

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday March 30th, 2020
MINUTES**

Chairman Monica McCarthy called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6 pm via Zoom online, in the interest of social distancing during COVID-19 and Governor Mills' limitation of meetings to 10 or fewer persons. Selectman McCarthy, Stratton, and Archer were present. Also present for all or parts of the meeting were Barbara Brickett, Tammy Lyons, Julie Morrison, Richard LaBelle, Dick Greenan and Anthony Wilson.

Pledge of Allegiance

A motion to approve the March 16th meeting by McCarthy, 2nd by Archer approved 3-0

New Business:

Road Commissioner:

- No report – Bubar was still out sick–Kelly tabled to next meeting.

Code Enforcer/Plumbing Inspector:

- See Attachment below for Marble's report

Tax Collector/ Treasurer Report:

- Labelle said he notice that this year's collectables was higher than last year. Wanted to know if we were sending courtesy notices. Tammy will send out notices out this week. We will discuss the liens at the next meeting.
- Lyons brought the warrants to be signed for payroll and bills.

Old Business:

- Archer gave update o the new computers and upgrades. They were all ordered, Snow Pond Technology does not believe it will take that long, but there has been a back log on computers.
- Stratton suggested we should get in touch with Daggett, our lawyer to follow up on the DiPietro's project. She said they were advised to call her in April. Archer said that Marble has the next action and is expected to report at the next meeting."

Other:

- Stratton brought up the deputy hours. Archer made motion to move \$768.75 back to town clerk account. /Stratton 2nd it all approved 3-0. Please add: \$768.75 = ¼ of the Deputy Clerk allocation for the year, leaving \$2,306.25 allocated for Deputy Clerk for the remainder of the year. The Deputy Clerk has been paid from the Town Clerk/Excise Collector account year to date

(prior to Town Meeting warrant). "Overages" in Deputy hours' year to date will be absorbed by the Town Clerk account, but it was noted that the Clerk account is running close to 0 covering the Clerk only for the remainder of the year, and there is a need to allocate Clerk funds to the Deputy for 3 sick days and a week of vacation coverage. Treasurer Lyons agreed to re-run the numbers accounting for the vacation and sick time and provide them next meeting and ASAP to Clerk Morrison, since Deputy Clerk Brickett works at Morrison's discretion. Deputy hours will need to be managed closely for the remainder of the year to avoid running out of funds.

- A notice put on door, stating B.M.V. have an extended time to register vehicles to 30 days after the state Corid-19 shut down is lifted. Registration can be made on line.
- McCarthy suggested posting agenda earlier for meetings, all attending get a packet. Post draft agenda Monday before the next meeting. Draft agenda can be updated again prior to the meeting if necessary, but posting as early as practical from now on with the objective of informing the public ASAP what will be discussed so they can make arrangements to attend if interested. McCarthy will seek feedback from the rest of the board and provide Draft agenda to Brickett by Monday 4/6.
- Stratton asked about bills all need to be sent in by the Thursday the day prior to the Monday of the meeting or they will have to wait till next payroll. Archer providing a courtesy reminder to everyone who submits bills.
- Archer asked about updating website. Suggested having a web master. McCarthy will update COVID-19 information, suggests also including an Invitation on the home page to be added to the distribution list for meetings.
- Zoom account: To enable public participation during COVID-19, it was agreed that the town should have its own account. the cost will be approx. 15.00 a month. McCarthy can set it up. Archer recommends paying it monthly. McCarthy 2nd, all approved 3-0
- Election prep: Counting Machine for voting – Lois offered to call – Labelle recommend Morrison call instead, in her capacity as Election Clerk, she will call.
- Archer suggested Julie and Tammy looking into a folding machine.

McCarthy/Archer 2nd, motion to adjourn at 7:13 PM

All in Favor (3-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Brickett
Deputy/Assistant to the Selectmen

Town of Rome
Code Officer Report

3/30/2020

- 60 Hillside Lane deck / ramp violation
 - I have typed up a draft notice of violation and consent agreement (I left copies of these at the Town office)
 - Since this will likely end up in court, I've sent the drafts to the Town attorney to look over and make changes if necessary.
 - Once ok'd, I'll send them out
- 60 Gold Pond Lane shed violation
 - I inspected the property two weeks ago (3/18/20) to take pictures of the violation
 - During my inspection I found that the owners were home.
 - I talked with the owners, who said that they would submit a building permit for the shed and have the shed moved to a suitable location (beyond the 100' setback) before the end of April
 - I followed this visit with a letter to the owner describing our conversation from the 18th with the timetables agreed upon.
- Work during Covid 19 closure
 - Work during the coronavirus closure has gone smoothly so far
 - I worked from home last Monday making calls, returning emails, and writing letters
 - I ended up coming into the office on both Tuesday and Wednesday last week, and conducted inspections both days.
 - I worked from the office again today, and conducted two inspections on Beaver brook for hazard tree removal.
 - Most contractors seem to be working as they normally do, and are calling for inspections as if there were not a pandemic going on....

Respectfully Submitted By:

Andy Marble, Rome CEO