for the Beautification Committee. Seconded by Mike Reynolds.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

- b. Donations from the Pink Tulip Project from Maine Cancer for a town garden.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to approve. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

c. 2004 Chevrolet half-ton 2-wheel drive truck.
Mr. Willard announced that they had sold at a small profit a public works pickup truck. He said that they would look for a replacement at State Surplus.

6. Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – November 20, 2007.

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$38,839.98. Seconded by Mike Reynolds.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Treasurers Warrant in the amount of \$189,739.75. Seconded by Mike Reynolds.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

7. Adjournment.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

VOTE: Unanimous 4-0

ADJOURNMENT: Mark Gendron adjourned the meeting at 8:39 PM.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk