

Approved

Town of Grantham

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2017

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:02pm on Wednesday, August 16, 2017 by Chairman Sheridan Brown. The meeting was held in the Grantham Town Building, Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Present: Chairman Sheridan Brown; Selectman Warren Kimball; Selectman Constance Jones; Town Administrator Melissa White; Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper; Fire Chief Jay Fountain; Police Chief John Parsons; and C. Peter James

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the regular and non-public meeting minutes of June 21, 2017 and August 2, 2017 as written was made by Selectman Jones; seconded by Selectman Kimball. ***Unanimously approved.***

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Payroll Manifest #511
2. Accounts Payable Manifest #561
3. Reimbursement to the Reclamation Fund - \$8,727.50
4. Building Permit:
 - a. M/L 227-003-007; 1054 Dunbar Hill Road – Solar Roof Array

A motion to move for adoption of the Consent Calendar was made by Selectman Kimball; seconded by Selectman Jones. ***Unanimously approved.***

PUBLIC HEARING - PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF NH RSA 31:95-B, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCEPTING UNANTICIPATED FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$57,836.53 AS AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT FUNDS PURSUANT TO SENATE BILL 38.

Chairman Brown opened the Public Hearing pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 31:95-b, for the purpose of accepting unanticipated funds from the State of New Hampshire in the amount of \$57,836.53 as an additional appropriation of Highway Block Grant Funds pursuant to Senate Bill 38.

The Public Hearing was kept open for the duration of the meeting.

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A motion to accept the funds from the State of New Hampshire in the amount of \$57,836.53 as an additional appropriation of Highway Block Grant Funds pursuant to Senate Bill 38 was made by Selectman Jones; seconded by Selectman Kimball. **Unanimously approved.**

Road Agent Jeff Hastings said he provided White with a detailed breakdown of costs for the New Aldrich Road paving project for the Board's review and explained in detail that the entire road will be prepped and ready should they decide to pursue that project.

Selectman Jones informed that she spoke with Engineer Peter Blakeman about the Olde Farms Road Bridge Guardrails and Blakeman said that was all set and it was mentioned in the November 9, 2016 Board of Selectmen minutes.

Chairman Brown asked Selectman Jones and Selectman Kimball what they would like to do with the funds. Selectman Jones said that since the money is for road improvement and New Aldrich Road is one of the bad roads in the spring during mud season, she felt that this would be the perfect opportunity to get one road completely done and be finished with it especially since asphalt is currently at a low price and the Highway Department is already paving the road up to a certain point. Selectman Kimball agreed and added that completing New Aldrich Road now would decrease the cost of future maintenance such as the road wouldn't have to be graded and plowing would be simpler. Chairman Brown was not in support of the idea and disliked quickly spending non-lapsing funds. He said he understood all of the explanations in support of that project but during the budget process, they had a five year plan and New Aldrich Road was not at the top of the list and now instead of following the plan, they are switching up the order. Brown also felt that it was a large amount of money to extend to a no bid contract and wondered if a larger contract was put out for bid to begin with if they would have received better bids. He was not in agreement.

Selectman Jones asked Chairman Brown what he would envision if they didn't put this money towards completing New Aldrich Road. Brown said it would be to move forward with the items on the five year plan in order. Hastings commented that the price of paving could greatly increase next year and felt that they would get the best bang for the buck now while paving prices are low and they are already working on New Aldrich Road. Brown said he understood that but it was his opinion that there were a lot of variables there and, again, it goes back to the priority of the five year plan.

Selectman Jones asked Hastings why he didn't put New Aldrich Road on the five year plan as the first priority. Hastings replied that he didn't want to go to the taxpayers and ask for that much money; that he had to use the money budgeted to take care of that road and other roads. He said he looked at it budget wise and requested \$100,000 for paving and would do what could be done with that money. He continued that the first items on the five year list are for routine maintenance, not paving, and this was an opportunity to pave that stretch of New Aldrich Road in its entirety.

Selectman Kimball said he thought it made sense to complete New Aldrich Road for a number of reasons including everyone has already mobilized there and also the savings of not having to put down gravel and grade the road during mud season. Hastings added there is a lot of traffic on that road because it is used as a short cut for Olde Farms Road.

Selectman Jones reiterated that if they have the opportunity to get one road done, they should take it. Selectman Kimball agreed.

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A motion to accept the proposed contract amendment with Pike Industries in the amount of \$157,844.88 to completely pave New Aldrich Road was made by Selectman Jones; seconded by Selectman Kimball. **Approved by majority vote.**

Roll Call vote on the above motion:	Chairman Sheridan Brown;	No
	Selectman Warren Kimball;	Yes
	Selectman Constance Jones;	Yes

CITIZEN COMMENTS

C. Peter James said he has had several emails back and forth with the assessor concerning the way that generators and other such features are assessed and stated that it's interesting to note that if you have an older home that has depreciated some and you install a generator, the generator gets depreciated at the same rate as the house. He asked if someone were to submit a building permit to finish a basement or put an addition on a house if that would get depreciated at the rate of the existing house. Town Administrator White suggested James come into the office to talk with the Assessor when he is here.

OLD BUSINESS

Comcast Cable Agreement: The Selectmen received the Comcast Proposal but have not had enough time to review it. The discussion will be postponed until everyone has had a chance to review the Proposal. Chairman Brown mentioned that Comcast opted for a five year agreement instead of doing more of a buildout as was discussed. He suggested that if there is a renewal provision in the proposal that makes it automatically renew in five years, they pull that out and make it clear that Comcast needs to come back here in five years and renegotiate the agreement.

Investment Policy: The Selectmen needed more time to review the Investment Policy before having a discussion. White said the Board has to review the Investment Policy annually and it was last reviewed on September 14, 2016 so there is still time. Brown asked White if she has had a chance to talk with Treasurer Maynard Goldman about the Collateralization Agreement with Lake Sunapee Bank now that it is doing business as Bar Harbor Bank. White stated that Bar Harbor Bank is honoring the agreement and that she has it in writing on letterhead from Lake Sunapee Bank/Bar Harbor Bank.

NEW BUSINESS

Acceptance of unanticipated funds less than \$10,000 (no public hearing required pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 31:95-b): Donation from Kimball Farm of Jaffrey, NH, in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Town's 250th Anniversary Fireworks Display.

A motion to accept the \$1,000.00 donation from Kimball Farm of Jaffrey, NH for the Town's 250th Anniversary Fireworks Display was made by Selectman Jones; seconded by Selectman Kimball. **Unanimously approved.**

The Selectmen will send a thank you note to Kimball Farm.

Addendum to Fireworks Contract: The donation of \$1,000.00 from Kimball Farm allows the town to do a larger fireworks display. White worked with Northstar Fireworks to get an Addendum to

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the original contract that states the cost is changing from \$7,000 to \$8,000 and they have given the Board a very specific description of the display showing what the extra \$1,000 will provide.

A motion to accept the Northstar Fireworks Contract Amendment was made by Selectman Jones; seconded by Selectman Kimball. **Unanimously approved.**

An agreement drafted by Chairman Brown for Connie Howard who owns the parcels abutting the Recreation Park was reviewed. Chief Parsons previously noted that we should have an agreement with her to give the town authority to clear that part of the safety zone.

Police Department – July Report: Sgt. Cunningham has assumed his duties effective July 10, 2017. This has been a very smooth transition and he has already contributed to the agency.

The July 4th Parade and Old Home Day Celebration was well attended and it appeared that everyone had a good time.

Sgt. Cunningham participated in Local Hero's day at the Eastman Kid City Camp, where the kids enjoyed sitting in the cruiser and talking about all of his gear. A copy of the thank you card is attached.

Police Chief Parsons presented a one-pot methamphetamine awareness to the Eastman Woodlands and Wildlife committee on July 13, 2017.

The Department received a thank you card from a community member for assisting with funeral services for a departed loved one.

On August 18, 2017 from 6:00am to 10:00am, Chief Parsons will be participating in the "Cop on Top" which is a NH Special Olympics fundraiser at Dunkin Donuts whereas he will be up on the roof waving at people. Some of the folks from Special Olympics as well as some of the athletes will be there. This is new to New Hampshire and Grantham was chosen as well as Campton and Plymouth as sites.

Town Administrator: White said she received an email from a resident stating that he had yet to meet Chief Parsons but he likes his outreach effort and kudos to him and the Grantham Police Department.

Trustees of the Trust Funds July Report: The Trustees of the Trust Funds July Report was reviewed. Trustee Rob Fogg noted that the transition to Sugar River Bank went well.

Something good: Brown stated the community outreach by Chief Parsons has been great.

Brown also noted that the Garden Club hired an ambitious young man to dig up everything that was in the triangle garden by hand which was some very hard packed top soil and they have now replanted and it is looking good. The Board would like to thank the Garden Club for the nice work at the triangle garden.

Selectman Kimball informed that there was a request before the Planning Board for approval of a sign that already exists, and happens to be on town property, but no one showed up for the meeting. The Planning Board postponed the request until the next meeting as long as the requesting party or a representative attends the meeting. Kimball thought the Board should take action to have the sign removed pending a decision by the Planning Board. Chairman

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Brown and Selectman Jones agreed. Brown commented that if the Planning Board approved the sign, it would have to be moved anyway as it is on town property. A motion to send a Notice of Violation to the party involved was made by Selectman Kimball; seconded by Selectman Jones. **Unanimously approved.**

NON-PUBLIC

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-e, a motion was made by Selectman Kimball and seconded by Selectman Jones to enter into a Non-Public session at 5:35pm. Present were: Chairman Sheridan Brown; Selectman Warren Kimball; Selectman Constance Jones; Town Administrator Melissa White; and Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper

Roll Call vote to enter non-public session:	Chairman Sheridan Brown;	Yes
	Selectman Warren Kimball	Yes
	Selectman Constance Jones;	Yes

A motion to leave Non-Public session and return to Public Session at 5:40pm was made by Selectman Kimball; seconded by Selectman Jones. **Unanimously approved.**

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-d, a motion was made by Selectman Kimball and seconded by Selectman Jones to enter into a Non-Public session at 5:40pm. Present were: Chairman Sheridan Brown; Selectman Warren Kimball; Selectman Constance Jones; Town Administrator Melissa White; and Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper

Roll Call vote to enter non-public session:	Chairman Sheridan Brown;	Yes
	Selectman Warren Kimball	Yes
	Selectman Constance Jones;	Yes

A motion to leave Non-Public session and return to Public Session at 5:50pm was made by Selectman Jones; seconded by Chairman Brown. **Unanimously approved.**

A motion to seal the minutes of this non-public session was made by Chairman Kimball; seconded by Selectman Jones. **Unanimously approved.**

ADJOURNMENT

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

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 30, 2017** at 5:00pm in the Grantham Town Building; Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann Jasper
Administrative Assistant