

TOWN OF RAYMOND  
401 Webbs Mills Road  
Raymond, Maine 04071

SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, September 2, 2008

SELECTMEN: Mike Reynolds, Chairman; Mark Gendron; Joe Bruno; Dana Desjardins; and Lonnie Taylor

SELECTMEN ABSENT: None

STAFF: Don Willard, Town Manager

OTHERS: Ginny and Bill Parker

1. Call to order. Mike Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm at the Broadcast Studio.

2. Minutes for June 20, 2008 and August 5, 2008

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the minutes of June 20, 2008. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: 3 in favor, 2 abstentions (Bruno, Gendron)

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the minutes of August 5, 2008. Seconded by Mark Gendron.

VOTE: 4 in favor, 1 abstention (Desjardins)

3. New Business:

a. Presentation of Boston Post Cane certificate to oldest resident William H. Parker – Mike Reynolds, Chairman Board of Selectmen.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Reynolds presented Mr. Parker with the Boston Post Cane along with a framed proclamation to that effect. Mr. Parker remarked that he had been living in Raymond since 1980 when he retired. He said that Raymond was the best place to live.

NOTE: Items b, c, and d will have to be tabled until after the School Board has met and approved the warrant articles.

b. Consideration of warrant article school consolidation with Windham School District.  
Tabled

c. Consideration of warrant article for high school choice.  
Tabled

d. Approval of November 4, 2008 referendum warrant.  
Tabled

e. School consolidation information update – Selectman Joe Bruno

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bruno noted that the School Board will have their regular meeting tomorrow night and will approve their articles to be voted on November 4<sup>th</sup>. He added that there would be a public hearing on Consolidation here on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at Jordan Small Middle School gymnasium beginning at 6:30 pm. The following meeting

will be in Windham on Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. He noted that some people in Windham still have concern about Raymond allowing choice of schools. Mr. Bruno noted that the consolidation law separates the decision of consolidation with “choice”. The Selectmen wanted to be sure that absentee ballots would be available on September 22<sup>nd</sup> so that everyone had an opportunity to vote. The referendum will be November 4<sup>th</sup> and the election will be binding. He continued that in January there would be an election for Raymond’s representatives to the consolidated school board. If there are 9 members, Raymond will have 3 seats, if 7 Raymond will have 2 seats.

Mr. Desjardins said that many feel that cost was an issue with consolidation. Mr. Bruno answered that Raymond won’t see any savings for some time and that with school choice we will have to raise extra tax dollars for our share of the difference. Mr. Gendron added that we have capped tuition for one year and that vote will have to be taken again for the future. He said that our current contacts with schools other than Windham will end June 2009 and Windham’s contract June 2013. Mr. Gendron stated that many people still don’t understand how consolidation will work. If we don’t consolidate with Windham they will have to cover over \$4 million in the budget because Raymond won’t be helping them pay for the schools. However, by law Raymond will have to find another town with which to consolidate. It would be very expensive to try to stay in our own school system. He added that by joining Windham our students would have a broader range of services. Mr. Desjardins expressed the need for more information for our citizens. Mr. Bruno reported that in 2008-2009 80% of our high school students go to Windham.

November 4, 2008 will have two referendum questions: 1) consolidation with Windham and 2) school choice.

4. Old (unfinished) business

a. ICMA Conference

Mr. Willard will be attending the ICMA Conference in Richmond, Virginia from September 20 to the 24<sup>th</sup>.

b. Public Safety Regionalization

Mr. Willard reported that further meetings of the three towns Casco, Naples, and Raymond have shown that the towns will consider joining into a regional fire/rescue partnership. He said that no particular agreements have been discussed other than to acknowledge that by cooperation all towns could save money and possibly have better coverage. Mr. Desjardins asked why this group hasn’t investigated privatizing rescue. He said that an employee of United Ambulance told him that they would be interested in covering the three towns. Mr. Gendron said that privatization would be part of the study to be done. Mr. Desjardins questioned whether having a private rescue service would encourage more fire department volunteers because they wouldn’t have to attend as much training because they wouldn’t have to be cross-trained.

5. Town Manager Report and Communications

a. None

6. Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – September 2, 2008

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$60,239.88. Seconded by Mark Gendron.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Treasurer's Warrant in the amount of \$87448.74. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Mark Gendron motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

ADJOURNMENT: Mike Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 7:41 pm.

Louise H. Lester  
Town Clerk