



Town of Rowe
Board of Selectmen Minutes
Thursday, February 16, 2023–6:00 p.m.
Rowe Town Hall – Hearing Room 1
and Via Remote Participation

Board of Selectmen: Chair Charles Sokol, Vice-Chair Joanne Semanie
Absent: Selectman Silva
Present: Executive Secretary Janice Boudreau
Audience: Treasurer Green, Sean Loomis, Henry Dandeneau, Paul McLatchy III (remote),
Brooke Shulda

Call to Order: Chair Sokol called the meeting to order at 6:09 P.M.

Announcement of recording devices- One
Noteworthy Announcements: None

APPOINTMENT: 6:15 - Town Clerk Paul McLatchy III

Board of Selectmen accepted the resignation of Paul McLatchy III as Town Clerk due to his move from Rowe. The Board discussed retaining Paul McLatchy III as Town Clerk until the next election and Mr. McLatchy III agreed to do so. The position is an elected position.

MOTION TO APPOINT: Chair Sokol made a motion to appoint Paul McLatchy III to serve as Town Clerk until the next election in May. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was accepted. (Vote: 2-0-0)

Minutes:

Board of Selectmen Minutes of January 5, 2023: Tabled until a later date
Board of Selectmen Minutes of February 2, 2023: Tabled until a later date

Board of Selectmen Minutes of January 12, 2023:

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES: Chair Sokol made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 12, 2023 as written. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie was accepted. (Vote: 2 -0-0)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN BUSINESS:

Ongoing Projects:

Policy Updates and Review:

Police Policies Review Submissions:

MOTION TO DELAY: Chair Sokol made a motion to delay approving the police policies until further review and editing. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was accepted. (vote: 2-0-0)

Road/Bridge Projects: Yankee Road Project/ Ford Hill Road Bridge/ Cyrus Stage Road Bridge:

Nothing of note to report on the projects.

Warrants/Contracts:

Opioid Settlement: 'MA State-Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements':

A settlement was reached in the national opioid litigation involving the big 3 distributors and Johnson & Johnson. This settlement resulted in the creation of a national fund to address costs incurred in addressing the crisis. Rowe was allocated \$50,000.00 due to the high percentage of residents receiving prescriptions. Consequently, towns are required to an opt-in procedure. Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) will assist towns with ways to use the funding over the course of many years. The Board of Health is working on options.

MOTION TO OPT-IN: Chair Sokol made a motion to 'Opt-in' "the Massachusetts State-Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements". The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was accepted. (Vote: 2-0-0)

Old Business:

Fire Chief Succession Planning- Review Job Description:

Vice-Chair Semanie reported meeting with Charlemont Town Administrator and Selectmen Bellows about the Fire Chief position shared with Rowe. The next step in the process is to come to an agreement with the proposed Job Description.

MOTION TO ACCEPT JOB DESCRIPTION: Following review and discussion Chair Sokol made a motion to accept the Job Description for the Fire Chief position to be shared with the Town of Charlemont as amended. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was accepted. (Vote: 2-0-0)

New Business:

Appointment – Council on Aging:

Brooke Shulda requested to be appointed to the Council on Aging and was working with Town Nurse to work on more programming for Seniors.

MOTION TO APPOINT: Chair Sokol made a motion to appoint Brooke Shulda to the Council on Aging. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was accepted. (Vote: 2-0-0)

APPOINTMENT: 6:45PM – Henry Dandeneau and Sean Loomis to discuss Maintenance of the Pelham and Mill Pond Dams.

Discussion about Pelham Lake and Mill Pond Dams:

Selectmen discussed issues with the repair components for the Mill Pond Dam. Sean Loomis brought the new gear box to the meeting after working with Clayton Miller to modify it. Henry explained water levels and the silt issues. There was discussion about having more frequent openings of the dam each month to prevent problems.

Next Steps:

- Chair Sokol asked to have procedures documented with the steps to maintain the dams for the maintenance of both dams.
- Sean will have a second gear box engineered for the upper dam.
- Have a central location for accessing necessary tools since Sean does not have access to the Police Office.
- Have Clayton Miller work on a railing to keep workers safe and have something to hitch into.
- Get some additional guidance for determining minimum flow and cubic feet per second.

Warrants/Contracts:

Review Warrants FY23 W17 & FY23 PW17:

Vice-Chair Semanie would review in the near future.

Agreement Town of Rowe Ford Hill Road Bridge Replacement between Clayton D. Davenport Trucking, Inc. and the Town of Rowe:

Following the awarding Clayton D. Davenport Trucking, Inc. at last meeting, FRCOG submitted the 'Agreement between Clayton D. Davenport Trucking, Inc. and the Town of Rowe for the Ford Hill Road Bridge Replacement' for review and signing.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGREEMENT: Chair Sokol made a motion to accept the 'Agreement between Clayton D. Davenport Trucking, Inc. and the Town of Rowe for the Ford Hill Road Bridge Replacement' for \$669,856.00 to be completed by December 31, 2023. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was accepted. (vote: 2-0-0)

Agreement – Sara E. Campbell, PE – Project Engineer Tennis Courts Construction:

The Park Commission approved a contract with Sara E. Campbell, PE for project engineering for the Park's tennis court reconstruction.

MOTION TO SIGN: Chair Sokol made a motion to sign the Agreement for Sara E. Campbell, PE of Erving, MA to act as Project engineering for the Park's Tennis Court project for \$1500.00. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was accepted. (vote: 2-0-0)

Executive Secretary/Administrative Assistant Updates:

Executive Secretary presented the bid tabulation from FRCOG for the fire alarm servicing in town buildings. The low bid for Rowe was Fire Equipment Inc. of Agawam, MA.

MOTION TO ACCEPT BID: Chair Sokol made a motion to accept the low bid from Fire Equipment Inc. of Agawam to service the town fire alarms. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was accepted. (vote: 2-0-0)

Future Meetings:

The next Board of Selectmen meeting would be on January 23, 2023 at 6:00 pm with the Finance Committee. Vice-Chair Semanie asked that Jim Williams and Jay Williams attend the next regular Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss the expansion of the North Cemetery.

Adjournment:

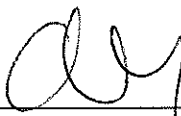
MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chair Sokol made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Semanie, was accepted. (vote: 2-0-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau, Executive Secretary


Approval Date: *MARCH 30, 2023*

Approved:



Chuck Sokol, Chair

Ed Silva, Selectman



Joanne Semanie, Vice-Chair

Documents:

1. Agenda February 16, 2023
2. Board of Selectmen Minutes of January 5, 2023
3. Board of Selectmen Minutes of January 12, 2023
4. Board of Selectmen Minutes of February 2, 2023
5. Job Description – Fire Chief
6. Town Clerk Resignation
7. Opioid Settlement: 'MA State-Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements'
8. KP Law – Opioid Settlements: Allocation of Funds
9. Agreement Town of Rowe Ford Hill Road Bridge Replacement between Clayton D. Davenport Trucking, Inc. and the Town of Rowe.
10. Agreement – Sara E. Campbell, PE – Project Engineer Tennis Courts Construction
11. Executive Secretary Updates
12. FRCOG Bid Tabulation for Fire Alarm Testing