

APPROVED

Town of Grantham - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes April 28, 2010

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:00pm on Wednesday, April 28, 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; Tim Pillsbury; Neil Alexander; Reese Alexander

ADMINISTRATIVE - APPROVED

- ✓ Notice of Intent to Cut: M/L 243-012-000; 2221 Stoney Brook Road
- ✓ Timber Tax Levy: M/L 243-012-000; 2221 Stoney Brook Road
- ✓ Building Permit Applications:
 - a) M/L 222-208-000; 32 Highwood Way – *deck*
 - b) M/L 222-016-000; 11 Fernwood – *windows*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✓ Chairman Haddock asked if there were any changes to the regular and non-public meeting minutes of April 14, 2010. There being none, a motion was made by Selectman Kimball to approve both minutes as written; second by Selectman Jones. ***Unanimously approved.***

CORRESPONDENCE

- Chapin Senior Center of the Kearsarge Area Council on Aging (COA): A letter was received from Chapin Senior Center informing that in 2009 they provided services to 75 people in Grantham that included transportation, access to important information like Medicare, and health topics as well as transported a Grantham resident thousands of miles to dialysis services three times each week for several years. COA will continue to provide these services in 2010 despite the fact that Grantham rejected a funding request at Town Meeting this year.
- Tim Pillsbury: The Board of Selectmen reviewed the letter from Mr. Pillsbury regarding the Transfer Station stickers and Woodland Heights Road. Mr. Pillsbury discussed the \$10.00 fee for a second sticker and stated he felt if a resident registers two vehicles they should be able to have two stickers for the Transfer Station.

Selectman Jones stated the fee for the second sticker was put in place due to it being

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general practice of surrounding towns.

Administrator Newton stated the cost to print the stickers is around \$500; that the \$10 fee for a second sticker helps off-set the printing costs.

After much discussion, Chairman Haddock stated they would consider how to charge for the second Transfer Station sticker during budget season next winter.

Mr. Pillsbury discussed Woodland Heights Road. Pillsbury informed that at the 2008 Town Meeting voters approved Woodland Heights Road be taken over as a Town maintained road after it had been brought up to town standards and signed off by the Town Engineer but the residents of the road are looking at significant costs to bring it up to town standards.

Pillsbury asked why their association had to meet such stringent road standards to make it a town maintained road when building and driveway permits have been issued and the road deemed sufficient for emergency vehicles.

Chairman Haddock stated the developer knew what was required to build the road to town regulations. Pillsbury asked why driveway permits etc. were issued if the road wasn't built to town regulations. Chairman Haddock explained that the permits are issued on private roads as well as town owned roads.

Chairman Haddock explained this issue has been a problem with the developer of Woodland Heights over the years; that he (the developer) elected not to build the road to town regulations.

Selectman Jones reiterated that drainage easements would have to be obtained from all the property owners on Woodland Heights Road before the town would take it over.

Administrator Newton stated that RSA 674:41 allows towns to issue building permits on private roads and to obtain a liability waiver for police and fire services to get there if they can't.

There was discussion regarding the liability waiver. Selectman Jones explained that now, when a subdivision is proposed the Planning Board makes sure the road(s) are built strong enough for emergency vehicles can access the area. Newton explained that in a perfect world, waivers are on file for each property, however it's not an error not to have one.

Chairman Haddock clarified that the importance of building a strong road isn't just so emergency vehicles to access it but also so the Town doesn't have to repair it many times over the years.

Newton asked if the developer conveyed the road to the homeowners association. Pillsbury said yes. Newton suggested that before the Association accepted the conveyance, they could have had the developer build the road to town standards.

Pillsbury stated he felt the residents of Woodland Heights Road are being asked to spend a lot of money to make the road wider.

Pillsbury also informed that the bottom of Woodland Heights Road needs the most repairs due to the Police Department and school busses turning around there. Selectman Jones stated the Board of Selectmen could ask the Police Department drive beyond Woodland Heights Road to turn around and suggested Pillsbury discuss his concern about the busses with the School Board.

Pillsbury asked if when the statistical update was completed if the properties on Woodland Heights Road would be valued lower due to them being on a private road. Chairman

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Haddock stated there would be an open house with the Assessor's sometime in August to discuss that issue.

- United States Bankruptcy Court: A notice was received from the United States Bankruptcy Court regarding Fairpoint Communications that lists Grantham as counter-party (contracts and/or unexpired leases). The Board of Selectmen is not aware of any leases with Fairpoint Communications. The total cure amount is zero dollars.
- Baying Communications: Newton explained that there are several new telephone providers in the state including Bayring Communications. Newton is gathering more information about Bayring Communications and will update the Board at a future meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- Grantham Historical Society Memorial Garden: Administrator Newton informed that she met with Renee Gustafson to review the area where the memorial garden would be placed. Newton explained that the area would be on the right side of the road around Town Hall as it intersects with Dunbar Hill Road, across from the septic system; that six to ten trees would be planted approximately 30 to 35 feet back so cars could park in front of them.

Chairman Haddock asked what kind of trees would be planted. Newton stated they would be Serviceberry or Crabapple trees.

Newton stated that she had discussed with Gustafson the fact that Town may want to use the space behind the trees for parking or a gravel road. The Grantham Historical Society will be responsible for maintaining the trees.

- Silver Star Banner Day: Administrator Newton informed she is still gathering information on this.
- Wheelabrator Claremont Company: Newton informed a meeting has been scheduled with Rob Johnson for May 18, 2010 at 10am. Chairman Haddock asked if she (Newton) had contacted Art Magowan. Newton said no and asked if she should. Haddock said yes due to his background in solid waste.
- Road Around Town Hall: Newton informed the road around Town Hall has been posted as "Not A Thru Way".
- Sawyer Brook trees: Newton informed Dick Hocker has volunteered to flag the trees that are a hazard and hanging over Sawyer Brook. Once that is done the letter will be sent to the State.
- Sullivan County Corrections: Newton informed that the inmates from Sullivan County Corrections have cleaned Hastings Cemetery; that the Highway Department is pleased with the quality of the work they did.

Selectman Kimball stated the school was concerned about the inmates working at Memorial Cemetery. Newton informed that she and Selectman Jones recently met with the Superintendent and two School Board members and agreed that if possible, the part-time grounds maintenance person will be used to clean Memorial Cemetery.

Chairman Haddock stated that Memorial Cemetery could be cleaned by the inmates in the summer when school is not in session or by the town's part-time once acquired.

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NEW BUSINESS

- Grantham Garden Club: Administrator Newton informed she has been in contact with the Grantham Garden Club and that they would be placing two rain barrels with flowers in them at the entrance to the lower level of Town Hall. Newton also stated that the Garden Club is working to find out what kind of tree to plant as a "Town" Christmas tree that will be planted near the town sign.

- Zoning Board of Adjustment Appointment:

*A motion was made by Selectman Jones to appoint Conrad Frey as a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment; second by Selectman Kimball. **Unanimously approved.***

Paperwork to follow.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- Town Administrator:

- FEMA documentation has been put in place. The total of all damages, fuel and manpower comes to approximately \$13,000. FEMA will cover 75% of that.
- The Recreation Fund has been setup by the Trustees of the Trust Funds. This was required by the auditors.
- Collaboration with the School for joint buying and a lower price on propane will be worked on in mid to late August.
- The School Board will be purchasing their own mower due to contracting services being substantially higher than purchasing new equipment.
- Schedule & Events:
 - ❖ May 8th – moving of the playground equipment from the school to the Recreation Park.
 - ❖ May 10th (week of) – construction of the playground will begin.
 - ❖ May 12 – 13th – Primex conference. Newton informed she hopes to attend the workshop on how many employees a police department should have.
 - ❖ May 17th – mandatory Joint Loss Management Committee Meeting. Newton explained an Inspector from the NH Department of Labor will attend this meeting as well.
 - ❖ May 20th – personal day

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OTHER

- Perambulation: Selectman Kimball informed the perambulation was successful and the marker was found after being missing for over 40 years.

NON PUBLIC

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-A, a motion was made by Selectman Jones, second by Selectman Kimball to enter into a Non-Public session at 5:45 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Present were: Chairman Harold Haddock, Selectman Constance Jones, Selectman Warren Kimball, Town Administrator Becky Newton and Administrative Assistant Melissa White

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

Following proper vote, the Board returned from Non-Public session at 6:19 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Kimball moved to adjourn, second by Selectman Jones; *the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:20pm.*

The next Selectmen's Meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, May 12, 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*