

TOWN OF GRANVILLE

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2017

In Attendance:

Selectmen: Bruce Hyde Chair, Sean Linskey & Richard Poole

Road Commissioner Kevin Bagley

Cemetery Commissioners Mary Falcon & Cheryl Sargeant

Assistant Town Clerk/Assistant Treasurer Nancy Demers

Public: Judy Wood, Norm Arseneault, Vivian Branschofsky, Gene Hammond,
Marilyn and Shawn Doughrity

Approved

1. Questions & Comments from Visitors /Community Members

Cheryl Sargeant lodged a complaint against a Select board member over an incident in her store. Cheryl asked for a forum to discuss her complaint with the individual.

Marilyn asked about the budget for officials training. Bruce responded that the funds for training are made available to encourage town Officials to attend training but it is not mandatory. Suggestions were made by Dan Sargeant and Mary Falcon for in house training that may be available through VLCT.

2. Amend/Approve Agenda

Vivian Branschofsky requested that painting the Town Hall be added to the agenda under Old Business. Bruce added a discussion on Budget Planning for FY 2018/19 under Financials. Norm Arseneault requested adding a line item under Roads Report to submit a road survey and maps for the select board to use at the Short Hills Way viewing and hearing to be held on 11/20. Under Roads Report a discussion on the Short Hill Ski Club was added by Bruce.

3. Approve October 16th Public Hearing and Select Board Minutes

Bruce corrected the Special Town meeting Minutes to read "***\$500 rent for the first five years and \$600 for the next five years***". Richard made the motion to accept the minutes from the Special Town Meeting held October 16 as amended. Motion was seconded by Sean. All were in favor with none opposed.

On the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting also held on October 16th, Bruce made the amendment under Old Business-Update on USPS to remove "... to check on asbestos". Bruce then made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Motion was seconded by Richard. All were in favor with none opposed.

4. Road and Other Reports

- **Meeting With Griffin & Griffin to Discuss Winter Maintenance**
Meeting was moved to November 20th.
- **Hear Report from Road Commissioner**
Kevin reported new road signs have been installed. There are issues of the signs being used as shooting targets and road signs being stolen. Kevin also reported Griffin & Griffin had some mechanical break downs with their trucks during our first winter snow fall.
- **Road Commissioner's Lap Top Computer**
The Town purchased a laptop for the Road Commissioner to be used for town business. The lap top shall remain as town property on loan to the Road Commissioner Kevin Bagley and shall be returned to the town when requested by the Select board.
- **Overnight Parking Ordinance**
Bruce reported he is preparing a draft Overnight Parking Ordinance for presentation at the next Selectmen's meeting.
- **Report on Land Owners Structure Fire Clean Up**
Bruce stated he will contact the owner of the property that had a recent fire that resulted in a burned down garage along with the contents. Bruce said he will call and see if they have any plans to clean up the site.
- **Report from Norm Arseneault**
Norm submitted to the town a new proposed road survey for relocating the section of road on Kennedy and McDonald Road. These are to be used by the Selectmen during the Public Site Visit and Public Hearing on November 20th.

- **Short Hills Ski Club**

Bruce reported that the club Board of Directors voted to allow the town to make a Class 4 Town road on a section of their land.

5. Financials

- **Approve Selectmen's Orders**

Orders were approved by signing.

- **Review Financial Reports**

Financial Reports were provided by the Treasurer.

- **FY 2018/19 Budget Planning**

Bruce stated the Selectmen will begin their budget proposals on Highways and Fire Protection at the regular Selectmen's Meeting on December 11. Bruce will be meeting with the Treasurer to work on a municipal budget informally before then. Bruce requested there be two Highway Budget proposals prepared for the December meeting. One would be what we have done in the past and another showing a budget if we have a Highway Department.

- **Discuss Taking Town Loan in Anticipation of Funds**

The Treasurer gave a presentation on the financial picture the town is currently in. Non –budgeted expenses were made due to storm damage that we anticipate to be reimbursed by FEMA. There were also expenses made in anticipation of Grant funding we anticipate to be refunded. There are also delinquent taxes we anticipate collecting over the next several months. To carry the town over until we are reimbursed, the Treasurer requested allowing her to pay off the two existing loans and then apply for a new line of credit. Bruce made the motion to allow the Treasurer to pay off the two existing loans totaling \$96,000. Motion was seconded by Richard. All were in favor with none opposed. **Bruce then made the motion**

to allow the Treasurer to take out a Line of Credit for \$200,000 in Anticipation of Taxes to be collected. Motion was seconded by Richard. All were in favor with none opposed.

6. Old Business

- **Update on Loprette VS Town Lawsuit**

Norm reported that the Town won their case in both the lower and Supreme Courts. The estimated cost to the Town in lawyer fees fell between \$8,000 and \$10,000.

- **Update on Hammond and Doughrity VS Town of Granville Lawsuit**

Bruce reported that the Plaintiffs had filed a motion with the court to stop the Town from holding a Town vote on Article 2 asking the voters if they approved renting the Old Town Clerk Office to USPS. The Court ruled against their petition just hours before the scheduled Special Town Meeting. The Town Attorney was not notified of this motion.

Bruce reported there was a court date held on November 1 where the judge ruled for mediation between the parties after the Plaintiffs filed their third motion, again without notifying the Town Attorney.

Bruce also reported that he, Cheryl Sargeant and a representative from the Vermont Agency of Transportation met on site at the Old Town Clerk Office to discuss various locations for a curb cut to serve the Elmwood Cemetery. They examined the swale area on Town land and the Fairpoint easement area as possible entry sites for a curb cut. We are now waiting to hear back from the AOT. Bruce also stated that the preferred option was to use the existing 12' wide road through the back of the cemetery to access the extension lot.

- **Update on USPS**

There were no new updates on USPS.

- **Painting of Town Hall**

Vivian reported the painting of the Town Hall has not been finished and is now getting too cold to paint. The contract has a deadline for completion as

November 15th. There was discussion over payment and withholding a portion until the job can be completed next spring. Sean made the motion to withhold \$1,000 until the spring and the job is finished. Motion was seconded by Richard. Bruce said he will draft an agreement with the subcontractor for signing.

7. New Business

The next Selectmen's meeting will be held on November 20 at 5:30 pm in the Town Clerk Office Immediately following the Public Hearing.

8. Items for Next Meeting's Agenda

- Overnight Parking Ordinance
- Meet with Griffin & Griffin to Discuss Winter Road Maintenance
- Decision on Public Hearing and Site Visit (Kennedy & McDonald Road)

9. Adjourn

Richard made the motion to adjourn at 7:35 pm which was seconded by Sean. All were in favor with none opposed.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Kathy Werner
Town Clerk/Treasurer