

**TOWN OF ROME, MAINE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 7, 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 Robert Crosby, Abby DiPietro, Gary Foss, Larry Garrison, Christine Leblanc, Tammy Lyons, and Ed Pearl, Jr.

Recitation of Pledge of Allegiance.

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| Stratton/Charles | Motion to accept minutes for December 10, 2018 selectmen's meeting.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0) |
| Stratton/Charles | Motion to accept minutes for December 17, 2018 special selectmen's meeting.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0) |
| Stratton/Charles | Motion to accept minutes for January 3, 2019 special selectmen's meeting.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0) |

Town of Rome Animal Control Officer Robert Crosby was in attendance this evening; Mr. Crosby states that it is slow right now, but that he will begin issuing summonses for unlicensed dogs Monday, February 4, 2019. Also, Crosby has decided that because of the number of towns he now covers moving forward he will be purchasing his own equipment. In the past, the cost has been split between each of the towns he works for, but as the number of towns he services grows that isn't working well anymore.

Fire Chief Gary Foss and Assistant Chief Ed Pearl, Jr met with the Board this evening to discuss their 2019 fire and rescue budget proposals. Chief Foss states that overall the budget went up to compensate for labor costs. Another noticeable increase was made to building maintenance to account for the purchase of propane for the generator that was recently installed at the Westside fire station. It was noted that of the \$6,500 requested for Fire New Equipment, the Department was requesting \$5,000 to be paid to the Town of Belgrade to offset the cost of one of their 2018 equipment purchases. Selectman LaBelle stated that he wouldn't support such an expense unless there was a contractual agreement or an arrangement made to provide the Town with ownership. Selectman Stratton asked if they have had any new members recently. Foss states that 2 new members joined in 2018, but that one has since left. Selectman Charles asks Foss if the budget is flat; Selectman LaBelle states that the budget is up 14.9% from the previous year's budget.

Road Commissioner is not present; there is no report. The Board is pleased with the road conditions, no complaints/concerns have been received by the Board.

Code Enforcement officer is attending the Planning Board meeting; there is no report.

The Board has received a proposal for the reclaim/paving portion of the reconstruction of the Jamaica Point Road from Pike Industries, Inc. in the amount of \$217,790.30. In addition to this proposal, ditch work, culverts, and tree/brush cutting will need to be completed.

Stratton/Charles Motion to sign 2019 road construction proposal with Pike Industries in the amount of \$217,790.30, pending approval at Town Meeting.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Charles Motion to warrant an article, "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".
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Tax Collector and Treasurer Tammy Lyons provided an update on her office. Ms. Lyons presented the Board with information from SnowPond Technology Group, Inc. Lyons recently met with the owner of the company and was pleased with what they had to offer; Lyons would like to try using his services going forward.

Charles/Stratton Motion to contact SnowPond Technology Group, Inc. to provide future computer support services as our preferred vendor.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

LaBelle/Stratton Motion to rescind the supplemental action for Malcolm and Evelyn Charles part of real estate account 232.
LaBelle, Stratton in favor; Charles abstained (2-0-1)

Lyons also made the Board aware that the auditors are planned to be at the Town Office January 14 and 15.

Town Clerk Abby DiPietro didn't have anything to report from her office; but she did let the Board know that she was able to get materials purchased to do some painting and updating in her office.

Stratton/Charles Motion to appoint Abby DiPietro registrar of voters, effective until December 31, 2020.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Pending appropriate publication, there is a public hearing scheduled for January 22, 2019 at 6:00 PM to accept comments on the \$50,000 Community Development Block Grant received on behalf of Travis Mills Foundation for the purchase of adaptive equipment.

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept adoption of Standards of Conduct.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to accept the Fair Housing Resolution.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles Motion to authorize First Selectman Richard LaBelle to sign the Fair Housing Self-assessment, on behalf of the Board.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

- Stratton/Charles Motion to authorize First Selectman Richard LaBelle to sign the ADA/Section 504 Certification.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to sign the Section 504 Self Evaluation and Transition Plan.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/LaBelle Motion to sign Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to adopt Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to accept and acknowledge a donation to the Recreation Committee from Christine and Andrew Cook, for replacement a basketball backboard in the amount of \$98.89
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to sign 2019 Animal Shelter Contract with Somerset Humane Society.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to dedicate the 2018 Annual Town Report to William and Corinne Dudley.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Resident Dick Greenan has drafted a proposed cover for the annual report. The Board is pleased with the proposed cover and will ask Mr. Greenan to proceed with the cover design.

- Stratton/Charles Motion to authorize a warrant article to raise and appropriate \$2,186.00 for MMA dues.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to authorize a warrant article to raise and appropriate \$1,365.00 for purchase of Town Reports.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- Stratton/Charles Motion to authorize a warrant article to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for brush cutting.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Stratton Motion to authorize a warrant article to raise and appropriate \$15,000 for maintenance and care of Rome cemeteries.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)
- LaBelle/Stratton Motion to authorize a warrant article to raise and appropriate \$200.00 for EMA.
LaBelle, Stratton, Charles in favor (3-0)

Stratton/Charles

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abby DiPietro
Assistant to the Selectman