

TOWN OF RYE – BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Thursday, February 21, 2019

9:00 a.m. – Rye Town Hall

Present: Chairman Priscilla Jenness, Vice-Chair Phil Winslow and Selectman Keriann Roman

Others Present: Town Administrator Michael Magnant and Finance Director/Assistant Town Administrator Becky Bergeron.

9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jenness called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**II. NON-PUBLIC SESSION (1) per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Personnel
(2) per RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Reputation
(3) per RSA 91-A:3, II (d) Acquisition**

At 9:00 a.m., Keriann Roman made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II (d) Acquisition. Seconded by Phil Winslow. Roll Call: Jenness – Yes, Winslow – Yes, Roman - Yes.

At 9:25 a.m., Keriann Roman made a motion to come out of Non-Public Session. Seconded by Phil Winslow. Roll Call: Jenness – Yes, Winslow – Yes, Roman - Yes.

At 9:36 a.m., Keriann Roman made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Personnel and (c) Reputation. Seconded by Phil Winslow. Roll Call: Jenness – Yes, Winslow – Yes, Roman - Yes.

At 10:45 a.m., Keriann Roman made a motion to come out of Non-Public Session. Seconded by Phil Winslow. Roll Call: Jenness – Yes, Winslow – Yes, Roman - Yes.

10:00 a.m. Reconvene Public Meeting

III. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Jenness reconvened the public meeting at 10:57 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance:

Motion by Keriann Roman to seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session (1) per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Personnel; under the provision in the law that would render the proposed action ineffective, until that proposal is final or moved. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in Favor.

Motion by Keriann Roman to seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session (2) per RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Reputation; indefinitely. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in Favor.

IV. WORK SESSION – Town Wide Fees

Fire Department

Fire Chief Mark Cotreau presented the Board with a handout listing Ambulance Fees. He explained that the first page is the Rye's current fees that have not changed since at least 2014. He referred to the second page, which was a list from Comstar of a comparison of twenty-five other area agency's fees. Rye's current fees rank fourth from the bottom. The Chief also provided the Board with information for increases of 25%, 50% and 100%. He reminded the Board that by increasing the fees by 25%, does not mean that the revenue will be increased by 25%. He pointed out that the major demographic of Rye is made up of older Medicare and Medicaid people. The Town will only receive the going Medicare and Medicaid rates on these calls. (Note: The Town's existing rates are already at the maximum allowed for Medicare and Medicaid.) The increased fees will affect private insurance companies and self-paid patients.

The current fees are:

- BLS \$ 500.00
- ALS1 \$ 800.00
- ALS2 \$ 900.00
- Plus \$10.00 per mile transport fee.

Chief Cotreau stated that he would be satisfied with an increase of 50% and phasing in the increase over a couple of years.

The proposed fees are:

- BLS \$ 750.00
- ALS1 \$1,200.00
- ALS2 \$1,350.00
- Plus \$15.00 per mile transport fee.

The Board is in favor of the 50% increase. There will be a public hearing.

Police Department

Police Chief Kevin Walsh addressed the Board regarding the Police Department fees.

The Chief stated that the fees have not been increased in a few years. However, after consulting with other area agencies, and talking to staff, the consensus is that the current fees are a mirror of the going rates. Chief Walsh does not recommend increases at this time.

Outside Details:

He addressed the Outside Detail rates. He recommended increasing the rate from the current \$69.00 to \$71.00 to cover the increase that the employee will be getting in April. The administration fee will stay the same and the cruiser fee would be increased to \$12.00.

Chief Walsh reported that during 2018 the department billed 955.5 hours, \$9,555.00. Other agencies researched show the following cruiser fees:

- North Hampton \$15.00
- Greenland 15.00
- Portsmouth 12.50
- Stratham 12.00
- Seabrook 10.00
- Exeter 10.00
- Hampton 14.35
- Newington 10.00
- Newmarket 10.00

He stated that the average of these fees is \$12.09-\$12.10.

Open Container Fines:

Chief Walsh recommended an increase for the open container fee from \$50.00 to \$100.00. There is also an additional penalty assessment from the court of \$24.00. This increase would line up Rye to Hampton, North Hampton and Seabrook.

The Board reviewed new fees from the Building Department as follows:

- Re-inspection fee of \$50.00 on a third field inspection (this was \$25.00)
- Renewal of a building permit \$25.00 if prior to expiration and \$50.00 after expiration.
 - Building Permits are good for one year.
- Non-posting of building permit \$50.00
- Inspection fees for a large facility \$100.00 for the first hour and \$50.00 per additional hour.

The Board agreed with the proposed fees.

Zoning Fees

Planning Administrator, Kimberly Reed recommended increasing the following fees

- Newspaper legal notice from \$80.00 to \$90.00.
- Recording fee at Rockingham County Registry \$25.00 to \$50.00
- Subdivision lot fees \$250.00 base fee plus \$50.00 per lot
- Special Use Permits \$100.00 to \$200.00 (The Board changed this to \$150.00)

The Board agreed with the changes.

Assessing Fees

No Recommendations

V. OTHER BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Keriann Roman to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 p.m. Seconded by Phil Winslow. All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted
Dyana F. Ledger