

# APPROVED

## Town of Grantham - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting & Public Hearing Minutes February 12, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:00pm on Wednesday, February 12, 2014 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; Fire Chief Jay Fountain; Bonnie Lariviere; Mary Cantlin; Michael Whipple; Jeremiah Stearns; Police Chief Walter Madore, Sr.; C. Peter James

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Town Administrator Melissa White

### ADMINISTRATIVE - APPROVED

- ✓ Payroll Manifest #414
- ✓ Accounts Payable Manifest #399/#429
- ✓ Timber Tax – M/L 220-028-000; William Ruger - \$2,664.37
- ✓ Intent to Cut – M/L 241-007-018; Shedd Road
- ✓ Transfer from Reclamation Fund to General Fund - \$481.00
- ✓ Building Permits:
  - M/L 221-061-002; 382 Burpee Hill Road - Generator
  - M/L 222-051-003; 26 Pleasant Drive - Remodel

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the regular and non-public minutes of December 11, 2013 as revised, and the January 22, 2014 and February 5, 2014 minutes as written was made by Selectman Story; seconded by Selectman Jones. **Unanimously approved.**

### PUBLIC HEARING:

Chairman Kimball opened the public hearing on the renumbering and road name change of Al Smith Road and Hastings Hill Road at 5:02pm. Kimball introduced Kenny-Lynn Dempsey, State of New Hampshire, Division of Emergency Services and Communications E9-1-1 Field Representative.

Kimball explained that E9-1-1 has informed the Town of the addressing concerns of Al Smith Road and Hastings Hill Road which if not corrected could potentially delay emergency response.

Mary Cantlin of 223 Hastings Hill Road stated she has had two 9-1-1 calls and there hasn't been a problem including when Newport Fire Department responded mutual aid. Ms. Cantlin felt the road is well defined with a road sign; that there is a definitive place where Hastings Hill Road makes a right angle.

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Jeremiah Stearns stated that where his house sits is down from where the Hastings Hill sign is and his legal address is 65 Al Smith Road. Stearns stated he has not put a mailbox up yet since he is not sure if his address will remain 65 Al Smith Road.

Mr. Stearns stated that originally when the subdivision was put in the road was called Al Smith Road Extension and felt it would be easier to keep the road name as Al Smith Road. Stearns stated that if someone was using Google maps it shows Al Smith Road all the way through.

Bonnie Laviriere of 298 Hastings Hill Road said that when she first moved there the road was called Al Smith Road; that her address has been changed a few times.

Chairman Kimball said the two problems are the road name change and the numbering of the structures sequentially.

Ms. Cantlin felt the state was putting residents through a lot of expense to change the numbering of the road. Cantlin reiterated her feeling that it's not a problem.

E-911 Field Representative Kenny-Lynn Dempsey stated that the State understands that Grantham Police/Fire/EMS know where residents are and explained that the reason the state makes the recommendations for addressing standards is so that if there was a large emergency where other mutual aid jurisdictions would have to come in it would be confusing for them.

Peter James felt, that serving as a volunteer Firefighter for many years in another town, having confusing street names and number can be a real issue and has witnessed times when an ambulance or fire truck went to the wrong location resulting in valuable time being lost. Mr. James stated the reason why the 50 foot numbering increments is standard is so when emergency responders are called they know how far up the road to go.

Ms. Cantlin felt that just changing the numbering on the first section of Al Smith Road would suffice.

Cantlin reiterated that she felt there was a clear distinction where Hastings Hill Road begins.

Fire Chief Fountain stated his biggest concern is with the numbering of the structures.

Police Chief Madore stated his biggest concern is also with the numbering of the structures.

Michael Whipple felt the road issues should be addressed at the Planning Board level when the subdivision was approved.

Ms. Cantlin felt that it would be equally confusing to have a portion of the road public and the other portion private and if the town is going to rename the road that they should take over the maintenance of it.

Chairman Kimball stated the town would not take over maintenance of a road just because of a name change.

Kenny-Lynn Dempsey stated that it is pretty common to have a road where a portion of it is public and the other portion private.

Kimball stated that tonight's public hearing was just to receive public comment and asked that if anyone else on the road has any concerns to contact the Selectmen so they can make an informed decision.

Bonnie Laviriere stated she didn't think anyone cared what was done as long as they don't have to change their address again.

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Ms. Cantlin stated she understands the point about the emergency vehicles and numbering scheme and thought that it was valid, but asked that a compromise be considered that keeps the residents from having to change everything with everyone they do business with but also helps out emergency responders.

Chairman Kimball stated he understands; that he has lived in the same place for many years and has had four different addresses.

Chairman Kimball thanked Kenny-Lynn Dempsey and all those in attendance and closed the public hearing at 5:15pm.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Community Alliance of Human Services – A letter was received from Community Alliance of Human Services which outlined the services available to individuals and families in Grantham. The family services include:

- Juvenile and Adult Court Diversion Program
- Community Service Program
- Adolescents Dealing with Anger and Conflict (ADAC)
- Students Talking About Responsible Decisions (STARD)
- Teen Alcohol Awareness Program (TAAP)
- Tobacco Options
- Youth Educational Shoplifting Program (YES)
- Parenting Wisely

2. Supervisor of the Checklist Jane Taylor – A letter was received from Jane Taylor resigning from her position as Supervisor of the Checklist. The Board extended their gratitude for her service to Grantham.

Administrator White informed that the remaining Supervisors appoint a replacement; that Suzanne S. Goldman has been appointed.

3. Conservation Commission Alternate Member Joseph Watts – A letter was received from Joseph Watts resigning from his position as an Alternate member of the Conservation Commission. The Board extended their gratitude for his service to Grantham.
4. New London Hospital – A letter was received from New London Hospital informing that the cost for ambulance service for 2014 is \$41,152.92
5. Bill Sullivan – A note was received from Bill Sullivan informing that the "yearly potholes" have begun to resurface on Willis Avenue again. Administrator White stated that Willis Avenue is a private road and the owner(s) are responsible for its maintenance.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Old Farms Road Bridge – No new information. Peter James stated that traditionally utilities put their poles, conduits etc. in a town's right-of-way and when the town has a road project that requires them to be moved they (the utility) does so at their cost and not the municipality. Mr. James said that although he doesn't know what the law is

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today, but before he retired, the utilities attempted to get legislation to allow them to recover those costs but it was never passed. James said he does not know if that has changed since then but if it has changed then Grantham should be very concerned any time the town does any road work that requires work by a utility because the \$10,000 paid to Fairpoint for the pole relocation in conjunction with this bridge project is a lot of money. James felt precedence was being made by paying the money and asked if Public Service of NH also charged the town.

Administrator White stated that when he (James) had emailed her last summer about the pole relocation cost, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) was contacted and they (PUC) said that years ago utilities did in fact used to do the work free for municipalities but they don't anymore; nor is it regulated by the PUC.

Mr. James suggested the town not pay the bill because it would be setting a precedent and stated he would check with NH Department of Transportation to see if they pay utilities.

Mr. James said that he knows Fairpoint has changed their tariffs and things that were regulated have become unregulated and as a taxpayer he is really concerned.

Mr. James asked about pole licensing. White said she didn't have all the information on pole licensing since Grantham gets so few of them.

2. Archives Basement Floor – The project is done with the final bill being \$1,026.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Property Revaluation RFP Opening:

- KRT Appraisal - \$118,000
- Vision Government Solutions – \$89,300
- Commerford, Neider, Perkins - \$134,600

Selectman Jones stated that the full property revaluation is required by the state every ten years; that no decision would be made tonight.

2. Damaged Police Cruiser: Chief Madore requested the Board consider using the Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, insurance and Police Department operating monies to replace the damaged cruiser as soon as possible to ease the burden placed on the other two front-line cruisers.

Selectman Jones asked if the Board approved the Chief's request, if the cruiser article on the Town Warrant would be removed. Chief Madore said yes. The Board felt that because the cruiser was damaged in an accident and no longer usable that replacing it now is the best thing to do.

A motion was made by Selectman Story to approve Chief Madore's request and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$16,000 from the Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of replacing the damaged police cruiser; second by Selectman Jones.  
***Unanimously approved.***

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## DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

### ➤ Fire Department – January Report

- Responded to a total of 23 calls; 9 calls for EMS and 14 calls for fire/rescue.
- Department training was Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) & Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).
- Five department members attended The Art of Reading Smoke seminar in Lebanon.
- Chief Fountain attended the Upper Valley Mutual Aid meeting and the Mid-Western Hazardous Materials meetings.
- Deputy Chief Beckley attended the Kearsarge mutual aid meeting.
- Chief Fountain stated that many members of his department, himself included, really enjoy working with the two new Police Officers (Dakota Titorenko-Geary and Ryan Gamble); that they are very helpful and very good on the scene.

### ➤ Police Department – January Report

- Sergeant Parsons has started teaching the D.A.R.E. program to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at GVS.
- Officer Gamble received a thank you card for assisting a motorist during a snowstorm in December.
- Officer Titorenko-Geary attended a 3-day "Reponse to Active Shooter" training. Chief Madore stated the first day is in the classroom and working with the shooting simulator that our insurance company, Primex, has.
- January 25<sup>th</sup> Sergeant Parsons assisted the Daisy and Brownie Girl Scout Troops in completing their safety badge.
- January 28<sup>th</sup> Chief Madore assisted the Cub Scout Bear Den the requirements toward their Bear Scout Achievement 7 Badge "Law Enforcement Is A Big Job".
- Chairman Kimball informed that Chief Madore had provided the Board with his response to the letter received from Fred Heineman.

### ➤ Transfer Station – December Report

Solid Waste - 10 runs; total tonnage of 95.63 tons

Construction Demolition Debris - 6 Runs; 15.7 tons

Glass - 1 load 7.31; tons Expense \$168.13

Light Iron - 1 load 2.8829; tons Revenue \$648.88

Tires - 1 load 2.65 tons; Expense \$304.75 (paid from of Reclamation Fund)

Cardboard - 1 load 18.19 tons; Revenue \$2,138.85

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Fibers - Mixed Loose - (Paper) - 3 Loads 11.56 tons  
Revenue \$404.60  
Expense \$550

Comingle - w/o glass (Plastic) - 2 loads; 4.83 tons  
Revenue \$0.00  
Expense \$1201.75

Total Tonnage of Material taken away 159.6529 tons  
Tickets collected at Transfer Station \$1,135  
Total Revenue from recycling \$3,950.97  
Total Expenses from recycling \$838.88  
Net Revenue from recycling \$3,112.09

The increase in MSW loads this month came from the holidays and some were duplicates as canisters were frozen and had to be brought a second time.

- Trustees of the Trust Funds – January update was reviewed.
- Town Administrator
  - The FY2013 audit report was received.
  - Upcoming Meetings:
    - Zoning Board of Adjustment – February 27<sup>th</sup> - Cancelled
    - Conservation Commission – February 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

## **NON-PUBLIC**

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

***Following proper vote, the Board returned from Non-Public session at 6:10 pm.***

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## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Story moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Jones; **by unanimous vote, the Board adjourned at 6:10 pm.**

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 26, 2014** at 5pm in the Grantham Town Building; Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melissa M. White*

Melissa White

Town Administrator