

APPROVED

Town of Grantham - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes February 24, 2010

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:02pm on Wednesday, February 24, 2010 by Chairman Harold Haddock Jr. The meeting was held in the Grantham Town Building, Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South.

Present: Chairman Harold Haddock Jr.; Selectman Constance Jones; Selectman Warren Kimball; Town Administrator Becky Newton, Esq.; Administrative Assistant Melissa White; Victoria Smith; Police Chief Walter Madore; Fire Lieutenant Jay Fountain

ADMINISTRATIVE - APPROVED

- ✓ Building Permits:
 - a) M/L 232-001-006; 39 Wintercroft Circle #6 – *Remodel kitchen*
 - b) M/L 233-094-002; Splitrock Road – *New home*
- ✓ 2009 2nd Property Tax Warrant – SUPPLEMENTAL - CORRECTED
- ✓ Property Tax Abatements:
 - a) 27 Bay Tree Lane; M/L 215-061-027 - \$.51
 - b) Stocker Pond Road; M/L 236-048-000 - \$.35
- ✓ Timber Tax Levy: Cynthia L. Mantz Marks; 56 Walker Road; M/L 220-041-000 - \$184.59

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✓ Chairman Haddock requested any changes to the budget hearing minutes of February 3, 2010. Selectman Jones requested that on page nine, Warrant Article 14, third paragraph, second sentence (after \$15,000) be changed to “for the surveying and costs associated with selling the house and 2.5 +/- parcel of the Recreation Park Property. A motion was made by Selectman Kimball to accept the budget hearing minutes of February 3, 2010 minutes as amended; second by Selectman Jones. ***Unanimously approved.***
- ✓ Regular meeting and non-public minutes of February 10, 2010. A motion was made by Selectman Kimball to approve the regular meeting and non-public minutes as written; second by Selectman Jones. ***Unanimously approved.***

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CORRESPONDENCE

- Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice: An invitation was received to the Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice annual meeting that was held on February 23, 2010.
- United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of New York: Notification was received from the United States Bankruptcy Court regarding the ongoing case with Fairpoint Communications, Inc.

Administrator Newton informed a check had been received from Fairpoint for taxes.
- Plodzik and Sanderson Professional Association: A letter was received from Plodzik and Sanderson regarding the adjustments made to the cash and investment account balances for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.

OLD BUSINESS

- Pepsi's "PSST" Program: Administrator Newton informed the Town will submit an application for the construction of the Recreation Park. Selectman Kimball informed that the playground will be installed around May 28th; that Pepsi would change the day if the program was awarded to the Town.
- NH Department of Safety Radio Grant: Chief Madore informed he will submit the grant application. If awarded, the Fire and Police Departments would have the same base radio stations.
- Sawyer Brook: Administrator Newton informed that pictures were taken of the trees in the brook. Selectman Jones stated she had spoken with NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) and they are not allowed to give opinions and that the Town would have to hire a consultant. Jones stated that the banks and river beds cannot be touched unless the shore land is unsafe and deemed a hazard; that only the part that is a hazard could be removed, the stumps cannot be removed.
- Household Hazardous Waste Day: Administrator Newton informed that a representative from Clean Harbors will look at the Town Hall site on Friday, February 26, 2010.

Newton stated the contract was ready to be signed after a minor correction; change all disputes to be handled under the laws of Massachusetts to New Hampshire.

Selectman Kimball informed that Transfer Station Supervisor Frank Chaisson was not happy with holding Hazardous Waste Day at Town Hall and suggested using the "turn-around" in the Juniper Hills development because it is paved. Selectman Jones asked if that was private property. Kimball said yes; that maybe Tod Whipple would be interested in letting the Town use his property.

Selectman Jones and Haddock were concerned with using private property especially if there was a spillage.

Administrator Newton will meet with Clean Harbors and if there are concerns with the back parking lot of Town Hall another alternative will be considered.

Jones stated that if the back parking lot of Town Hall didn't work it could be held at the Transfer Station and during that period of time it would only be open for Hazardous Waste, not for regular waste and recycling.

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NEW BUSINESS

- Bond for Al Smith Road: Administrator Newton informed that an Intent to Cut was issued to Thomas & Nicole Radford; 398 Hastings Hill Road; that the access to the property is from Al Smith Road. Newton asked if a Bond should be obtained.

Chairman Haddock requested Road Agent Newcomb look at the road and make a recommendation; if he can't then contact Peter Blakeman, Blakeman Engineering.

- Class VI Roads: Administrator Newton informed she was asked to sign a Certificate of Occupancy for a house built on the Class VI portion of Miller Pond Road and asked if the Town requires a liability waiver.

Selectman Jones felt that since the deed (Tall Timbers Subdivision) stated the owner has the joint responsibility for maintenance of all the roads in the subdivision and holding the Certificate of Occupancy, the owner would sign the liability waiver.

Jones went on to say that changes to the Building Permit should be done to include the liability waiver. Administrator Newton agreed and will contact the owner.

Lieutenant Fountain stated that the Fire Department cannot get their emergency vehicles into the Tall Timbers sub-division during certain times of the year.

- Compost Bin Sale: Northeast Resource Recovery Association has started their Compost Bin Campaign. Administrator Newton explained the bins can be sold as a fundraiser and requested permission to participate with the proceeds to benefit the Recreation Park.

A motion was made by Selectman Jones participate in the Northeast Resource Recovery Association's Compost Bin Sale as a fundraiser with the proceeds to benefit the Recreation Park, second by Selectman Kimball. Unanimously approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- Road Agent – January Report:

- Very busy with plowing, sanding and clean-up (100 tons of salt have been purchased so far this year).
- Rebuilt hydraulic cylinder on the 1 ton plow; cut-out, re-pinned and bushed the main center pin.

- Town Administrator:

- A job description is being developed for the new highway position. Selectman Kimball requested Steve Palermo attend the Municipal Turf and Grounds Conference on March 24, 2010. Kimball felt the training would be beneficial since the Recreation Fields need to be monitored due to the Sugar River being a level IV stream.
- Administrator Newton will order the sign to post the road around Town Hall as "Not a Through Road". Chief Madore felt a sign at each end of the road was needed.
- Three new abatements have been received and forwarded to Cross Country Appraisal Group. Newton stated they are out doing the annual pick-ups and have only received one complaint about them not carrying proper identification. Newton has reminded them to keep the letter from the Town office with them.

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- Sergeant Parsons will be in charge during the vacation of Chief Madore.
- An inquiry about who owns the boat launch on Stocker Pond was received. Newton stated she contacted Todd McIntire and he responded that Cote & Reney Lumber Company owns the boat access to Stocker Pond; that they (Cote & Reney) do not maintain it and do not have plans to improve the road because in the summer there is an extreme fire hazard due to it being the site of the old saw mill.
- An email was received from Pat Remick, Tax Payer Coalition, that informed HB 1677 would be voted on the week of March 1st to extend the education funding formula. The House Finance Committee had recommended that it be killed. If the Legislature does not act Donor Towns will return July 1, 2011. 120 communities will receive less in education funding while the State must find \$70 million more to finance the full formula. Plus an \$80 million gap currently covered with stimulus funding.
- Work continues with Conservation Commission Chair Richard Hocker regarding the Frog Pond easement. Selectman Kimball asked what direction is being taken. Newton stated she is looking at a reduced easement; that Eastman Community Association General Manager Ken Ryder requested Mr. Hocker contact him.
- A thank you was received from Janet Lowell informing that 212 Health Kits were shipped for the Haitian relief. Thank you to all who donated.
- A letter was sent to NH Department of Revenue Administration requesting permission to conduct the five year review certification at the same time as the statistical update. No response has been received yet.

OTHER

- Administrative Assistant White informed that Sergeant Parsons has been working on a grant to obtain Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) and requested permission to purchase one for Town Hall for the area by the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room. White explained the retail price was approximately \$1,500 and the grant was awarded to bring the cost down to approximately \$1,050.

White explained that if the purchase is made by March 5, 2010 an extra 5% could be saved. Sergeant Parsons will also submit a grant application in April 2010 to the Mascoma Foundation to help offset the cost.

A motion was made by Selectman Kimball to approve the purchase of the AED up to a maximum of \$1,050; second by Selectman Jones. Unanimously approved.

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NON PUBLIC

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-A, the Grantham Board of Selectmen entered into Non-Public session at 5:46 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter . Present were: Chairman Harold Haddock, Selectman Constance Jones, Selectman Warren Kimball, Town Administrator Becky Newton, Administrative Assistant Melissa White, Victoria Smith, Ken Story

No votes or decisions were made while in Non-Public session.

Following proper vote, the Board returned from Non-Public session at 6:43 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Jones moved to adjourn, second by Selectman Kimball; ***the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:56pm.***

The next Selectmen's Meeting is scheduled to be held on **Wednesday, February 24, 2010** at 5:00PM in the Grantham Town Building; Jerry Whitney Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melissa M. White
Administrative Assistant*