

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 3, 2019
MINUTES**

Chairman Richard LaBelle called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 4:15 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 was Tammy Lyons.

Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article for office expenses, as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Selectmen | \$1,250 |
| Excise & Town Clerk | \$1,400 |
| Tax Collector & Treasurer | \$7,500 |
| Planning Board | \$1,000 |
| Code Travel Expense | \$900 |
| Total | \$12,050 |

LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article for salaries, as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| First Selectman | \$6,000 |
| Second Selectman | \$5,500 |
| Third Selectman | \$5,500 |
| Property Tax Collector | \$22,000 |
| Treasurer | \$4,500 |
| Road Commissioner | \$1,000 |
| Clerk & Excise Coll (\$17/hr) | \$28,288 |
| Registrar of Voters | \$720 |
| Assistant to the Selectmen | \$2,500 |
| RSU 18 School Board Director | \$250 |
| Meeting Moderator (\$100/mtg) | \$300 |
| Election Warden (\$12/hr) | \$300 |
| Ballot Clerk (\$11/hr) | \$1,735 |
| Code Enforcement Off (\$26/hr) | \$14,300 |
| LPI** | ¾ fees |
| Health Officer | \$100 |
| 911 Addressing Officer | \$500 |
| Planning Board (\$200/yr) | \$1,400 |
| Appeals Board (\$100/yr) | \$700 |
| Fire Chief | \$1,000 |
| Assistant Fire Chief | \$500 |
| Rescue Chief | \$500 |
| Emergency Management Dir | \$250 |
| Sexton | \$500 |
| Animal Control (\$30/call) | \$2,000 |
| ACO- summons, court (\$14/hr) | \$500 |
| Total | \$100,843 |

LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article for Social Security/Medicare expenses in the amount of \$10,000.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$500.00 to Spectrum Generations.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/Stratton Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$2,000 to Belgrade/Rome Special Needs Food Pantry.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$12,000 to Belgrade Lakes Association.
Stratton, Charles in favor; LaBelle abstains (2-0-1)

Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$4,000 to 7 Lakes Alliance (formerly, Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance).
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$1,000 to North Pond Association.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Charles/Stratton Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$1,000 to Family Violence Project.
Charles in favor; LaBelle, Stratton opposed (1-2)

Charles/LaBelle Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$505 to LifeFlight of Maine.
Charles in favor; LaBelle, Stratton opposed (1-2)

Charles/LaBelle Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$500 to Kennebec Behavioral Health.
Charles in favor; LaBelle, Stratton opposed (1-2)

Charles/LaBelle Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$353.50 to Sexual Assault, Crisis, and Support Center.
Charles in favor; LaBelle, Stratton opposed (1-2)

Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, "To see if the Town will vote to set the due date for 2019 property taxes as October 31, 2019 and to charge interest at the rate of 8% per annum on taxes unpaid as of November 1, 2019".
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to discount tax bills 3% if paid in full 30 days from tax billing date; the discount is to be paid from overlay funds".
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, "To see if the Town will vote set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at 4% for the period of assessment and to authorize such interest paid or abatements granted to be appropriated from overlay funds or, if necessary, from unassigned fund balance (surplus)".
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to dispose of any property acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes, and to execute quitclaim deeds or bills of sale, as the case may be, subject to the following: Before putting the foreclosed property up for sale, the Tax Collector may offer the property to the previous owners for payment of all back taxes, fees, and interest; if they decline, the property will be advertised for sale and sold by sealed bid; the Board of Selectmen shall have the right to accept or reject any and all bids; and the sale of the property shall be advertised in three conspicuous places (Community Center, Eastside Fire Station, Mt. Phillip Grange) within the Town and a local daily newspaper (Morning Sentinel) for three consecutive days at least two weeks prior to the sale".
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of tax lien mortgages pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 944 upon finding by the Board of Selectmen that the ownership of the property subject to the tax lien mortgage would be contrary to the Town's interests".
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, "To see if the Town will vote to apply all franchise fees, tree growth reimbursements, and veteran tax exemption reimbursements to the contingency fund and to appropriate the same for unexpected expenses and/or to cover overdrafts".
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell by bid or auction, or on such terms and conditions as deemed in the best interest of the Town, such equipment, vehicles, or furniture as are no longer necessary for Town operations, as determined by the Board of Selectmen".
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept or reject any conditional gifts/grants of money, or personal property, to the Town and to appropriate and expends funds for the purpose for which the gift/grant was made, in accordance with any conditions imposed by the donor".
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article for a donation in the amount of \$1,000 to Rome Ruff Riders Snowmobile Club.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, “To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all of the money received from the State for snowmobile registrations to the Rome Ruff Riders for the maintenance of their network of snowmobile trails, on condition that those trails be open in snow season to the public for outdoor recreation purposes at no charge, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement with the Club, under such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may deem advisable, for that purpose”.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, “To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Rome by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under these warrant articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit. Note: This vote must be taken by written ballot”.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to warrant an article, “To see if the Town will vote to elect from the floor five members to serve on the Budget Committee to review all items to be inserted into the Town Warrant requiring appropriation of monies and their recommendations noted. The terms of Robert Moreau, Sr. (two-year full member), Alice VanDerwerken (two-year full member), Sandra Phillips (one-year full member), Hillary Schultz (one-year alternate), and Margaret Shannon (one-year alternate) expire”.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Charles Motion to warrant an article, “To see if the Town will vote to elect from the floor three members to serve on the Recreation Committee. The terms of Rhoads Miller (three-year full member), Carroll Bubar (three-year full member), and Andrew Cook (one-year full member) expire”.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Charles/Stratton Motion to adjourn.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. LaBelle
First Selectman