

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
FEBRUARY 19, 2019  
MINUTES**

Chairman Richard LaBelle called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:00 pm in the Selectmen's Office at the Rome Community Center in Rome. Selectmen LaBelle, Stratton, and Charles were present. A quorum was declared. Also present for all or parts of the meeting were Carroll Bubar, Abby DiPietro, Larry Garrison, Tammy Lyons, and Ed Pearl, Jr.

Recitation of Pledge of Allegiance.

Charles/Stratton            Motion to accept minutes for February 4, 2019 selectmen's meeting.  
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Selectman LaBelle opened the public hearing regarding the Town Meeting secret ballot referendum, *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$300,000 for the paving and reconstruction of Jamaica Point Road and to appropriate all monies received from the Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP) to fund this project* at 6:03 p.m.

Ed Pearl asked about the possibility of lowering the top of the biggest hill on Jamaica Point Road; Selectman LaBelle states that it may or may not be possible depending on the budget for the project.

Selectman LaBelle declared the public hearing closed at 6:04 pm.

Assistant Fire Chief Ed Pearl made the Board aware of a grant that the fire/rescue department is applying for. Pearl went on to say that the grant is sponsored by Firehouse Subs, and that if awarded they intend to use the funds to purchase a new monitor. LaBelle requested that the Board receive a copy of the application once it is complete.

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar stated that it has been quiet lately but that they did receive 150 yards of sand and have stockpiled it at the sand and salt shed. Bubar also commented that it wasn't necessary to purchase salt as there were 30-40 ton unused from the large purchase of salt made in the fall of 2018.

The Code Enforcement Officer is not present; there is no report.

Selectman Charles would like to have the Code Enforcement Officer look in to a residence on Mercer Road; it appears that there is a travel trailer on the front lawn being lived in.

Selectman LaBelle provided a brief update on the status of the pending DiPietro litigation. The Town recently received a ruling in its favor, which will require a cleanup of the property. Moving forward, there will be a court date to determine the proper remedy for the violation.

Town Clerk Abby DiPietro offered an update on her office; recently Clerk DiPietro contacted Tom Orr to take a look at the front doors of the Community Center. Mr. Orr did a temporary repair until the weather warms up and he will do a more permanent repair.

Clerk DiPietro also asked for clarification as to who is responsible for shoveling the Community Center entrances; Selectman LaBelle stated that Carroll Bubar oversee the shoveling going forward.

Selectman LaBelle stated that he attended the last meeting of the Dams Committee. It was an opportunity to get an update on the committee's work, but also to communicate the budget request and warrant article for Town Meeting.

The Board has received an invitation to RSU 18 Governance Meeting to be held March 7 at Messalonskee Middle School. It is stated that "the purpose of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for municipal and school officials to communicate regarding areas of mutual interest". Also to be discussed at the meeting: 2019 budget, 2020 budget development, as well as offering an update on facility work being performed.

Tax Collector and Treasurer Tammy Lyons offered an update on her office. Recently, Ms. Lyons addressed the Board about contacting a foreclosure property owner about redeeming their property; unfortunately Ms. Lyons has not been able to contact the property owner.

LaBelle/Stratton            Motion to appropriate \$10,011 from legal reserve to offset 2018 legal expenses.  
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Ms. Lyons received a check from Charter Communications in the amount of \$14,310.52 for franchise fees.

Road Commissioner Carroll Bubar inquired as to whether the FEMA funds from the October 2017 wind storm had been received; Ms. Lyons stated that the check was received in December.

Throughout the winter season this year our road commissioner has been keeping the road to Blueberry Hill plowed. He has been doing this privately and as no expense to the Town. He does so as courtesy to allow people to enjoy it during the winter months, whether to see the view or to snowshoe, etc. Recently barricades and signs were put up to keep anyone from using the road despite being plowed. The State informed Selectman LaBelle that this was authorized at the request of two members of the Rome Ruff Riders snowmobile club. The State said that if the Selectmen were agreeable to the road being plowed, that they would need the plow owner to fill out a form and it could be authorized. The Board takes no action on the issue at the time; it may be addressed in the off-season.

Stratton/Charles            Motion to adjourn.  
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby DiPietro  
Assistant to the Selectman