

TOWN OF RAYMOND
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
Tuesday, May 5, 2009

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

SELECTMEN ABSENT: None

STAFF ATTENDANCE: Nancy Yates, Finance Director; Bruce Tupper, Assistant Fire Chief

OTHERS: Michael O'Donnell, Contract Assessor

1. Call to order. Mike Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm at the Broadcast Studio.
2. Minutes of previous meeting April 7, 2009.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.
VOTE: 4 in favor (Reynolds, Bruno, Taylor, Desjardins) 1 abstention (Gendron)

3. New business:
 - a. Interview/appointment to Planning Board – Candidate Bruce Sanford

DISCUSSION: Bruce Sanford was presented to the Selectmen from the Planning Board as a potential member. He had served on the Planning Board years ago and wanted to contribute to the town again. He had a base in construction and felt he could be of help.

MOTION: Dana Desjardins motioned to appoint Mr. Sanford to the Planning Board.
Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.
VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

- b. Application for hot dog peddler cart – John Bagley/Wendy Corbin

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bagley asked to be permitted to have a hot dog cart at the Brake & Muffler Shop on Route 302 for 2009. The Selectmen wanted to be sure that he had insurance.

MOTION: Mark Gendron motioned to approve the 2009 Peddler's Application with the stipulation that John Bagley and Wendy Corbin have appropriate insurance. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.
VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

DISCUSSION: Mr. Desjardins felt that the loophole of the \$500 application fee being waived if the applicant was a part of the landowner's business should be closed. Mr. Bruno concurred and felt the discussion should be on a future agenda.

- c. Update on swine flu readiness – Assistant Chief Bruce Tupper

DISCUSSION: Assistant Fire Chief Bruno Tupper gave a review of how the H1N1 “Swine Flu” pandemic has been viewed, reviewed, and planned for in Raymond, the County, and the State.

d. Consideration of abatements – Contract Assessor Michael O’Donnell

DISCUSSION: Mr. O’Donnell reviewed the 7 abatements. These abatements are presented because they definitely have merit. None of these, in his opinion, had any doubt as to their validity. They all have been unfairly assessed in relationship to the other properties in Raymond.

Map 8, Lot 112 for \$32.40
Map 5, Lot 16A for \$585.36
Map 18, Lot 29B for \$199.04
Map 13, Lot 73F for \$856.44

Map 4, Lot 6 for \$304.33
Map 4, Lot 79 for \$528.12
Map 11, Lot 42-17 for \$267.84

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to approve the 7 recommended abatements. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

e. Schedule of next valuation update – Contract Assessor Michael O’Donnell

DISCUSSION: Mr. O’Donnell reviewed his memo concerning Raymond’s next revaluation. He said if the plan for revaluation is to be in 2010 or 2011 he would like to begin the work in 2009. He wanted to form a project plan so that they are prepared to go forward with a revaluation at the Selectmen’s chosen time. Mr. Gendron asked his opinion, because of the current financial situation, whether they should put off a revaluation. Mr. O’Donnell felt that a reasonable time window be determined, and if the market stabilizes most people would like to have their values reviewed because they feel that their properties are over valued with the current market. He stated that our ratio is currently 93% and valued at 100%. Mr. Reynolds noted that this work would be in addition to the regular assessing work, the funding for this preparation work would come from the assessing reserve and not the current or next budget. Mr. Bruno considered that the current status of values was in a valley which will come back up in the future, and he felt that if Raymond does a reval now, it will have to do another sooner than later because of the value fluctuation. Mr. O’Donnell assured them that this was a revaluation update rather than a complete revaluation which would not be as expensive. He said he would prepare a “scope of project” document for them.

f. Consideration of request from Crown Castle to extend leasing contract – Finance Director Nancy Yates.

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Yates felt that Crown Castle is coming close to the end of their current lease, and they want to extend their lease so that they can plan for the future. She felt that this would be good for the town because it would assure income from that lot for more years. Mr. Desjardins wanted to be sure that there is a proviso that Raymond can put an antenna on it without charge. Mrs. Yates said that is in the lease. Mr. Bruno felt that through negotiation the town could ask for more money because Crown Castle has a large investment in their tower.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to direct the town manager and finance director to enter into negotiations with Crown Castle for a new lease. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Desjardins wanted to have a Selectmen involved with the negotiations. Mr. Gendron felt that the town manager and finance director should make the first overture and then go from there.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

g. Consideration of Quit Claim Deed

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to approve the Quit Claim deed for Map 10, Lot 17 since all taxes and fees have been paid on this property. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

h. 2009 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to approve the RSU warrant articles as written for the June 9, 2009 secret ballot. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gendron said that with the huge cuts being made in the state budget, the towns would have to make up the funding which won't be coming from the state this year. He wanted the RSU Board to make cuts locally to keep in step with the state. Mr. Desjardins concurred. Mr. Reynolds said the best guess is 27 or 28 cents on the mil rate which for 2008-2009 is 10.80. Mr. Gendron said that there would be some stimulus money this year but none next year. He said that the Commissioner of Education said that she was advising the superintendents to begin cutting their budgets now.

VOTE: 4 in favor (Bruno, Taylor, Reynolds, Desjardins) 1 opposed (Gendron)

MOTION: Mike Reynolds motioned to approve the warrant for the election of officers for June 9, 2009. Seconded by Joe Bruno.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

MOTION: Mike Reynolds motioned to approve the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting June 2, 2009. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

4. Old (unfinished) business.
a. Executive Session

MOTION: Mike Reynolds motioned to go into executive session for a Code Enforcement Matter under 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(H). Seconded by Joe Bruno.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

RECESS: Mike Reynolds recessed the meeting at 8:13 pm.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

REOPEN MEETING: Mike Reynolds reopened the meeting at 8:20 pm.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to authorize Code Enforcement Officer Will Cook to represent the Town of Raymond in a court matter under rule ADK. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

NOTE: The Selectmen signed the order.

b. Discussion of Scholarship funding awards

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to table until they can have a full information packet. Seconded by Gendron.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

DISCUSSION: Mr. Desjardins asked to address the loophole in the Peddler's Application. Mr. Gendron said that Mr. Cook would look into it. Mr. Reynolds asked about also having a background check requirement added to the application.

6. Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – May 5, 2009.

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$889,240.01. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Treasurer's Warrant in the amount of \$98,483.04. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: 5-0

NEXT MEETINGS: May 19, 2009 and June 16, 2009

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Dana Desjardins motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Lonnie Taylor.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

ADJOURNMENT: Mike Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk