

Town of Rowe – FY2013
Board of Selectmen - Minutes
Monday, July 9, 2012 – 6:00pm
Rowe Town Hall

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Abbott at 6:10pm.

Present: Chairman Noel Abbott and Selectman Marilyn Wilson

Present by Remote Participation (Skype): Vice Chairman Paul McLatchy III

Election/Teller Pay: Robin Reed reported that she had been paid \$10.00 for teller work at a recent town meeting, but that her net check was zero, with all of her pay going to deductions for FICA and Medicare taxes. Ms. Miller stated that pay for election workers is exempt from Social Security and Medicare taxes, and could not understand why this would have happened. In the past she has not had these taxes deducted from her pay. Ms. Miller will research the matter.

Request for Document: Resident Cindy Laffond asked for a copy of Josephine Sarnelli's itemized bill for the Internal Control Review she prepared for the town. A copy will be provided to her.

Warrants: Treasury Warrants FY2013 W13-01 and FY2012 W29 were reviewed and approved for payment. Ms. Miller was asked to contact Joyce Muka to: 1) have her attach a specific report to each treasury warrant giving detail of each vendor and what payment was for, and 2) code each invoice as had been done in the past (warrant #, account #, vendor name, amount of payment).

Minutes: Final versions of the following minutes approved at the July 3, 2012 meeting were signed: May 23, May 30, June 5, June 15 and June 19. The April 25 minutes that were approved on July 3, 2012 were not signed, and will be reviewed again at a subsequent meeting. The following minutes are still outstanding: June 26, July 3.

Response to Inspector General re BJ's Membership: Selectman Wilson had requested that the board go into executive session to discuss Chairman Abbott's draft letter of response to the Inspector General's (IG) letter concerning the town's BJs membership. Ms. Miller asked if the items to be addressed in the executive session concerned her, and if so then wanted the discussion to take place in open session. Selectman Wilson indicated they were, and discussion continued in open session. Selectman Wilson stated that there was favoritism in persons being allowed membership. Ms. Miller responded that BJs customer service staff had told her each time she contacted them about persons wanting to join under the town's membership that anyone can join under the town's membership—they need not be town employees nor be town residents. These persons always paid for their own membership fees and for their own purchases, and no town funds were ever used on their behalf. Ms. Wilson stated that the IG's office stated that only town purchases should be made if the town is paying for the memberships. Ms. Miller stated that memberships are paid for by the members individually each year at the customer service counter at BJs. The town pays for the annual town's business membership only. It was noted that there is no town policy concerning such town memberships. It was agreed that Ms. Miller will provide documentation concerning the town's business account for the July 31st Selectmen's meeting (following her return from vacation).

Remote Participation: During the latter half of the above discussion concerning the town's BJ's membership Vice Chairman McLatchy left the meeting by signing off from Skype.

Request for Documents: Resident Kris Swenson made a formal request for copies of all emails concerning the BJ's matter. Ms. Miller stated she had sent only one email concerning the matter, and handed a copy to Ms. Swenson.

David Newell Information: Resident Jim Davidson asked if any schedule had been set up to address the information provided by David Newell. Chairman Abbott responded that nothing has been scheduled at this time but that there was an intention to do so.

Request for Documents: Ms. Miller will provide Lisa Danek-Burke with copies of approved meeting minutes per her request.

Adjournment: The Selectboard voted unanimously (2/0/0) to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm.

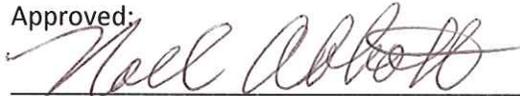
Respectfully submitted,

Ellen B. Miller
Town Coordinator

8/2/12

Date Approved

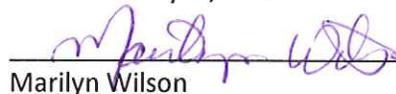
Approved:



Noel R. Abbott, Chairman



Paul McLatchy III, Vice Chairman



Marilyn Wilson

Attachment:

- Agenda
- Draft response to Inspector General
- E. Miller email to B Hansberry concerning BJ's membership