

APPROVED

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

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:00pm on Wednesday, November 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; Administrative Assistant Melissa White; Fire Chief Jay Fountain; Transfer Station Supervisor Chris Scott; Rick Anderson; Todd Cartier; Joey Holmes; Andy Eastman; Ruth Ann Eastman; Suellen Griffin; Deputy Fire Chief David Beckley

ADMINISTRATIVE - APPROVED

- ✓ Building Permits:
 - a) M/L 215-087-000; 19 Trillium Lane – geothermal well

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✓ Chairman Haddock asked if there were any changes to the regular and non-public meeting minutes of October 27, 2010. There being none, a motion was made by Selectman Kimball to approve both the regular and non-public meeting minutes of October 27, 2010 minutes as written; second by Selectman Jones. ***Unanimously Approved.***

APPEARANCES

- Andy Eastman: On behalf of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Mr. Eastman asked for permission for patrons using Reney Memorial Forest to park in the town owned parking lot near the church. Chairman Haddock stated the Board of Selectmen do not have any problem with the parking lot being used; that the only concern was using the Library's parking lot. Mr. Eastman said they have contacted the Library and got their permission as well.

Mr. Eastman asked if a letter of approval to the Society for the Protection of NH Forests could be sent. Chairman Haddock requested Administrator Newton send the letter on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.
- Suellen Griffin, President/CEO of West Central Behavioral Health: Ms. Griffin stated that in past years Grantham had supported West Central Behavioral Health but didn't this year. Selectman Jones clarified that Grantham supported the financial request of \$2,420 but an invoice had never been received.

Ms. Griffin gave an overview of the services West Central Behavioral Health provides and stated last year services were provided to 67 Grantham residents and their families (29 children and 38 adults).

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- Transfer Station Supervisor Chris Scott: Supervisor Scott informed that the loader at the Transfer Station doesn't have the signals necessary to be on the road. Those include turn signals, back-up lights, back-up alarm and brake lights. Chairman Haddock asked if the loader was purchased that way. Scott said yes.

Selectman Jones felt the loader shouldn't be on the road without the warning signals and asked if the loader at the Highway Department could be used at the school instead. Selectman Kimball felt the Highway loader was capable of moving the snow banks at the school but it's not as big as the loader at the Transfer Station so it may take more time.

Chairman Haddock requested Scott to obtain quotes for the necessary signals.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Barbara Zoe LaGassa: A letter was received from Ms. LaGassa thanking the workers at the Transfer Station for their help.

OLD BUSINESS

- Fall/Winter Newsletter: Nearly complete.
- Broadband Internet Access: Newton informed that she has been in contact with Jesse Levine; that she is gathering the history. They are in the mapping stage now which will show where there is service and where there is poor service. Newton continues to work on this.
- E-911 Mapping: Newton informed the paperwork has been sent into the State of NH. Selectman Jones asked if there was a cost. Newton said no.

Newton informed that Grantham does have a number ordinance. Chief Madore stated his department is reminding residents that they have to prominently display their house number. Chief Fountain stated he made reference to it as will in the spring newsletter.
- Sale of the Wien House: Selectman Kimball informed the second deposit has been received; closing is expected in early December.
- Recreation Park Engineering: The contract will be sent to Town Counsel for review. A motion was made by Selectman Kimball to allow Administrator Newton to sign the contract on behalf of the Board of Selectmen after Town Counsel approval; second by Selectman Jones. **Unanimously approved.**
- Sawyer Brook Trees: Newton informed that the trees are being cut; that DA Carey is doing an exceptional job. Chief Madore stated that traffic delays were kept to a minimum.
- Criminal Background Check for Hawkers and Peddlers: No update.
- Conservation Commission - Shack on the Smith Lot: No update. Chairman Haddock felt the Town would have to decide what to do with the shack, if anything at all. Newton suggested imposing a deadline to remove the shack and issue a cease and desist if he [landowner] doesn't comply.

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NEW BUSINESS

- The next Selectmen's meeting was moved to Monday, November 22, 2010 at 5pm; Grantham Town Building, in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room.
- Credit Card Cardholder Agreement: This agreement is for employees that are issued a Town of Grantham credit card.
- Budget Review Sessions:
 - December 8th from 10:30am – 4:15pm
 - January 12th times TBD
- Petition Warrant Articles due by February 1, 2011.
- Public Budget Hearing:
 - February 2, 2011; 6pm – Grantham Town Hall, Lower Level
 - February 7, 2011 if needed.

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Highway Department – October Report:
 - Hauled gravel and shouldered the new pavement on Olde Farms and Dunbar Hill Road.
 - Performed equipment maintenance on the grader and both trucks.
 - Hauled gravel and graded New Aldrich Road.
 - Checked roads, cleaned up downed trees and fixed minor washouts on Rumbrook and Olde Farms Road.
 - Graded and raked Walker, Miller Pond and Burpee Hill Roads.
 - Replaced road signs as required on several roads.
- Fire Department – October Report:
 - Responded to 23 total calls; 13 Fire/Rescue and 10 EMS calls.
 - Training – Lieutenant LaHaye set up a Mayday class taught by Caption Jeremy Thibeault of Hanover Fire Department.
 - Fire Department Association held an open house on October 2nd and spaghetti dinner on October 9th. Both were well attended. Thanks to all who helped and donated to the events.
 - WebEOC training was attended by Fire Chief Fountain and Deputy Fire Chief Beckley on October 14th.
 - Chief Fountain and Lieutenant LaHaye assisted with the offsite evacuation at Grantham Village School on October 27th.
- Trustees of the Trust Funds - September Report: The September report was reviewed.
- Police Department – October Report:

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- 193 calls for service; 98 traffic stops.
- Participated in the Health Fair on October 2, 2010.
- Background checks are being conducted for the two prospective candidates.
- Sergeant Parsons attended a Domestic Violence Lethality Assessment training in Claremont that was sponsored by the AG's office.
- Chief Madore & Sergeant Parsons attended the WebEOC training on October 14th.
- Assisted Grantham Village School with their off-site evacuation drill.
- Handed out light sticks for Halloween.
- Warm welcome to Judy Desmarais as the new Police Department Secretary.

➤ Town Administrator:

- Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) is schedule to set the tax rate on Friday, November 12th at 10:30.
- Met with DRA regarding the statistical update and the data looks good. The concern is Cross Country Appraisal Group has been late with everything and they never sent out letters after the informal hearings, despite their contract says they would. Asked DRA if there are any repercussions.

Chairman Haddock stated that the DRA is very involved in the process and that Cross Country Appraisal Group was highly recommended by them [DRA].

Newton stated the Town still owes Cross Country Appraisal Group about \$12,500; that they still owe the Town USPap Report that is due sometime in January 2011. The Sales Analysis that lists the neighborhoods and comparables is also dues.

Newton stated she is concerned that when the December tax bills go out that might be the first notice to property owners of their assessment.

The Board of Selectmen requested Newton send Cross Country Appraisal Group a letter of concern.

- Estimates were obtained for completion of the dugouts at the Recreation Park. Chris Gaherty Carpentry for material and labor - \$1,650. Homes by Holmes for material and labor - \$1,630. Newton asked if either estimate included staining. Rick Anderson said no. A motion was made by Selectman Kimball to expend up to \$1,650 for completion of the dugouts to come from, in part from, the profit from the 'Run for the Rec' event, which was held in October; second by Selectman Jones. **Unanimously approved.**

Chairman Haddock informed the staining will be done in the spring.

OTHER

Resident Joey Holmes asked if the road by the Wien house would be available for use after the house is sold. Selectman Kimball stated there is an intermittent right-of-way but it's not intended for daily use. Rick Anderson said the Recreation Park Committee hopes to have a road to the playground area as the park is developed.

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NON PUBLIC

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-A & C, a motion was made by Selectman Kimball, second by Selectman Jones to enter into a Non-Public session at 5:55 p.m. to discuss a personnel and welfare matter. Present were: Chairman Harold Haddock, Selectman Kimball, Selectman Constance Jones, 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 6:09 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Kimball moved to adjourn, second by Selectman Jones; ***by unanimous vote, the Board adjourned at 6:09pm.***

The next Selectmen's Meeting is scheduled to be held on **Monday, November 22, 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*