

APPROVED

Town of Grantham - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes February 9, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:00pm on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 by Chairman Harold Haddock Jr. The meeting was held in the Grantham Town Building, Lower Level at 300 Route 10 South.

Present: Chairman Harold Haddock Jr.; Selectman Constance Jones; Selectman Warren Kimball; Town Administrator Becky Newton; Administrative Assistant Melissa White; EMD F. Robert Osgood; Fire Chief Jay Fountain; Deputy Fire Chief David Beckley; Fire Lieutenant Kevin LaHaye; Michael Whipple; Melissa Hautaniemi

ADMINISTRATIVE

For Approval/Signature - APPROVED

- ✓ 2010 Equalization Ratio Study
- ✓ Property Tax Abatement: M/L 241-006-000; 119 Shedd Road - \$3,787.39
- ✓ NH Department of Revenue Administration – Auditor Option and Schedule

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✓ Chairman Haddock asked if there were any changes to the regular meeting minutes of January 26, 2011. There being none, a motion was made by Selectman Kimball to approve the regular meeting minutes as written; second by Selectman Jones.
Unanimously Approved.

APPEARANCES

- Mike Whipple: Resident Mike Whipple introduced himself to the Board of Selectmen and stated he had some things to discuss but in the interest of time would save it for another meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice: An invitation was received from Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice for their annual meeting to be held on February 15, 2011 at 4pm at the Wilmot Community Center in New London.
- Local Government Center (LGC): Two public hearing notices were received from LGC on the rate setting for its Health Trust coverage on February 15, 2011 at 11am at the Derry Municipal Center in Derry, NH and on February 16, 2011 at 6:30pm at the Plymouth Elementary School in Plymouth, NH.

APPROVED

- United States Senator Kelly Ayotte: A letter was received from US Senator Kelly Ayotte to open up a line of communication and requested the Selectmen to contact her on matters of importance to Grantham or the State of NH.
- New Hampshire City and Town Clerk's Association (NHCTCA): A letter was received from the NHCTCA that details their opposition of proposed legislation LSR930.
- Donna Lancaster: An email was received from Donna Lancaster about her concern with the Town Office being closed to often. Newton stated that the Town Offices had only been closed on February 2, 2011.
- 2011 Declared Candidates for Town Offices: A report of declared candidates for 2011 was received.
- Robert and Mauri Schwartz: In response to the Wetlands Protection Program letter that was sent, individual letters were received from Robert & Mauri Schwartz that stated that no one has permission to go on any of their properties for any reason.

OLD BUSINESS

- Right-to-Know request - List Serv Email Addresses: Administrator Newton informed that she has drafted a response to Phil Schaefer denying the release of the email addresses of those who have subscribed to the Town's list serv. Newton stated the reasons for the denial is because Town Counsel has said that it could be an invasion of privacy because they invite mail correspondence going into a home; that the courts have said that an unwarranted invasion into a person's home can constitute an invasion of privacy.

Newton stated the other reason for denial was because of all the disclaimers that pop-up when someone signs up for the Town's list serv. Newton explained that the disclaimers, privacy and "links" policies give the public the impression that the Town will keep their information protected.

- Local Food Pantry: Newton informed a Food Pantry will open at 65 Roses on February 12, 2011. Food donations brought to the town offices will be brought alternately to the Grantham Food Pantry, Newport Food Pantry and Listen Community Services.
- Juniper Hills Subdivision & Croydon Access: Newton stated she has drafted a letter that asks the company what their plans were and that they meet with the Selectmen or Planning Board about the temporary road into Croydon.

Chairman Haddock said the Board understood the road to be permanent.

- Online Access of Assessing Data: No update.
- Recreation Park Engineering: Newton stated the Recreation Committee has been working with TF Moran and moving forward on a master plan. The construction estimate for the soccer fields was approximately \$300,000. The committee has asked TF Moran to do a revised estimate that includes a reduction in drainage needs.

A revised estimate is expected by February 23, 2011. The Recreation Committee is looking to conduct a public forum before Town Meeting so residents will know what the warrant article money is needed for.

A motion was made by Selectman Kimball to approve payment to TF Moran for engineering of the Recreation Park in the amount of \$5,647.28; second by Selectman Jones. ***Unanimously approved.***

APPROVED

- Conservation Commission - Shack on the Smith Lot: Newton stated she has drafted a letter informing that the shack must be removed by July 31, 2011. If the structure is still there a "cease and desist" will be issued along with a \$275 per day fine.

NEW BUSINESS

- Deputy Emergency Management Director (EMD) Appointment: A motion was made by Selectman Jones to appoint David Beckley and Kevin LaHaye both as Deputy Emergency Management Director's; second by Selectman Kimball. ***Unanimously approved.***

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Police Department – January Report: The January Police Department report was reviewed.
- Town Administrator:
 - Groundskeeper review: Newton stated that Groundskeeper Glenn Carey has completed his probationary period and felt the work he does is excellent.
A motion was made by Selectman Jones to increase the pay rate of Groundskeeper Carey by 25 cents per hour; second by Selectman Kimball. ***Unanimously approved.***
 - There was a collision with the Highway Loader and another vehicle. The insurance claim is expected to be substantial due to the other vehicle being a Mercedes Benz.
 - The claim for the trees falling at the Transfer Station is ready to be closed out and Primex was not going to cover the damage to the employees' vehicles saying that the trees falling were "an act of God". Now Primex is willing to offer 50% subrogation.
Selectman Jones stated she would recuse herself from the decision.
Newton explained that Primex was not going to pay anything on the claim for the damage to the employees' vehicles but they offered to pay 50% and that the Selectmen have to decide if 50% is okay.
Chairman Haddock and Selectman Kimball felt that 50% was not acceptable. Newton stated she would advise Primex of the Board's decision and that the claim could be closed and they could subrogate the vehicle damage.

OTHER

Building Supervisor Bob Osgood discussed his concern with the snow load on the roof of town hall and suggested an Engineer look at it. The Board of Selectmen will review the snow load capacity that was provided to them in April 2008 by Timothy Schaal, P.E.

APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Kimball moved to adjourn, second by Selectman Jones; ***by unanimous vote, the Board adjourned at 5:25pm.***

RECONVENED

The Board of Selectmen re-convened the meeting at 5:26pm. Victoriah Smith discussed booths at Town Meeting and stated that "booth" requests should be directed to her.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Kimball moved to adjourn, second by Selectman Jones; ***by unanimous vote, the Board adjourned at 5:31pm.***

The next Selectmen's Meeting is scheduled to be held on **Wednesday, February 23, 2011** at 5:00PM in the Grantham Town Building; Jerry Whitney Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa M. White

*Melissa M. White
Administrative Assistant*