

APPROVED

Town of Grantham - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes December 12, 2012

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:00pm on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 by Chairman Warren Kimball. The meeting was held in the Grantham Town Building, Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Present: Chairman Warren Kimball; Selectman Ken Story; Selectman Constance Jones; Town Administrator Melissa White; Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper; Police Chief Walter Madore; Fire Chief Jay Fountain; and Conservation Commission Chair Dick Hocker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Town Administrator, Melissa White

ADMINISTRATIVE

- ✓ Payroll Manifest #379 & 380
- ✓ Accounts Payable Manifest #352 & 353
- ✓ Nationwide Retirement Services Agreement
- ✓ Building Permits:
 - a. M/L 235-025-000; Springfield Road – Shed
 - b. M/L 233-012-000; 23 Pillsbury Road – Storage Unit Addition
- ✓ Property Tax Abatements:
 - a. M/L 216-043-000; 96 Burpee Hill Road
 - b. M/L 233-008-000; 21 Willis Avenue
- ✓ 2012 2ND Property Tax Warrant – Supplemental; M/L 222-203-000; 21 Highwood Way

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Kimball asked if there were any changes to the regular and non-public meeting minutes of November 28, 2012. A motion was made by Selectman Jones to approve the regular and non-public minutes of November 28, 2012 as written; seconded by Selectman Story. **Unanimously approved.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- Planning Board Abutter Notices: The Town received the Abutter's Notice for the Public Hearing on Proposed Prime Wetland Warrant Articles. The Town is an abutter to the following wetlands: Bog Brook; Chase Pond; Lily Pond; Lower Eastman Brook and Stocker Pond. The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on January 8, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Lower Level Meeting Room.

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OLD BUSINESS

- Miller Pond Road Bridge: Town Administrator White reported that the town is still waiting for clear guidelines from Bridge Engineer Erin Darrow regarding issuing permits to vehicles in excess of the posted weight limit. White explained that she received an application on December 7, 2012 from Mert Hastings, III who needs to transport log length firewood to a couple of residents beyond the Miller Pond Road Bridge, one of whom uses this wood as one hundred percent heat source. White stated that she asked Darrow for recommendations regarding Mr. Hastings permit application and provided a copy of Darrow's response to the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Kimball stated that the Board was unable to issue a permit with the information provided by Darrow. The Board of Selectmen instructed White to inform Darrow that they want closure and need to have clear guidelines with very specific information for specific trucks so that they can move forward and start making decisions as soon as possible but definitely within the next two weeks.
- Recreation Park Development: Chairman Kimball advised that the Grantham Recreation Park Committee would like to know the balance remaining in the Athletic Capital Reserve Fund. White reported that there is about \$8,000.00 remaining that is unencumbered. White added that the Trustees of the Trust Funds requested that a \$1,000.00 balance remain in the Recreation Park Project Fund because donations can go into that fund.
- Zoning Complaint; 172 Cote Road: White informed that she consulted with Town Counsel regarding the dumpster at 172 Cote Road and Counsel believes that there is a zoning violation and set forth the reasons. The Board of Selectmen asked White to send a letter informing the property owner at 172 Cote Road of the zoning violation and to give them 30 days to come into compliance.

NEW BUSINESS

- Brick Pile on Cote Road; M/L 237-057-000: Chairman Kimball asked Dick Hocker about the status of the brick pile on M/L 237-057-000. Hocker stated the brick pile is gone and there was a bulldozer on the property and he is concerned because of the proximity to the wetlands area and fears that the brick pile has been bulldozed into the wetlands. Hocker also reported that a letter was sent without any response. Hocker recommended the next step should be to document and send a wetlands violation to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Fire Department – November Report:
 - Responded to 20 calls consisting of 10 EMS and 10 Fire/Rescue.
 - Chief Fountain attended the Upper Valley Mutual Aid, Kearsarge Area Mutual Aid and the Mid-Western Hazardous Materials Team meetings.
 - November training was on SCBA review and Roof Ventilation.

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- Police Department - November Report:
 - Election Day was quite busy. What a fantastic turnout for our community.
 - The Thanksgiving Holiday weekend was uneventful.
 - A thank you letter was received from a resident regarding Officer Julian's response to a medical call.
 - Chief Madore and the entire Grantham Police Department wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday.

- Trustees of the Trust Funds as of December 2, 2012

- Town Administrator:
 - White stated that she spoke with Dick Hocker regarding the town owned parcel on 82 Anderson Pond Road which is less than 1 acre. White reported that the Grantham Conservation Commission and the Eastman Community Association Woodlands and Wildlife Committee would like to preserve this lot from development because it is the only access trail to Butternut Pond and it is very actively used for cross country skiing, snow shoeing, and it's one of the limited places in Eastman that people can let their dogs off leash. Hocker added that, theoretically, snowmobiles and ATV's could be used on the trail also. Hocker explained that the trail was considered a Class VI Road until 1993 when at the urging of the Eastman Community Association, Grantham discontinued the road and turned it over to the abutters. The Board of Selectmen agreed that preserving this lot is a good idea. There was discussion on different ways to preserve the lot such as transferring it to Eastman Community Association ownership or having the town retain ownership. Chairman Kimball expressed concern about access for Grantham residents if the lot is transferred to Eastman Community Association ownership. The Board of Selectmen informed Hocker that they will look into it.

 - White reported that she had a meeting with SAU Superintendent, Jacqueline Guillette, about coordinating the town's equipment with the needs of the school in an effort to save money. For example, Guillette advised White that one of their greatest needs is snow removal where it falls from the roof and that it's not time sensitive, it can be whenever it will fit into the schedule, if agreeable. White spoke with Road Agent Newcomb who agreed the Highway Department is able to accommodate as long as the school can be flexible. The Board of Selectmen were in favor of the collaboration.

 - White also reported that she is looking at options for lower electricity costs.

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OTHER

- o Dick Hocker reported that there is a locked gate across Leavitt Hill Road and they have not been able to find who owns the lock. He stated his biggest concern has always been from the standpoint of safety, if a snowmobiler, hiker, or skier goes down, that emergency vehicles wouldn't be able to access that person. Fire Chief Fountain advised that it wouldn't be a problem because his department has different size cutters that would be able to cut the lock if necessary, although it would be nice to know who owns the lock and has the key. It was suggested that Hocker contact Brian Hastings to see if he owns the lock.

NON PUBLIC

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-e, a motion was made by Selectman Story, seconded by Selectman Jones to enter into a Non-Public session at 5:45 p.m. to discuss a legal matter. Present were: Chairman Warren Kimball, Selectman Ken Story, Selectman Constance Jones; Town Administrator Melissa White and Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper.

Following proper vote, the Board returned from Non-Public session at 5:47 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Jones moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Story; ***by unanimous vote, the Board adjourned at 5:47 pm.***

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 9, 2013** at 5pm in the Grantham Town Building; Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann Jasper
Administrative Assistant