

APPROVED

Town of Grantham

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2018

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 10:00AM on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 by Selectman Warren Kimball. The meeting was held in the Grantham Town Building, Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Present: Selectman Warren Kimball; Selectman Constance Jones; Town Administrator Melissa White; Andy Gelston

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Payroll Manifest #525
2. Accounts Payable Manifest #577
3. Board of Selectmen Appointment – Andy Gelston

Selectman Kimball made a motion to move for adoption the consent calendar; seconded by Selectman Jones. *Approved by majority vote.*

Selectman Kimball announced that within the consent calendar was the appointment of Andy Gelston as Selectman. The meeting was paused for Andy Gelston to be sworn into office. Having taken his Oath of Office, Andy Gelston joined the meeting as a Selectman.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of the 2018/19 proposed budget: Town Administrator White provided a draft of the 2018 MS-636 and stated that after revenues and credits, the \$2,647,073 to be raised by taxation. White reviewed the warrant articles that would come from the undesignated fund balance: Capital Reserve Funds - \$274,000, land purchase - \$65,000, guardrail project for Miller Pond Road - \$150,000 and the improvements to public safety communications - \$145,000. Selectman Jones asked what the balance and percentage of fund balance would be if these articles passed. White stated approximately \$1,470,000 or a little more than 10%.

Jones said it was her recollection that the communication upgrades would be raised and appropriated by taxation and not taken from the undesignated fund balance. White explained that after a meeting with Doug Hackett, Chief Parsons and Chief Fountain on December 28, 2017, that more money was needed for this project.

The Board identified some of the major increases in the budget, such as health insurance, police department operations, police cruiser replacement and hazardous waste day etc.

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Chief Parsons joined the meeting. The Selectmen explained that after review of all of projects being requested, they had to prioritize and not include the monies for the fifth officer. Parsons stated that he is “painfully aware” of the impact the fifth officer would have had, on top of all of the other projects the Selectmen have to look at.

NON-PUBLIC

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-d, a motion was made by Selectman Selectman and seconded by Selectman Gelston to enter into a Non-Public session at 11:23am. Present were: Selectman Constance Jones; Selectman Kimball, Selectman Andy Gelston and Town Administrator Melissa White

Roll Call vote to enter non-public session: Selectman Constance Jones – Yes; Selectman Warren Kimball – Yes; Selectman Andy Gelston – Yes.

A motion was made by Selectman Jones to leave Non-Public session and return to Public Session at 11:46AM; seconded by Selectman Kimball. *Unanimously Approved.*

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-a, a motion was made by Selectman Kimball and seconded by Selectman Jones to enter into a Non-Public session at 11:47am. Present were: Selectman Constance Jones; Selectman Kimball, Selectman Andy Gelston and Town Administrator Melissa White

Roll Call vote to enter non-public session: Selectman Constance Jones – Yes; Selectman Warren Kimball – Yes; Selectman Andy Gelston – Yes.

A motion was made by Selectman Kimball to leave Non-Public session and return to Public Session at 12:03PM; seconded by Selectman Jones. *Unanimously Approved.*

OTHER

White informed that on January 16, 2018, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Ken Story gave her a copy of a letter, dated December 11, 2017, from the NH Lottery regarding putting an article on the warrant to allow Keno gambling in Grantham. White stated it was her understanding that Keno could only be played in restaurants and taverns that have an active liquor pouring license. Selectman Jones stated that, at this juncture, she was not inclined to put it on the warrant; that had this been brought to the board in December when the letter was received, they would be in a better place to consider it. The Board felt it was better to wait and see how it is working in other towns.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Kimball moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Gelston; *by unanimous vote, the Board adjourned at 12:04PM.*

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 24, 2018** at 5:00PM 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
Town Administrator