



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Agenda**

January 9, 2018

6:30pm – Regular Meeting

Broadcast Studio  
423 Webbs Mills Road

*Resolution: We, the Raymond Board of Selectmen, recognize our individual and collective responsibilities as leaders and representatives of our community. To this end, we pledge to conduct ourselves in a manner befitting these roles and duties. We pledge and encourage others to “Be the Influence” and to recognize that decisions matter.*

**Selectmen in attendance:** Joe Bruno, Samuel Gifford, Teresa Sadak, Lawrence Taylor and Rolf Olsen

**Selectmen absent:** none

**Town Staff in attendance:**

Don Willard – Town Manager  
Cathy Ricker – Finance Director  
Sue Look – Town Clerk

1) **Called to order** at 6:30pm by Chairman Sadak.

2) **Minutes of previous meetings**

a) November 14, 2017 – Regular meeting

**Motion** to approved as presented by Selectman Olsen. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.

Change “Windham” to “the whole RSU” at end of Chairman Sadak’s Selectmen’s Comments for who will pay for the bond.

**Unanimously approved as amended**

b) December 12, 2017 – Special meeting (executive session only)

**Motion** to approved as presented by Selectman Olsen. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.

**Unanimously approved**

3) **Public Hearing**

a) Consider Application for Liquor License Renewal for Café Sebago

Opened public hearing at 6:31pm by Chairman Sadak.

No public comments.

Town Manager Willard – We have received no complaints, concerns or issues of any kind.

Closed public hearing at 6:32pm by Chairman Sadak.

**Motion** to approve the Liquor License Renewal application for Café Sebago by Selectman Gifford. Seconded by Selectman Taylor.

**Unanimously approved**

#### 4) New Business

a) Sebago Lake Rotary Annual Ice Derby – Ingo Hartig

Mr Hartig – Fishing derby is proposed to be held February 24 & 25, 2018.

Town Manager Willard – Fire Chief has set up a planning meeting. The derby has not been held over the past 2 years due to a lack of ice.

**Motion** to approve the Sebago Lake Rotary Annual Ice Derby by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Taylor.

**Unanimously approved**

b) Loon Echo Land Trust (LELT) Land Management for Raymond Community Forest – Thom Perkins, Executive Director of LELT

Sheila Bourque – I am the Secretary of the Board for LELT. With us tonight are Thom Perkins who is the Executive Director, John Evans who is our Stewardship Manager, and John Rand from the Raymond Conservation Commission. I was involved in the Raymond Community Forest throughout the acquisition phase, fund raising, closing, trail building and continue today. We are here to talk about our land management practices in response to some concerns that were raised in November. LELT has been nationally accredited by an independent agency, one of the few in the United States.

Mr Perkins – I understand there have been some concerns. I think we start with discussion about the snowmobile trail on the Boy Scout property on River Road. *(LELT brought a PowerPoint presentation.)*

Mr Perkins went on to explain Conservation Easements. The Boy Scouts still own the land and they set the parameters of the Conservation Easement. LELT is charged with monitoring the easement and making sure the terms of the easement are complied with by the land owner and are charged with that by the laws of the State of Maine (33 MRSA §477-A).

Mr Perkins – The Boy Scouts allowed a snowmobile club, not thinking about the easement, to construct a snowmobile trail and a bridge on this conserved land. This is not allowed. The only type of bridge allowed is a low-impact bog bridge *(which is generally made of split logs and only about 2 feet wide)*. The bridge build was roughly 8' X 30' and it impacted the stream bank. I understand that there was no permit obtained to build this bridge from anyone. A wetlands permit probably would have

been necessary.

Selectman Bruno – Was there a bridge there originally?

Mr Perkins – There was no bridge there originally. There was a trail there.

Selectman Bruno – You are managing for the Boy Scouts, is that correct?

Mr Perkins – No. We are monitoring for the Boy Scouts. The Boy Scouts set the parameters...

Selectman Bruno – But the Boy Scouts said it is OK to go in and build that bridge.

Mr Perkins – That is correct. Incorrectly.

Selectman Bruno – And you came in and tore it down without going to the Boy Scouts.

Mr Perkins – No, let me finish. Let me continue with my presentation.

Selectman Bruno – I didn't ask for a presentation. I asked you here to answer questions.

Mr Perkins – I understand. Let me explain what we did. In this we sent the Boy Scouts a letter and met with the Boy Scouts and said because of the time of year, this was October 31, 2016, we said this year we would be happy to allow it to continue for the winter because we did not want to disrupt the snowmobiling season for the Raymond Rattlers, however it needed to be removed by the Boy Scouts or the Raymond Rattlers before July 31, 2017. We also provided them with an alternative stream crossing. The Raymond Rattlers did not want to construct the alternative and decided to take the bridge out. The Boy Scouts are going to let the sit revegetate and the put the trail back in the original location. Raymond Rattlers remove the bridge, not Loon Echo.

Selectman Bruno – After they were ordered to do so.

Mr Perkins – After the conservation easement terms were violated, and we are mandated by the State of Maine to have the bridge not be there.

Selectman Bruno – But the Boy Scouts said it was OK to build the bridge there and it is their property.

Mr Perkins – The Boy Scouts forgot what the terms of the easement are.

Selectman Bruno – I think you went a little overboard. Why didn't you go to the Raymond Rattlers and say, "We want to work with you on this bridge."?

Mr Perkins – We did. They were told that they could replace the bridge with a different kind of stream crossing and still use the trail, even though the trail is suspect to the conservation easement.

Chairman Sadak – So they were given an option and they chose not to go with that option.

Mr Perkins – That is correct. The Rattlers removed the bridge, not Loon Echo.

Selectman Taylor – The alternative they were given is a very poor way to cross a stream on a snowmobile or anything.

Mr Perkins – That stream crossing is designed by the National Parks Service for crossing streams in an unobtrusive way.

Selectman Taylor – Going down in you are ruining the banks even more because you are actually on each side of the bank. Then you go over what looks like telephone poles...

Mr Perkins – That is granite.

Selectman Taylor – So that is even worse on a snowmobile.

Selectman Gifford – Is anyone here from the Rattlers?

*(no one responded)*

Chairman Sadak – A question for you. What I am seeing is pretty strict guidelines. It sounds to me like there was some miscommunication with the Boy Scouts, LELET, the Rattlers...

Mr Perkins – The Boy Scouts signed the easement. They are the ones that set the parameters of the easement. They are the ones who said, "We don't want this kind of trail here." They are the ones who said, "We do not want any large structures here." We are the ones who monitor that and found it to be the case. They literally forgot the terms of their own easement.

Chairman Sadak – That trail is connecting a path that was already there, correct?

Mr Perkins – There was no trail there. There was just raw woods. And the snowmobile trail got put back to its original location.

Chairman Sadak – So what was the purpose of the bridge? I thought it was to connect snowmobile trails.

Mr Perkins – No. They decided they would like to have the trail go through the woods and bypass a section. They did that with a new trail and a new bridge. That is not permitted in the conservation easement. We spent a lot of money with our lawyer deciding whether we had to have the Boy Scouts remove the bridge. It is not our call. It is the State of Maine requiring us to uphold the conservation easement terms.

Chairman Sadak – I think to me it is a lot of lack of communication.

Mr Perkins – It is a lack of communication from the Boy Scouts to us. It is required of them if they are going to do something on the property they need to talk to us.

Selectman Olsen – So you never did a survey of the land prior to...

Mr Perkins – Yes, we did.

Selectman Olsen – So why was it never brought up prior to that. In all the times you came and asked for money you said that we would continue to be able to use the property as you have in the past. So, either you buried your head in the sand or you totally missed it.

Mr Perkins – No. We are talking about the bridge now, right?

Selectman Olsen – Yes. The bridge was there.

Selectman Bruno – We are talking about the use of the land.

Mr Perkins – The bridge was not there.

Selectman Bruno – When you came before the Select Board, Loon Echo wanted money from the Raymond Conservation Commission, you wanted approval from the Board, and you said that land will be used the same way it has always been used.

Mr Perkins – This is 2 different pieces of land. I am talking about the conservation easement land off the River Road with the bridge issue.

Selectman Bruno – That we gave you money to purchase.

Chairman Sadak – No.

Mr Perkins – That is owned by the Boy Scouts, not Loon Echo Land Trust.

Selectman Bruno – Raymond didn't put any money into that land?

Mr Perkins – No.

Selectman Bruno – I think you need to go back and read the minutes. I think you, John (*Rand*), you came here and asked for \$30,000 for Raymond Conservation Commission for that land on River Road. You have an Executive Director who is saying Raymond never gave any money and I know we gave money. It is the Boy Scout land. They own some on both sides of the river and the River Road people, there's 5 or 6 that live on River Road, said, "We will allow the same use."

Mr Perkins – That may well be true, however the same...

Selectman Bruno – Then you wrote the easement terms...

Mr Perkins – The same use is the same use. They modified the use. The Boy Scouts modified the use.

Chairman Sadak – I go back to lack of communication. What happens is that people who have been using this land and not abusing it, there is no communication about what you can do, what you can't do. There is a disconnect.

Ms Bourque – Maybe I can clarify it. A conservation easement is a legal instrument filed with the State of Maine. We are not the owners of that property, the Boy Scouts are. We negotiated the terms of that agreement. The reason these exist is there are tax benefits that accrue to the Boy Scouts being in to this legal entity. Loon Echo does not own the land. Our legal responsibility is to enforce the contract, period. We need to file annual monitoring reports with the State of Maine on this piece.

Chairman Sadak – So because they own the land and you guys monitor it, they can't make changes to it to say yes to put that bridge there?

Ms Bourque – By their own terms.

Selectman Bruno – You can modify this at any time.

Mr Perkins – No, you can't.

Ms Bourque – No, you can't. The other thing is that we do not communicate directly with the Raymond Rattlers on this issue. That was all through the Boy Scouts and their attorney, not Loon Echo. We met with the Boy Scouts. Yes, we did talk to the Raymond Rattlers and gave them something that we would consider, the granite bridge, that has been approved for these types of things. The other thing I want to point out is it is not the prior use. They constructed a new trail and a new bridge after the conservation easement was in force. If that was there prior to when we did the monitoring before we entered into the agreement we would have had these discussions. That did not exist before the legal document was in place. Our legal obligation is to inform the Boy Scouts, rectify the violation, and/or report it to the State of Maine and then a whole other process starts up. So, we provided an alternative to them if they want to continue. We also negotiated a number of other things to sign trails more appropriately. Traditional use is not because I have taken my snowmobile across private land wherever I decided to make a trail. That is not allowed on private property.

Selectman Bruno – Unless you have land owner permission.

Ms Bourque – Unless you have land owner permission, correct.

Mr Evans – The land owner gives up certain rights to the land through the conservation

easement.

Chairman Sadak – That just makes no sense to me at all.

Ms Bourque – They are receiving tax benefits.

Selectman Olsen – The Boy Scouts are a tax-exempt organization.

Selectman Bruno – I don't buy that you can not amend an easement.

Selectman Olsen – Since the Boy Scouts are a tax-exempt organization, where is their tax benefit? You are saying there is a tax benefit, but if they are not paying taxes...

Ms Bourque – We could ask the attorney who worked all this out for the Boy Scouts to come to answer these questions. We are not managing their corporation. What we are managing are the terms of this legal instrument and that is a conservation easement.

Chairman Sadak – At the last meeting I don't think we had the full information about who took the bridge down.

Ms Bourque – LELT never touched the bridge. We didn't build it and we didn't take it down.

Selectman Taylor – That bridge is just an add-on. You can still get from A to B.

Ms Bourque – The original trails are still intact.

Selectman Taylor – To me I am satisfied with that part. I just had an issue with hearsay of us not being able to get up to what I call "Pinnacle II" which is land between...

Ms Bourque – That is a whole different issue. We haven't even gotten there.

Selectman Taylor – I understand that. They wanted to make the trail better for what ever reason and they did something that they probably shouldn't have.

Ms Bourque – Another thing that has to be understood is whether it is a conservation easement or fee owned land (like Raymond Community Forest), is the first year of 2 of change of management of land, there is going to be education. If someone bought 50 acres behind you, you are going to have to learn to deal with the new landowner, correct? So, we recognize that this happens wherever Loon Echo goes, there is a period of adjustment in terms of how things are going to change and how things are going to work. We did not take the bridge down, and there was an abandoned car behind the bridge that we had to make sure got removed. We are required by law to annually monitor the terms and conditions and report that to the State of Maine. So, either we work with the Boy Scouts to rectify the violation or the State of Maine is going to come in and deal with it. That's your options. This is a brand-new easement, they were learning too. They readily admit, "Whoops, we forgot!" There was no malice on anybody's part. It is adjusting and learning the new terms and conditions of this piece of property.

Ms Bourque – On to the Raymond Community Forest. We had a number of issues come up on this one. On June 21, 2016, we signed the purchase agreement to conserve this property forever. Critical to this fee owned land, is where did the money come from. Yes, the Town of Raymond gave us money. Land for Maine's Future (LMF) gave us \$150,000. If you recall, the Town did not want to participate in sponsoring this project grant. We did not give you all this information because you declined to participate in it.

*An excerpt of the LMF Project Agreement Contract:*

*The Premises is held by the LELT, subject to the Project Agreement, to provide and manage for plant and wildlife habitat of local regional, and statewide importance, for forestland management, to protect undisturbed wetlands, protect water quality, natural open space, and to provide public access opportunity to Pismire Mountain and surrounding lands for traditional, non-intensive outdoor recreational purposes. Cooperating Entity may establish and maintain a multi-use outdoor recreational trail system for activities such as wildlife watching, hiking, walking, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and trapping, all subject to applicable state, local, and federal laws ...*

We are allowed a public access on Conesca Road. We shall not prohibit hunting, fishing, or trapping on the premises, except with law. We want to make very clear, Loon Echo allows hunting on all its properties, always has, has never banned it, has no intention. If we even contemplated that we would have to come up with \$150,000 to give to LMF.

Selectman Bruno – LMF makes you allow that.

Mr Perkins – It is a policy of the Board of Directors.

Ms Bourque – It is our policy. Every single ...

Selectman Bruno – If you take money from LMF you have to allow recreation, including hunting, fishing and trapping. That is in law.

Ms Bourque – It is true. Not trapping necessarily. Trapping with land owner permission. Applicable laws in this state you must get private land owner permission. Trapping is one of them. Putting up a deer stand is another. Loon Echo has other properties that were not purchased with LMF monies and we allow hunting on every single acre. So, how have we managed the land? The land is not “posted”, its boundary is marked all along the boundary around all 364 acres. Anyone can walk onto our land. We have built trails. The lower trail was built with volunteers. The upper trail to the bluff was built with the \$24,500 investment of LELT by the Appalachian Mountain Club. Due to the steepness, switchbacks, and erosion control we thought it best to bring in the professionals. We are allowed public access on Conesca Road. We invested \$4,900 into the parking lot. What is important to note about this parking lot is it had to be reviewed and approved before we even applied for a permit by LMF and the Bureau of Parks and Lands. They had to approve the siting of that particular lot. So, we began planning for this in August and because of the State’s review process, LMF’s review process, and the entire permitting process including engineering diagrams, etc., it took us until November to begin building that parking lot.

Selectman Taylor – It looks good. I use the land often walking with the dogs and things and it is great.

Ms Bourque – We even had to file forms that we were not disturbing a historical site. We had to go through what anybody would have to go through, only we had additional layers of review because of where our funding comes from. We have also added educational programs through a private donor. On the lower trail we have a series of educational signs that were installed this past year. We are designing and distributing to area libraries a game that kids can put in their nature backpack and go out on the trail, fill in the blanks, draw the leaf, etc. We do guided hikes on both the lower and upper trails. We put electronic trail counters out on the land for 1 year 4,251 people have used those trails. Every week we take the number and divide it in 2 (coming and going), we might have a deer or 2 in there. In conclusion:

- We did not tear down the snowmobile bridge.
- We are not going to “outlaw” hunting or any other traditional Maine uses.
- We did not “post” the land.
- We have requested that our neighbors respect our landowner boundaries.
- Where appropriate and when it provides a public need, demand and benefit, Loon Echo does allow motorized vehicle use on its properties. We have 2 preserves that allow ATVs and 2 that have marked snowmobile trails.
- We have protected this land providing open space for the town and region and is making this land available for public benefit.
- We have improved the protection of the region’s natural resources, including water
- We have created and maintains a reserve fund for perpetual stewardship
- We have constructed, named, signed and maintained 3 miles of trails for public use
- We constructed a parking lot for public access to the trails
- We have created and installed educational signs
- At the request of the neighborhood’s homeowner’s association, we restricted parking and access on the private roads and provided public access from Conesca Road only
- We have inventoried the resources on the preserve. We have sent an 80 page document to the Town that details every stand of trees, their age, the estimated harvesting going out for about 50 years.
- We have identified and inventoried rare plants within the preserve
- We have identified and inventoried wetlands and vernal pools
- We have created a “reserve” space within the 356 acres for scientific study, just above the tallus slope – an example of “old growth”

The lower level was planned to be a subdivision prior to LETL buying the property for a community forest. There is 1 section that has no trails and we believe it is deer wintering habitat and want to be sure before adding trails. This area is extensively hunted. Thank you

Selectman Taylor – Are you planning to shut down any trails from the back-side of Pismire Mountain?

Ms Bourque – Yes. There are 2 pieces of trails, 1 up at the top and 1 down at the bottom. 1 appears to be an ATV trail and that is shut off. The key to that is the only way you can get to them is across private land onto our private land. There is no public access and there is no “public” benefit. What we can not allow is people making their own trails out there. The lower level there is a half mile stretch that appears to be a snowmobile trail cut behind private homes. It doesn’t appear to go anywhere. That also will be shut down because the only way you can get to it is across landowner private property to our private property. We consider snowmobiling low impact. Loon Echo has always been willing to work with an organized group to discuss a snowmobile trail, to properly mark it, construct it, and maintain it. What we will not allow is a snowmobiling coming in wherever and just going around through the woods.

No. We won't allow that because again, we are trying to preserve a piece of property forever, so we can't just have unorganized use by whoever would want to do that.

Chairman Sadak – So you are saying that if the Raymond Rattlers came in and said, “We want to a new trail through there...”

Ms Bourque – We would sit down with them in a minute.

Chairman Sadak – The key word on this property being “new trail”.

Mr Perkins – The key word is public benefit.

Ms Bourque – It would have to provide access to anybody. So, we would be looking to see what we could do from the Conesca Road public access. How could we mark the trail to preserve the landscape (we don't want it running through a vernal pool or over rare plants), properly construct it, and then the other piece is the maintenance of that trail. This all costs money. We would be looking for a club or an organized group to work with us on trail maintenance. After that wind storm (*October 2017*) there was a lot of activity on those trails to clear them. We are managing private land for public benefit.

Selectman Taylor – I will have to do some more research. There are trails from Mountain Road all the way up that mountain. 3 or 4 of them that I have been using for 20 years with an ATV.

Ms Bourque – And you had Hancock land permission to be doing that?

Selectman Taylor – No. I didn't have anybody's permission for anything. It was just a couple of tote roads that no houses have been on for years. Maybe it wasn't the right thing to do, but we did it for years.

Ms Bourque – What we are saying is we recognize it is going to take a couple of years for everybody to get used to the new rules. We have been working with property owners on violations on our land. For example, we have a situation where there was a shed built out there and it is full of wood. We have told the landowner that Spring is fine, they can continue to use the wood this winter and then take down the shed, but it has to come down. Whether it is Loon Echo or any other private land owner, there are rules that need to be respected.

Selectman Taylor – It would be different if I went up someone's driveway. There is one gentleman who allows you to go half way up this driveway and take a right, it brings you right up to the top. That is from Raymond Hill Road.

Ms Bourque – Are we going to put a sign on the road that this is allowable by anybody so you have 100 people per month going up through there? I don't think so.

Selectman Taylor – There are other places where there are no houses to be seen and there are trails where it was clear cut 10 years ago.

Ms Bourque – We are managing it for long term preservation. We are willing to work with.. I can't speak to ATVs. We don't consider them to be low impact. Snowmobiles we consider low impact. You can't get to the lake unless you cross 2 other private properties, and who is going to want to come to our property to ride on a 1 mile loop of snowmobile trail?

Selectman Taylor – ATVs are not low impact.

Chairman Sadak – It sound to me that it is a learning curve and a miscommunication or disconnect.

Ms Bourque – If a question or concerns comes up we are more than happy to sit down

and discuss it, just pick up the phone or send us an email. I know people are going to see things differently. We are trying to work it all out.

Chairman Sadak – Do you have a link on the Raymond page so if someone has questions they can just go there.

Ms Bourque – No, we do not.

Town Manager Willard – I thought we had a conservation page. I think there is. (*There is.*)

Chairman Sadak – Thank you.

c) Abatement Request – Curt Lebel, Contract Assessor

Map-Lot	Acct #	Owner of Record	Old Assessment	New Assessment	Tax Amount
032-012-A	2180	Crescent Lake Trust	\$120,200	\$55,500	\$795.81
003-018-A	100	Michael May	\$199,800	\$55,500	\$1,774.89
010-011-D	3833	George, Kenneth & William Bartlett	\$371,200	\$255,100	\$1,428.03
012-084	1064	Alexander Arnett Eric Weindorf	\$514,700	\$460,500	\$666.66
008-092	601	James & Jodi Carroll	\$699,100	\$668,600	\$375.15

Town Manager Willard – Curt analyzed the requests and above is his recommendation. You don't have to take them.

**Motion** to approve the abatement for Crescent Lake Trust as listed above by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.

**Unanimously approved**

**Motion** to approve the abatement for Michael May as listed above by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Taylor.

**Unanimously approved**

**Motion** to approve the abatement for George, Kenneth & William Bartlett as listed above by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Taylor.

**Unanimously approved**

**Motion** to approve the abatement for Alexander Arnett & Eric Weindorf as listed above by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Taylor.

**Unanimously approved**

**Motion** to approve the abatement for James & Jodi Carroll as listed above by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.

**Unanimously approved**

d) Discuss Proposed Budget-Finance Ordinance Changes – Marshall Bullock, Chairman

Mr Bullock – We have been considering changing these ordinances to clean them up a little bit. The first change is eliminating the Chair of the School Board as ex officio since we no longer review the school budget. Second change is to document electing a Vice-Chair at our first meeting each year. We have been doing this and want it reflected in the ordinance. The third change is to reduce the number of members from 9 to 7. The reason for that is that Board members are supposed to be fingers of the community and in this case where we are not involved with the school, we do not need the additional representation. Right now we have 8 members with an open seat. I would suggest that we allow attrition to take us to 7 members. If all 8 who are currently on the board want to continue, then they will be allowed to. Right now any motion to carry requires 5 of 9 members and this change would mean 4 of 7 members. These are voting members (*entire membership*), not a majority of members present. The fifth change is to “gender-ize” the language and incorporate the Code of Conduct. The Committee will be discussing these changes on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Chairman Sadak – Boards are having a hard time having people stepping up to be on these boards.

Mr Bullock – There is also a change in this document to allow the Selectmen to appoint to the Budget-Finance Committee in the case of a vacant seat.

Selectman Bruno – I am not sure I agree with you on the quorum and the voting members thing. You can open a meeting with a quorum of 4, but this does not mean you have to have 4 voting in the affirmative for a motion to pass. That is what you said.

Mr Bullock – Yes.

Selectman Bruno – But that is not what this says.

Selectman Olsen – Yes, it does. A voting member is a member of the committee.

Selectman Bruno – So you are saying that in order to pass something you have to have 4 votes?

Selectman Olsen – Yes. That is the way that is written.

Selectman Bruno – I don’t think that is the way it is written.

Mr Bullock – We can clean up that language to make it more clear, but that is the intent.

Selectman Bruno – I’m not sure that follows the Administrative Procedures Act (5 *MRSA*). I think you need to clarify that.

Mr Bullock – We will check on that.

Selectman Taylor – I like that, though.

Selectman Bruno – I am not sure that is actually allowed.

Selectman Olsen – That is why I wrote it. It will need to go to Public Hearing before it goes to the Annual Town Meeting.

e) Draft Purchasing Policy – Don Willard, Town Manager

Town Manager Willard – There was discussion of this at the November 2017 Selectmen’s Meeting. We were asked to make the policy less complex and shorter. We have tried to codify the existing methods.

**Motion** to approve the new Purchasing Policy as presented by Selectman Olsen. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.

**Unanimously approved**

f) Draft Sign Use Policy – Don Willard, Town Manager

Town Manager Willard – This was also discussed at the November 2017 Selectmen’s Meeting. There were a couple of concerns raised and we have made the necessary revisions.

**Motion** to approve the new Sign Use Policy as presented by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Taylor.

**Unanimously approved**

g) Cemetery Ordinance Proposed Changes – Sue Look, Town Clerk

The proposed changes are to organize the items listed in the current ordinance into categories to make the document more “useable” for the staff, as well as for the owners of plots.

The Selectmen would rather see a full review of the ordinance as opposed to organizing the current and rewriting later.

h) Update the Fee Schedule to Incorporate Changes to the Tassel Top Fees – Sue Look, Town Clerk

The Tassel Top Board of Trustees have met to set the fees for the 2018 season. This is not to approve the Tassel Top fees, but to update the Town’s Fee Schedule.

**Motion** to approve update to the Fee Schedule as presented by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Olsen.

**Unanimously approved**

i) Consideration of Printing Single Annual Town Report – Sue Look, Town Clerk

Proposal to revamp website pages for the Annual Report and post the department, board and committee reports online; only print the reports required by Maine State Statute along with the Warrant for Town Meeting in the Spring.

**Motion** to only print reports pursuant to 30-A MRSA §2801 along with the Dedication and the Warrant for Town Meeting by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Olsen.

**Unanimously approved**

## 5) Public Comment

Brian Walker – Budget-Finance Committee Member – Unfortunately the committee has not as yet had a chance to review the proposed ordinance changes, so I am speaking a bit out of turn. I have a concern with the discussion that came up this evening about the unanimity that is needed. To me it flies in the face of a democratic principle which is majority rules. If you look at the way the Select Board is set up, page 5 of the policy governing the Select Board states that any action of the Board shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of its attending membership of not less than 3 members unless otherwise provided for by law. It is possible right now for the Budget-Finance Committee that we can have enough members to hit quorum, but in order to pass something we would have to be unanimous. Unfortunately, the Budget-Finance Committee at times suffers from inattendance. I would be interested, Rolf, to hear what your concept was behind it initially. It does seem to fly in the fact of when the Budget-Finance Committee, which is a little different than the Select Board. We vote on every one of the warrant articles pertaining to the budget. If we do not have a “full house” then the people who wish to vote for something are up against... in order to hit the numbers it has to be more than a simple majority. I would urge that we either make the change to the proposed ordinances so that it aligns with what the Select Board is doing, because to have 2 different voting processes makes no sense to me. The Budget-Finance Committee and the rules that they apply to themselves are different than what the Select Board does. Or have the Select Board move to the same model as is being used by the Budget-Finance Committee.

Grace Leavitt – I have a couple of topics to make some comments about. First of all, just after the November meeting I spoke with the Town Manager and the Road Commissioner about this issue. I appreciated that they stood out in the cold with me for a while. It was either that morning or the morning before that the roads were treacherous. I know that I live in Maine, I certainly know by now that it is winter time, but for a couple of years now it has been very distinct how the road is treated in Raymond on Egypt Road. Once you get to the Gray line it is down to pavement most all the time. So, I am asking that as you look at budgets and contacts that you look at doing some improvements on the road treatments in Raymond. I suspect it is the same as you are entering Raymond from other towns. It just so happened that a car had gone off the road that morning and that reminded me that I should bring this to your attention to see if it can be improved upon. I know it has a cost to it. I think we can do better and I hope we do going forward. The other topic goes back to the October meeting that I caught on TV, when the 3 members from the RSU Board were here. I hope that going forward all of the Selectmen can treat anyone who is coming and speaking much more respectfully than those folks were treated that night. I took great issue with what was rude behavior on the part of some of the Select Board in speaking to these folks. I appreciate people who serve on Boards, you have trouble filling those boards, the very least we can do is be respectful when they take the time to come and speak on issues. As a member of the Raymond public I was embarrassed for it. I have spoken to one of those people since to say as much, I think that they deserve better. I know serving on Boards can often be a very thankless job and I expect that everyone behaves respectfully. My understanding of a Board, and I have served on many Boards and Committees, is you take input from your constituents, in this case Raymond, and you bring those concerns to that Board, but then as a Board Member I am to vote on an issue in the best interests of the organization that that Board serves, in this case the RSU. So, even though the 3 members from Raymond are representing Raymond constituents and need to look out for Raymond’s interests, when they vote on a Board I hope they are looking at the interests of the students of the RSU. It seemed that there were those here who felt that they should always vote whatever way Raymond

folks would want them to vote, but I think their obligation is to the organization at that point. Thank you.

**6) Selectman Comment – None**

**7) Town Manager's Report and Communications**

**a) Confirm Dates for Upcoming Regular Meetings**

- February 13, 2018
- March 12, 2018, at 5:00pm before the Budget Meeting if needed

**b) Reminder of Budget Schedule**

- February 13, 2018 – Budget from Town Manager to Select Board
- February 27, 2018 – Department Head Review #1
- March 12, 2018 – Department Head Review #2
- March 27, 2018 – Budget Workshop

**c) Reminder of Upcoming Holiday Schedule**

- Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> – MLK Jr Day

**8) Treasurer's Warrant**

**Motion** to approve the Treasurer's Warrant totaling \$59,371.90 by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Taylor.

**Unanimously approved**

**9) Adjournment**

**Motion** to adjourn at 8:04pm by Selectman Bruno. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.

**Unanimously approved**

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan L Look  
Town Clerk