

APPROVED

Town of Grantham - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes March 10, 2010

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:00pm on Wednesday, March 10, 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; Police Chief Walter Madore; Activities Director Laurie Field; Athletics Director Marsha Googins; Joey Holmes

ADMINISTRATIVE - APPROVED

- ✓ General Assessing Services Contract: Cross Country Appraisal Group
- ✓ Notice of Intent to Cut: M/L 221-048-000; 800 Route 10 North

ADMINISTRATIVE – MORE INFORMATION REQUIRED:

1. Building Permit: M/L 215-061-000; West Cove A – Modifications to pump station

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✓ Chairman Haddock requested any changes to the regular meeting minutes of February 24, 2010. There being none, a motion was made by Selectman Kimball to approve the minutes as written; second by Selectman Jones. ***Unanimously approved.***
- ✓ Non-public minutes of February 24, 2010. A motion was made by Selectman Jones to approve the non-public minutes as written; second by Selectman Kimball. ***Unanimously approved.***

CORRESPONDENCE

- Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission: A letter was received from Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission informing of a *Backyard Farming Program*; Wednesday, March 31, 2010 6PM at the Lebanon Senior Center, Lebanon, NH. Snow date is Wednesday, April 7, 2010.

Selectman Kimball requested the notice be posted at Town Hall and sent out on the list serve.
- Turtle Mountain School: A letter was received from Turtle Mountain School requesting cooperation in helping to ensure safe drinking water for the school. A list of potential contamination sources was included.

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- Listen Community Services: A thank you was received from Listen Community Services for the recent donation to their Food Pantry Program. The Listen Food Pantry has served 1,350 Upper Valley households over this past year, providing over \$60,000 worth of groceries.
- Pat Remick – Coalition Communities: An email was received from Pat Remick informing that the House voted to kill the bill that would have extended the transition formula, which prevents Donor Towns for another two years.
- Trustees of the Trust Funds: A letter was received from Robert A. Lewis, Trustee informing that the Trustees will hold a public meeting after the Town Officer election on March 9, 2010 which will include the election of the bookkeeper.

OLD BUSINESS

- Purchase of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's): Administrative Assistant White informed the order has been placed; the Library has reimbursed the Town for theirs. Sergeant Parsons continues to work on the grant application for the Mascoma Foundation.
- Pepsi's "PSST" Program: Administrator Newton informed the application was submitted for the installation of the playground equipment at the Recreation Park. Award notifications will go out the week of March 22, 2010.
- NH Department of Safety Radio Grant: Newton informed the Fire Department was successful in receiving the radio grant because it serves as the secondary Emergency Operations Center (EOC). A memo of understanding will need to be completed once the radio is installed; Lieutenant Jay Fountain is taking care of it.
- Sawyer Brook: Selectman Jones informed she spoke with Jim Berg from NH Department of Environmental Services and there is nothing the Town can do with the trees in Sawyer Brook. They can only be removed if they have fallen on a power line or in the roadway creating some type of hazard.
- Household Hazardous Waste Day: Administrator Newton informed Seth Dawber from Clean Harbors reviewed the area at Town Hall and the Transfer Station. Newton said Mr. Dawber preferred the front area of Town Hall (where the cul-de-sac is) and utilize the area where the police cruisers park. The road would be one way that day.

Newton stated she has discussed it with Transfer Station Supervisor Frank Chaisson and that he didn't have any reservations with using that area of Town Hall.
- Columbarium: Selectman Kimball informed that the columbarium will not be pursued due to the cost and the fact that there aren't space constraints at the cemetery at this time. Kimball said there are about 1,200 grave sites available and they cost approximately \$250 versus approximately \$900 for each niche.

NEW BUSINESS

- Unemployment Compensation Insurance: Administrator Newton explained an Unemployment Compensation claim had been received and after speaking with New Hampshire Employment Security some research was done to save some money on Unemployment claims.

Administrative Assistant White informed the Town has been self-insured for several years; that the current claim is costing approximately \$1,100 per month. Primex will provide

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unemployment insurance for an annual contribution of \$1,342. Newton explained Primex will also defend the claims against the Town including the current one.

*A motion was made by Selectman Jones to accept the proposal of \$1,342 from Primex for Unemployment Compensation Insurance for 2010; second by Selectman Kimball. **Unanimously approved.***

- Election of Selectboard Chair: A motion was made Selectman Jones to appoint Harold Haddock, Jr. Chairman of the Board of Selectmen for the ensuing year; second by Selectman Kimball. **Unanimously approved.**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- Activities "Our Town":

- Skating on the pond was successful with good crowds and repeat patrons. The rink is closed for the season and roped off.
- St. Patty's Quest is underway! It is a little scavenger hunt around town. The winner will receive a \$25.00 cash prize on March 17th. Contact Laurie Field for more info at 863-9143.
- Rabies clinic will be scheduled for early April.
- Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 3rd and will most likely be held at GVS.
- Mother's Day Breakfast Buffet will be May 9th.
- Town Wide yard sale will be Saturday, May 29th.

Upcoming Summer Events:

- Bike Rodeo will be June 6th; bicycle safety event in conjunction with Grantham PD.
- A plan for a 5K road race/1 mile fun walk on July 3rd is being worked on. More details to come.
- Tuesday's from July 27th – August 17th (at the Recreation Park):
 - ❖ 10am – Craft in the Park
 - ❖ 3pm – 6pm – Farmers Market
 - ❖ 6pm – 8pm – Music in the Meadow
- Tuesday, August 10th - Blueberry Jam Festival in conjunction with Music in the Meadow.

- Athletics – January/February Report:

- Basketball went well; eight teams were formed.
- Tournaments - 3rd/4th grade girls was hosted in Grantham; 3rd/4th and 5th/6th grade boys and 5th/6th grade girls was hosted in Sunapee.
- Cheerleading – there were only five participants but they were energetic and supported the teams. Effort continues to grow this program.
- Softballs, T-Ball & Baseball registrations have been conducted. Registration deadline is March 12th. There was concern over the noise in Town Hall during registrations. Selectman Jones said there were some children playing with the microphone; that the parents need to pay better attention to their children.

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It was suggested a smaller space might help with the children running around. Director Googins will look to utilize the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room for future registrations.

Googins expressed concern over some children enrolling in other leagues and explained that Grantham is a member of the Upper Valley Recreation Association (UVRA) and Kearsarge Valley Cal Ripken League (KVCRL) their rules require Grantham children to participate in the Grantham team.

The Selectmen felt the rules of the UVRA & KVCRL should be followed.

- Work continues to find a volunteer for the tennis program.

Upcoming Events:

- Bike-a-thon to be held at GVS (date TBD)
- Pitch/Hit/Run to be held in April
- Field Hockey, basketball & soccer camps for the summer

➤ Police Department – February Report:

- A thank you was received from Robert Campbell for the prompt response to his residence.
- Recertification in CPR and AED training was conducted on February 9th.
- Sergeant Parsons attended training on “Large Party Dispersal” hosted by the New Hampshire Liquor Commission.
- Testing for the vacant Officer position was conducted on February 13th. A conditional offer of employment was executed. Chief Madore informed he received an email from the candidate withdrawing his application.
- Chief Madore suggested posted the road around Town Hall as “one way” during major events such as Town Meeting. The Selectmen felt this was a good idea and are considering making the road one way permanently.

➤ Town Administrator:

- Schedule – 3/16 – training; 3/19 & 20 out of office.
- Work continues on obtaining the signs to post the road around Town Hall as “not a through road”.
- Meeting with NH Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) and Jeff Earls, Cross Country Appraisal Group to start the Statistical update and review is scheduled for March 25th.
- Town Meeting reporting (required by DRA) is being worked on.
- March 15th at 2pm - Regional Broadband initiative forum in Enfield. This forum will provide an update on the “Fiber to Home” project. Selectman Kimball expressed interest in attending.

OTHER

- ### ➤ Resident Joey Holmes requested the following be added to the official minutes:

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"Selectmen Kimball is a TV celebrity!"

NON PUBLIC

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-A, the Grantham Board of Selectmen entered into Non-Public session at 6:02 p.m. to discuss several personnel matters. 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 6:48 pm.

OTHER

- A motion was made by Selectman Kimball to waive the Gravel Tax of .84 for M/L 226-018-000; second by Selectman Jones. ***Unanimously approved.***

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Jones moved to adjourn, second by Selectman Kimball; ***the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:50pm.***

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