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Town of Grantham - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes December 11, 2013

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:00pm on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 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; Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper; Police Chief Walter Madore; Police Sergeant John Parsons; Police Department Secretary Judy DiPadova; Fire Chief Jay Fountain; Transfer Station Supervisor Chris Scott; Conservation Commission Member David Wood; Kristy Heath; Chick Pillsbury; Bob Osgood; Russ Lary; Chris Lary; Francis Mutney; Barbara Mutney; Fred Heineman; Megan Heath; Elaine Pillsbury; Rosie Bard; and others

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Town Administrator Melissa White

ADMINISTRATIVE - APPROVED

- ✓ Payroll Manifest #409 & 410
- ✓ Accounts Payable Manifest #389
- ✓ Reimburse General Fund from the Conservation Town Forest Maintenance Fund
- ✓ Application for Veteran's Tax Credit:
 - Approved:**
 - a. M/L 222-272-000; 14 Barn Owl Overlook
 - b. M/L 213-079-000; 2 Hilltop Place
 - c. M/L 225-210-000; 23 Walton Heath Drive
 - Denied:**
 - d. M/L 225-104-000; 40 Troon Drive
- ✓ Property Tax Refund (due to overpayment)
 - a. M/L 255-053-019; 19 Niblick Lane - \$2,947.49
 - b. M/L 222-108-000; 27 Slalom Drive - \$2,500.90
- ✓ Building Permits:
 - a. M/L 220-040-000; 244 Walker Road – Addition
 - b. M/L 225-262-000; 9 Fairway Drive – Generator
 - c. M/L 216-177-000; 19 Butternut Road - Garage

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Kimball asked if there were any changes to the regular and non-public meeting minutes of November 26, 2013. A motion to approve the regular and non-public meeting minutes of November 26, 2013 as written was made by Selectman Jones; seconded by Selectman Story. *Unanimously approved.*

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APPEARANCES

- Kristy Heath: Kristy Heath introduced herself to the Board of Selectmen. She said that over the past eight years she has organized a Holiday Fair that has been held at the Grantham Town Hall. She reported that at the conclusion of the Fair this year, one of her vendors parked her vehicle in a handicapped space near the double doors to load the vehicle and was issued a ticket by Officer Schwartz in the amount of \$310.00 which she believes is excessive. Heath said she tried to intervene without success and opines that the ticket was unfair because that spot is commonly used by vendors to load and unload their vehicles. Heath also mentioned that the Town Ordinance has a different fee schedule for parking violations.

Fred Heineman and others felt RSA 265:69 provided an exception for parking "at any place where official signs prohibit parking...while actually engaged in loading or unloading merchandise or passengers."

Police Chief Madore stated he will not discuss any personnel matters in a public forum and therefore will not discuss the officer involved in this matter but that he did want to clarify the amount of the fine. He explained that the State of New Hampshire set the fine for parking in a handicapped designated space at \$250.00 with a 24% penalty assessment imposed by the State which brings the total fine to \$310.00. He added that State law supersedes the Town Ordinance.

The Selectmen reiterated that any personnel matters would be discussed in a Non-Public meeting and stated they will look into a parking policy regarding Town Hall use which will be made clear and be part of the application form.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Coalition Communities: An update was received from the Coalition Communities informing of the likelihood of an educational funding constitutional amendment being filed this session.
- New Hampshire Interlocal Trust: A letter was received from New Hampshire Interlocal Trust informing that our health insurance Not-to-Exceed rate has been set at 6.29%.
- Simon Mayer: A letter was received from resident Simon Mayer regarding his property taxes asking the Selectmen to address the rising cost.

OLD BUSINESS

- Olde Farms Road Bridge: The Bridge will be replaced in early summer of 2014 after school gets out.

NEW BUSINESS

- Shoreline Protection Cutting Plan: M/L 215-055-000; 436 Road Round the Lake: A motion to approve the Shoreline Protection Cutting Plan at 436 Road Round the Lake as

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recommended by the Grantham Conservation Commission was made by Selectman Jones; seconded by Selectman Story. *Unanimously approved.*

DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Police Department – November Report:
 - Chief Madore appeared as a mystery reader at the Grantham Village School read-a-thon on November 6, 2013. Although he was behind a curtain, he did not remain a mystery for long as the students were quick to recognize his voice.
 - The Department attended the welcome reception for newly appointed Chief Smith in Lebanon on November 15, 2013.
 - The Department completed firearms training on November 16, 2013.
 - Officer Titorenko has successfully completed the field-training phase of his probation period.
- Trustees of the Trust Funds – As of December 2, 2013: Report as of December 2, 2013 was reviewed.
- Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Report:
 - The current unpaid balance for 2013 property taxes is \$402,200.00 as of December 11, 2013.
 - Town Clerk/Tax Collector Rita Friedman and the Supervisors of the Checklist are preparing for the Special Election Primary in January 2014.
 - Friedman has contacted the Blue Mountain Snow Dusters and is awaiting a response to discuss snow mobile registrations and membership signup.
- Fire Department – November Report:
 - Responded to 24 calls consisting of 10 EMS and 14 Fire/Rescue.
 - Chief Fountain attended the Upper Valley Mutual Aid Association meeting in Fairlee, Vermont. During the meeting, the association adopted a Mayday policy that the association members will start using in case of a firefighter emergency.
 - Chief Fountain and Deputy Chief Beckley attended the Kearsarge Mutual Aid meeting in Newport. There was discussion about the accident that happened on 89 in which one of the wrecker operators was hit by a vehicle.
 - Chief Fountain attended the HAZMAT meeting in Meriden. Lebanon's Assistant Chief Libby gave a presentation on Lab emergencies for the HAZMAT team

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members and discussed what they might see when responding to some of the labs in Lebanon, Hanover and New London.

- Transfer Station: Transfer Station Supervisor Chris Scott presented the Board of Selectmen with an update on the repair or replacement of the Loader:
 - The cost estimate from Hill-Martin Corp. to rebuild the engine is \$10,000.00 and the cost estimate to install a used engine, provided one can be found, is \$6,000.00.
 - Scott also presented two proposals from Hill-Martin Corporation for two used Backhoe Loaders:
 - 2005 John Deere 310 Super G Tractor Loader Backhoe with 2400 hours located in Williston, Vermont; \$34,000.00 with trade in of the Town of Grantham Loader with the bad engine.
 - 2004 Terex 760 B Tractor Loader Backhoe with 458 hours located in Bangor, Maine; \$34,000.00 with trade in of the Town of Grantham Loader with the bad engine.
 - Both offers include delivery to the Town of Grantham Transfer Station and taking the Allis Chalmers 545 H with the bad engine as trade in.
 - Scott said that Paul Gignoux has offered to go with him to see the used loaders and inspect them.

Chairman Kimball said he would be happy to go with Scott and Gignoux to look at the two used loaders.

- Town Administrator:
 - The Town Offices will be closed on December 24 and 25, 2013 and the Transfer Station will be closed on December 23, 2013.
 - Meeting Schedule:
 - The Zoning Board Meeting scheduled on December 19, 2013 has been cancelled.
 - The Conservation Commission Meeting is scheduled on Monday, December 16, 2013 at 7:00pm.
 - The next Selectmen's Meeting is Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at 5:00pm.

NON-PUBLIC

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-b, a motion was made by Selectman Story, seconded by Selectman Jones to enter into a Non-Public session at 5:52 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Present were: Chairman Kimball; Selectman Ken Story; Selectman Constance Jones;

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Town Administrator Melissa White; Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper and Police Chief Walter Madore.

Following proper vote, the Board returned from Non-Public session at 6:23 pm.

OTHER

Police Chief Walter Madore presented the Board of Selectmen with different leasing options for the cruisers. Chief Madore explained that Ford Motor Credit has a leasing program called Ford Municipal Finance with several options and Chrysler does not offer a municipal lease but goes through Ally Financial. Details of these two options were discussed. Chief Madore added that getting a note through a local bank might offer the best deal.

The Selectmen suggested gathering more information with specific proposals and getting together at a later date to review them.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Story moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Jones; *by unanimous vote, the Board adjourned at 7:04 pm.*

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at 5pm in the Grantham Town Building; Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Respectfully submitted,



*Ann Jasper
Administrative Assistant*