

TOWN OF RAYMOND
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
Tuesday, May 19, 2009

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

SELECTMEN ABSENT: None

STAFF ATTENDANCE: None

OTHERS: Newspaper reporter

1. Call to order. Mike Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Broadcast Studio.
2. Minutes of previous meeting May 5, 2009.

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Minutes as written. Seconded by Joe Bruno.
VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

3. New business:
 - a. Consideration of RSU warrant for eleven (11) RSU budget articles for June 9, 2009 – Town Clerk Louise Lester

DISCUSSION: Mr. Reynolds explained that this was to approve the RSU budget warrant for June 9, 2009.

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to accept and sign the RSU Warrant for the referendum on the RSU budget. Seconded by Joe Bruno.
VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gendron noted that Raymond would be having an increase of \$440,000 to \$450,000 in the RSU budget. State Aid will see a \$458,000 reduction because of our high assessment. The state used real estate sales in the town from two years ago. \$951,700 in properties for 2007, and in 2008 over \$1 billion. Part of this budget is state approved debt which Windham accrued. Windham's valuation for 2007 was \$1,697,250,000. 2008 was \$1,844,500,000. They will lose \$500,000 in state assistance. Between the two towns there is a loss of over \$1 million in subsidy from the state. These figures are off the EPS amount. Windham's school budget was about 4% over EPS last year, and Raymond's was about 19% above EPS. Both schools were asked to try to have a surplus at the end of this year to offset some of the increase for next year. Mr. Bruno said that the announcement of the state budget today indicated that state aid would be less in year 2010-2011.

NOTE: The RSU Budget Public Hearing will be next Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at 6:00 pm at Windham High School auditorium.

NOTE: Selectmen signed the warrant.

4. Old (unfinished) business.

a. Discussion of Scholarship funding and awards – Town Clerk Louise Lester

DISCUSSION: Mr. Reynolds noted that the scholarship investments have been depleted due to the national economy. Mr. Taylor felt that some scholarships should be considered because the student's families need the help. Last year \$5,000 was given. This year the total interest amount is \$8,100 and last year it was over \$18,000. The Collins Day is the only scholarship which has any funds to award.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to disburse \$2,000 among the 10 applicants each being given \$200. Seconded by Mark Gendron.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Reynolds said there were two applications of the 10 which were incomplete.

MOTION WITHDRAWN: Joe Bruno and Mark Gendron withdrew the motion.

MOTION: Joe Bruno motioned to award to the 8 applicants who completed their applications \$250 each. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

b. Consideration of town budget referendum ballot – Town Clerk Louise Lester

DISCUSSION: Mr. Reynolds felt that since the voters will be voting on the budget warrant articles at the open town meeting, it's redundant to have a referendum question along with the town officer's election. Mr. Desjardins liked the idea of having the budget voted on by referendum because more people may vote, and it is a secret ballot. Mr. Reynolds felt that the current town meeting could be a public hearing, and then have a secret ballot to make the decision.

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to include on the ballot an explanation about the budget. Seconded by Mark Gendron.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

5. Town Manager Report and Communications.

a. LD 759 relative to MMWAC

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gendron brought back for the MMWAC Director's meeting that people should tell their representatives and senators about this legislation for expansion of the West Old Town landfill which doesn't entirely benefit the people of Maine. Currently Casella has control of this landfill and is using it for state trash. Maine owns it but Casella has control of it. This site is the only one in Maine which doesn't have to abide by some of the statutes the other landfills do. This LD is still in committee.

Because of the fact that this subject was not on the agenda, the Selectmen can't vote on anything concerning this. Mr. Bruno suggested that the Selectmen independently, as well as the public, contact their state representatives to express their feelings.

b. Veterans' Memorial Park

DISCUSSION: Mr. Desjardins announced that the Veterans Memorial Park sign is being erected and will be ready for Memorial Day weekend. Donations are still being accepted.

6. Fiscal Warrants – Payroll and Appropriation Warrants – May 19, 2009.

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Payroll Warrant in the amount of \$42,654.57. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

MOTION: Lonnie Taylor motioned to approve the Treasurer's Warrant in the amount of \$79,313.09. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

NOTE: The Annual Town Meeting will be on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at Jordan Small Middle School gymnasium at 7:00 pm.

The Election of Officers, Municipal Budget referendum, and RSU referendum will be on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 running from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the Broadcast Studio.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Mark Gendron motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Dana Desjardins.

VOTE: Unanimous 5-0

ADJOURNMENT: Mike Reynolds adjourned the meeting at 8:57 pm.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk