Town of Rowe - FY 2014
Board of Selectmen – Minutes
Wednesday, January 8, 2014 - 3:00 pm
Rowe Town Hall

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Select Board Chair Marilyn Wilson at 2:59pm.

Present: Select Board Chair Marilyn Wilson, Vice-Chair Susan Gleason, Select Board Member Noel Abbott, Secretary Janice Boudreau

Audience: None

Minutes: The Minutes of January 2, 2014 were reviewed and it was decided to take up at the next meeting once amendments were included.

New Business

1./ Interviews were conducted for Candidates for Administrative Clerk Position:

a. 3:00 pm - Ray Ellsworth
b. 3:30 pm - Christine Bailey
c. 4:00 pm - Jennifer Morse
d. 4:30 pm - Janice Boudreau

Selectman Abbott arrived at the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Following Interviews, Chair Wilson said that there were 4 good candidates from the pool of 9 Applicants of the position. She said she would call references and the Select Board would decide next Wednesday, January 15, 2014. Selectman Abbott said he would review interviews via digital recording since he was unable to be present for the interviews. In addition, he asked that the Select Board take up the topic of Systems in the Select Board's office that was mentioned in candidate Janice Boudreau's interview.

2./ Library Budget Hearing at 5:00 pm: Chair Wilson reported the Library was not ready to present their budget and would reschedule.

3./ Medicare/Medicaid Vaccine Administration Agreement: Town Nurse provided documents for approval for signature to receive payments from Medicare and Medicaid. The letter language was changed from a prior version to pertain specifically to immunization administration and vaccines.

Motion to sign documents for Medicare/Medicaid Vaccine Administration Agreement: Chair Wilson made a motion to sign the Medicare/Medicaid Vaccine Administration Agreement. The motion, seconded by Selectman Abbott was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

4./ Tree Trimming Work: Chair Wilson reported a citizen had refused to allow tree trimming work to be conducted by the National Grid. Communication with National Grid Lead Forestry Supervisor Lance indicated citing MA General Law 87 Section 4 the Town Tree Warden has the right to allow trimming of any tree that compromises safety or endangers the public. Select Board has authority to overturn landowner's decision since it potentially has effect on a larger majority of citizens. It was agreed to first check on the matter with Tree Warden Jim Taylor.

5./ BOH Article: Select Board Members reviewed an Article The Board of Health presented requesting inclusion on the FY15 Annual Town Meeting Warrant to establish a Health Grant Revolving Account. It was agreed to do so as it was an established procedure to accommodate revolving funds.

Old Business

1/. Special Town Meeting (STM):

a/. Free Cash Issue: Chair Wilson reported that Free Cash had not been certified by MA Department of Revenue (DOR) due to Town Accountant having difficulty in obtaining information to complete the certification due to lack of response from her superiors at Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG). Chair Wilson expressed the need to speak with FRCOG and address the issue as its affect on the Town.

b/. Moderator: Chair Wilson reported Henry Dandeneau agreed to act as a substitute Moderator for the January 9, 2014 STM.

c/. Articles: Chair Wilson reported that she had researched Town Meeting procedures and found that any Article could be modified on the floor should it be incorrectly written in the formal Warrant.

3/. Broadband Update: Selectman Abbott reported contacting Andrea Woods, Procurement Officer of FRCOG to discuss involvement in the bidding process to connect the fiber optic cables in the Community Anchor Institutions (CAI) in town and potentially expand connections to service area residents as well. He further explained that potentially a tiered approach might be appropriate to:

a/. connect Town CAIs
b/. provide necessary Voice over Internet Protocol equipment
c/. wireless transmitters to expand coverage to residents.

Selectman Abbott reported that contradictory information had been received regarding whether Rowe's CAI's were actually ready to be lit. The Selectmen had received written notice from a State Agency that the network was complete [Christine Hatch of MassTech.org] but Andrea Woods of FRCOG had indicated that the network was not ready. Selectman Abbott will obtain clarification.

It is uncertain whether Library would obtain service through Central Western MA Automated Resource Sharing (CWMARS) and whether Rowe School would be included in the bid. Janice Boudreau spoke with Heath Town Coordinator who offered to share bid paperwork prepared for their bid to review.

4/. HCOG Electricity Provision: It was agreed to discuss the Hampshire Council of Governments (HCOG) contracts for fixed priced electricity purchase bids at a later meeting.

5/. Select Board Morning Meetings: Chair Wilson proposed having morning working sessions to work on items such as Personnel Policy matters during FY15 Budget Hearings. It was agreed to do so.

Audience: None
Correspondence Reviewed

Adjournment: Seeing no further business, Chair Wilson made a motion to adjourn the Meeting 6:24 p.m. The motion, seconded by Selectman Abbott, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau
Secretary

Approval Date: JANUARY 22, 2013

Approved:

Marilyn Wilson, Chair

Susan Gleason, Vice-Chair

Noel R. Abbott, Selectman

Attachments:

- Agenda 01/08/14
- FY15 Grant Revolving Account – BOH Request
- Medicare/Medicaid document for Town Nurse re: Immunization