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Town of Grantham - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes April 25, 2012

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:06pm on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 by Selectman Constance Jones. The meeting was held in the Grantham Town Building, Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Present: Selectman Constance Jones; Selectman Ken Story; Town Administrator Melissa White; Police Chief Walter Madore; Fire Chief Jay Fountain; Todd Cartier, Brian Hastings, Charles Wadleigh

ADMINISTRATIVE

For Approval/Signature - APPROVED

- ✓ Building Permits:
 - a. M/L 236-064-000; 2573 Stoney Brook Road – pave driveway
 - b. M/L 213-145-000; 46 Bright Slope Way – remodel kitchen
 - c. M/L 221-007-000; Rawson Ridge – new home
- ✓ Elderly Exemptions:
 - a. M/L 234-139-000; 70 Heath Lane
 - b. M/L 233-086-000; 121 Route 114
 - c. M/L 221-003-000; 841 Route 10 North
 - d. M/L 235-027-009; 96 Woodland Heights
 - e. M/L 236-034-000; 249 Stocker Pond Road
- ✓ Veteran's Credit Applications:
 - a. M/L 215-071-000; 11 Trillium Lane – Peggy Lahs
 - b. M/L 235-027-009; 96 Woodland Heights – Frederick Jaskolka
 - c. M/L 216-181-000; 7 Mill Pond Lane – Barbara Whited
- ✓ Intent to Cut:
 - a. M/L 221-052-000; 626 Route 10 North
 - b. M/L 222-001-002; 403 Burpee Hill Road
- ✓ Property Tax Abatements *Granted*:
 - a. M/L 215-104-000; 7 Granite Way – (Corrected) \$3,886.38
 - b. M/L 222-148-002; 6 Pleasant Drive - \$692.56
 - c. M/L 215-009-041; 841 Cove Drive - \$598.13
 - d. M/L 221-030-000; 90 New Aldrich Road - \$296.59
 - e. M/L 234-098-000; 36 Greensward Drive - \$760.50

Property Tax Abatements *DENIED*:

- a. M/L 222-077-000; 29 Summit Drive

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ✓ Selectman Jones asked if there were any changes to the regular and non-public meeting minutes of April 11, 2012. A motion was made by Selectman Story to approve the April 11, 2012 minutes as written; seconded by Selectman Jones. ***Approved by majority vote.***

CORRESPONDENCE

- Chapin Senior Center: A thank you was received from Chapin Senior Center for the 2012 Town Meeting financial support of \$2,500.
- Coalition Communities: A letter was received from Coalition Communities urging the Board of Selectmen to reach out to our Legislators to pass a constitutional amendment that would allow citizens of New Hampshire to vote on how they want to fund education. Selectman Jones felt it was important to send a letter to our Legislators on the issue of education funding.

OLD BUSINESS

- Ambulance Study: Administrator White said she doesn't have any new information. Chief Fountain said in 2011 Newport Ambulance was called ten times.
- Back-up System for Town Archives Computer: White said it was recommended by the Town's IT person to use a flash drive to back up the computer.
- Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) – ETAP Program: White said she doesn't have any new information on this agenda item.
- Recreation Park Development: White informed the bids for the athletic field were due Monday, April 23, 2012 by 3pm; only one bid was received from Casella Construction, Inc. The bids were opened on Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at 10am with TF Moran's Jeff Kevan and Dan Blais, Town Administrator Melissa White and Grantham resident Bob MacNeil. Casella's bid was for \$448,800.

There was much discussion about how much money there is to build the field. White said there is approximately \$248,000 from the sale of the Wien house but is unsure how much money is left from the Timken Foundation grant.

Selectman Jones felt more than one bid was needed before making a decision and would like Selectman Kimball to review it as well, since he has been working so closely with the development of the field. Selectman Story agreed.

Jones would like to see the project re-bid, more vigorously. Story asked why only one bid was received. White said she was unsure; that only Casella and Hastings Construction attended the pre-bid meeting.

Jones asked Brian Hastings of Hastings Construction why he didn't bid on the project. Mr. Hastings said that as a taxpayer of Grantham he wasn't satisfied with the engineering of the field. Hastings said he agreed with a lot of the engineer's plans but felt some aspects

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of the plan such as the requirement for 50/50 sand/loam mix. Hastings felt that ratio won't survive in the summer without irrigation. Hastings recommended the Board ask other soil/turf professionals their opinion about the 50/50 sand/loam mix.

Jones asked if the current field is adequate. Members of the Recreation Park Committee said yes.

Charles Wadleigh from Casella Construction said they put a lot of time and effort into the bid and was disappointed more bids weren't received.

Todd Cartier said he was disappointed with TF Moran and pointed out they didn't show up at the mandatory meeting that they [TF Moran] requested. White asked if she should request a credit from TF Moran for not coming to the pre-bid. The Board said yes.

Jones said the Selectman Kimball has been the point person for this project and felt more comfortable waiting for his return to make a decision. Jones requested a spreadsheet of how much money is left from the Timken Foundation grant money be provided to the Board.

A meeting will be arranged for next week when Selectman Kimball is available to continue this discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

- Shoreland Protection Cutting Plan; M/L 222-142-000 – Pioneer Point: White said Conservation Chair Richard Hocker has reviewed this cutting plan and recommends the Board approve it. A motion was made by Selectman Story to approve the Shoreland Protection Cutting Plan for M/L 222-142-000 on Pioneer Point; seconded by Selectman Jones. ***Approved by majority vote.***
- Invoice from TF Moran: A motion was made by Selectman Jones to approve the payment of \$2,345.20 to TF Moran and to permit Administrator White to request the funds from the Timken Foundation grant money held by the Trustees of the Trusts Funds; seconded by Selectman Story. ***Approved by majority vote.***

Jones requested all future invoices from TF Moran be brought before the Board before they are paid.

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Fire Department – March Report:
 - Responded to nine calls that consisted of four EMS and five fire/rescue calls.
 - Chief Fountain attended the Kearsarge Mutual Aid meeting as well as the Upper Valley Mutual Aid meeting where a new communication plan was adopted.
 - Chief Fountain completed the ICS-400 course.
 - Department training in April will be forestry review and chemical assisted suicide with Assistant Fire Chief Libby from Lebanon, NH.

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➤ Town Clerk/Tax Collector Update:

- Loss of the debit machine has not been an issue.
- On April 6, 2012 the tax lien was executed for 2011 unpaid property taxes in the amount of \$118,307.05.
- A list of tax deeding possibilities will be given to the Board in May.

➤ Town Administrator:

- After receiving several complaints regarding the pot hole on Willis Avenue White contacted Alan Hanscom, District 2 Engineer for the State Department of Transportation and he has said it is the responsibility of the access owner. A letter was sent to the property owner, Robert Schwartz, requesting it be repaired.
- A motion was made by Selectman Story to enter into the partnership agreement for the NH Regional Planning Program with Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission and to allow Administrator White to sign on the town's behalf; seconded by Selectman Jones. **Approved by majority vote.**
- Application, certification and agreement form for the Federal Surplus Property was signed.
- A quote was obtained from Local Government Center for dental insurance. White said we can increase the annual maximum benefit from \$1000/year to \$2000/year for less than what is being paid now. A motion was made by Selectman Story to increase the dental coverage to \$2000/per year effective July 1, 2012; seconded by Selectman Jones. **Approved by majority vote.**
- Fern Laramie of Howe Hill Road requested permission to place a bench at Brookside Park in memory of her daughter. This would be at the expense of Mrs. Laramie.

The Board approved the request with the condition the Conservation Commission approves.

- The April and May schedule for the Selectmen's office was reviewed.
- White stated that at the 2011 Town Meeting, Article 19 was approved for the purchase of a mower and requested permission to have Groundskeeper Carey obtain some quotes. The Board approved the request.

NON PUBLIC

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-A, a motion was made by Selectman Story, seconded by Selectman Jones to enter into a Non-Public session at 6:10 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Present were: Selectman Constance Jones, Selectman Ken Story, Town Administrator Melissa White and Police Chief Walter Madore.

Following proper vote, the Board returned from Non-Public session at 6:40pm.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Jones moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Jones; ***by majority vote, the Board adjourned at 6:43pm.***

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 9, 2012** 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 M. White
Administrative Assistant*