

TOWN OF GRANVILLE
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2016

In Attendance:

Selectmen: Bruce Hyde/Chair; Sean Linskey and Norm Arseneault
Mark Belisle/Constable
Kevin Bagley/Road Commissioner
Nancy Needham/Delinquent Tax Collector

Public:

Diane Eramo/Corner School Resource Center
Vivian Branschofsky; Brooke Winslow; Sean and Marylyn Dougherty; Gene and Jacqueline Hammond;
Melissa and John Hersch

Call to Order: 6:00 pm

Subject to Final Approval

1. Questions & Comments from Visitors/Community Members

Diane submitted a photo for the Town Report that was taken at a community event to celebrate the town's anniversary of the Town Charter a few years back. Diane suggested having the photo cover across the front and back cover of the Town Report.

Melissa and John Hersch introduced themselves as the new residents on property on Genes Road. They discussed with the board regarding gates on Genes Road as they were having problems with speeding drivers and to clarify with the select board what is allowed regarding gate closure. Norm stated that the select board made a decision to reopen the gates when the last tenants left and the board can revisit their decision. Under State Statutes certain criteria must be met for penting a town road by the select board which would include if the adjoining land owners were raising livestock. Melissa stated they were not raising livestock and the discussion moved to the idea of posting signs to control traffic, which the select board agreed to look into other than allowing the gates to be closed.

Vivian asked when bids will be solicited for painting the Town Hall. Bruce stated the board plans to advertise for bids closer to next spring.

Marylyn stated that the Selectmen's minutes from October were missing from the town website. The clerk will see that they are posted. Marylyn submitted a written request to the board to rescind the Town Clerk/Treasurers salary to pre-raise budget effective December 31st citing that the initial raise was presented at Town Meeting as for additional office hours. Bruce indicated the board will consider her request.

2. Approve /Amend Minutes

Norm motioned to approve the November minutes which Sean seconded. All were in favor with none opposed.

3. Roads and Other Reports

Norm gave an updated draft to the list of priorities for Vermont Agency of Transportation Structures Grants. Improvement's to the culvert near the Jones residence was moved up to second place on the list of priorities.

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Norm reported the town has still gotten no word from FEMA that will allow the town to move forward on Alternate Project Butz Road improvements.

Norm also reported that certified letters to adjoining land owners giving Notice of Proposed Legal Trail Alteration and Public Hearing on January 9, 2017 have been mailed. The Notice will be published in the Herald at a future date as required by statute.

Sean inquired with the Road Commissioner about a missing road sign. Discussion went into how to finish erecting the remaining road and speed signs. No action was taken.

a) Report on culvert damage on Butz Road

The Road Commissioner reported there were no damages.

4. Old Business

a) Update on Loprete's Appeal of Judges decision in Favor of the Town of Granville

Norm reported he has not yet heard back from the Town Attorney. There was nothing new to report.

b) Park and Recreation Appointments

Sean submitted a draft mission statement that included an initial plan of activities and a list of volunteers for appointment. Sean said he was willing to take on the job as director. *Norm made a motion to approve and adopt the mission statement and the initial plan of the Parks and Recreation Committee and to approve the list of appointments to the committee with Sean as director. Motion was seconded by Bruce with all in favor and none opposed.*

c) Update on Post Office lease

Bruce submitted a quote on the amount for rent on behalf of the town but has not heard back yet. The question will be on the next Town Meeting Agenda for the voters to approve entering into a lease with the USPS to place a modular Post Office next to the Town Hall.

5. New Business

a) Discuss Earthen Vessels attorney's email regarding property tax exemption

Earthen Vessels own property on West Hill Ext. Their attorney had sent an email last August stating they are property tax exempt under Vermont Statute. The Delinquent Tax Collector participated in the discussion. The town voted no at the last Town Meeting as not in favor of exemption but the attorney's letter is stating that under the statutes they meet the qualifications for exemption. The board gave Norm authority to seek a legal opinion from the town's attorney.

6. Financials

a) Sign Orders/Approve Financial Reports

All Selectmen and Highway Orders were approved.

The Treasurer asked to table the financial report until the next meeting on December 19.

Mark discussed with the board regarding the Conservation Commissions contract with Dubois & King.

Bruce will attend their next meeting on December 13 at 9:30 am at the Town Clerk's Office.

The Treasurer reported that the grant funds for the speed trailer has come in and we are still waiting for the Structures Grant funds for the culvert replacement previously done on Plunkton Road.

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7. Items for Next Meeting Agenda

8. Adjourn

Norm moved to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Motion was seconded by Sean. All were in favor with none opposed.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kathy Werner

Town Clerk/Treasurer