Town of Rowe - FY 2015
Board of Selectmen – Minutes
Wednesday, September 24, 2014 - 3:00 pm
Rowe Town Hall

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Wilson at 3:00 pm.

Present: Chair Wilson and Vice-Chair Susan Gleason, Walt Quist and Administrative Clerk Janice Boudreau.

Audience: Diane Broncaccio, Jodi Brown, David Dvore, Rosie Gordon, Russ Jolly, Lance Larned, Robin Reed, Buster Reed, Ray Wilson

New Business:

Minutes:

Motion to Accept the Minutes of EXECUTIVE SESSION September 5, 2014: Following review, Chair Wilson made a motion to accept the Minutes of Select Board Executive Session Meeting of September 5, 2014 as presented. Chair Wilson: aye, Vice-Chair Gleason: aye and Selectman Quist: aye. The roll call vote was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

Motion to Accept the Minutes of EXECUTIVE SESSION September 10, 2014: Following review, Chair Wilson made a motion to accept the Minutes of Executive Session Select Board Meeting of September 10, 2014 as presented.
Chair Wilson: aye, Vice-Chair Gleason: aye and Selectman Quist: aye. The roll call vote was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

Motion to Accept the Minutes of September 10, 2014: Following review, Chair Wilson made a motion to accept the Minutes of Select Board Meeting of September 10, 2014 as presented. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Gleason, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

Motion to Accept the Minutes of September 15, 2014: Following review, Chair Wilson made a motion to accept the Minutes of Select Board Meeting of September 15, 2014 with corrections. The motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Gleason, was accepted. (2/0/1) Walt Quist abstained as he was not present at the meeting.

Old Business

1. Insurance for First Responders: Janice Update on Conversation with Insurance Representative: Administrative Clerk Janice Boudreau reported speaking with our Insurance Representative with MA Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA) about the liability associated with an individual responding to an emergence call and acting as a First Responder for the Town without being an official member of the Fire Department. The Representative indicated that the individual had to be a member of the Police or Fire Department in order for the Town to be covered under their policy. Her advice to the Town was to not allow anyone to function in this capacity unless they were trained members of either Department. It was agreed that the Select Board would contact individuals about returning Town equipment.

2. Fire Department: Chair Wilson explained that the former Fire Chief had not put data into the new software program recently purchased and that Jenn Morse has volunteered to update the system. Jenn had indicated needing former Fire Chief records to get paperwork caught up

in a reasonable amount of time and he had not done so. It was agreed to give the former Fire Chief some additional time then follow up if compliance was not met.

3. Susan Gleason: Update on Charlemont Ambulance Task Force: The State refused to provide certification of Charlemont Ambulance and an extension was given to remedy the situation and a was Task Force formed. Two EMT are required to transport a patient to hospital which causes a problem for the hill towns. There is ongoing work to give incentive to people to train as an EMT. The Task Force, partnered with FRCOG and is looking into what it would look like to have someone on call. Heath and Rowe have come up with money for training new EMTs. The Task Force is also looking into training high school students.

4. Hoosac Tunnel Railway Bridge: Chair Wilson reported that Pan Am Railway did acknowledge owning the bridge and they said they had planks ordered and would be repairing in the near future. The abutments and girders appear to be reasonably sound. Discussion ensued about how snowmobiles have a great impact on the deterioration of the planks of the bridge and how to best address the problem.

New Business

1. Broadband Initiative: Discussion with Finance Committee and Broadband Committee:

- Broadband Committee member David Dvore explained the infrastructure and service components that internet needed in order to get broadband in Rowe now that a "trunk line" had been installed in Rowe
- David indicated that MA Broadband Institute was moving slowly
- There was discussion about how to raise citizen awareness and interest
- Telephone, television and internet needs to be looked into to see if they could be bundled to be much lower in cost than the tax increase needed to fund the infrastructure
- The level of interest is needed to be high in Rowe to be financially feasible
- Walt Quist spoke about the increase in the real estate value to properties if broadband came to Town
- It was agreed that the Select Board, Broadband Committee and Finance Committee would begin investigating what would be required to obtain for infrastructure and how to educate citizens.

2. Bridges: Highway Superintendent to Discuss Plans for Bridge Maintenance with Finance Committee and Select Board: Highway Superintendent Lance Larned presented the state of Town Bridges indicating 7 bridges that need to be repaired in Town to be shared with the Finance Committee. He further explained:

- An estimate of $250,000.00 for engineering and repair the King's Highway Bridge. A piece of ledge fell off and the railing is not compliant to code which is of greater concern.
- Cyrus Stage Bridge fix for $196,000.00 with MA DOT picking up $149,000.00. He indicated it was the project he intended to pursue this year.
- Lesure Rd. Bridge a complete fix for $400,000.00

3. Identify Carry-overs for Accountant: Chair Wilson said that Town Accountant provided a list of Carry Forward funds from FY14 Accounts transfer to FY15 Accounts where projects have not been completed otherwise the funds will revert into Free Cash.

Motion to Approve Carry-Overs for FY14: Following discussion, Chair Wilson made a motion to approve the carry forward appropriations. The motion, seconded by Walt Quist, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

4. Create a New Line Item 'Headstone Repair': Town Accountant asked to create a new line item account for the Town budget to separate out funds designated for Cemetery Maintenance and Headstone Repair. She asked for the 'Headstone Repair' Account be 001-491-5800.

Motion to Approve Line Items: Following discussion, Chair Wilson made a motion to create a new line item account to be added to the Town budget related to the Cemetery Account and listed as 'Headstone Repair' Account - 001-491-5800. The motion, seconded by Selectman Quist, was unanimously accepted. (3/0/0)

5. Treasurer Resignation: Chair Wilson reported the Treasurer resigned due to a job offer from her former employer which she accepted. Chair Wilson will post the job, then schedule Evaluations and Interviews and indicated she wanted to use the scoring model for candidates.

6. Yankee Atomic Electric Company: Yankee Atomic Electric Company Environmental Resources Management submitted a Permanent Solution Statement to the MA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Select Board Members reviewed plan.

Audience:

- Robin Reed asked a question about ambulance services.

Warrants: FY15 W07 and FY15PW07

Adjournment:

Seeing no further business, Chair Wilson made a motion to adjourn the Meeting at 4:47 p.m. The motion, seconded by Selectman Quist, was accepted. (3/0/0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Boudreau

Approval Date: October 22, 2014

Approved:

Marilyn Wilson, Chair

Susan Gleason, Vice-Chair

Walt Quist, Selectman

Attachments:

- Agenda 09/24/14
- FY14 Carry Forward Appropriations Account Sheet
- Yankee Atomic Electric Company Environmental Resources Management Correspondence (4 pgs.)
- Broadband in Leverett (3 pgs.)
- Community Innovation Challenge (CIP Project Summaries) (2 pgs.)
- Broadband reference- Chattanooga, TN (2 pgs.)