

Granville Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2021 via Zoom Meeting ID #81180988445

APPROVED

In attendance:

Bruce Hyde, Chair, James Dague and Jennifer Page; Selectboard, Nancy Beattie; Auditor, Kenneth Beattie, Road Foreman, Roger Stauss, Moderator/Auditor, Marilyn Dougherty, Website Manager and Cheryl L. Sargeant, Clerk

Public: Shawn Dougherty, Michael & Diane Eramo, Tom ? , (Audit Firm) and Robert Stauss

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m. with Bruce reading a paragraph regarding holding public meetings using video conferencing as recommended by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT).

Public Communication:

- Marilyn inquired about issues at the last meeting with people having problems calling into the meeting and wanting to know if there was a back-up plan. Jim indicated that the Special Informational Meeting was being run by a professional Zoom user so there should be no issues.
- Shawn indicated that he had issues with the context of the discussion at the last meeting regarding the snowplowing on Maston Hill. Bruce indicated that could wait until the discussion about the Minutes.

Amend/Approve Agenda:

- Roger requested to have the Agenda rearranged so that the Warning Articles were addressed at the top of the Agenda as he was at work. Bruce indicated that could be done.

Financial Reports:

- Draft Audit Report – Bruce indicated he was confused about the write up on the pension for the 1 Town employee. Tom indicated that the Town can summarize its position in regards to the pension and Tom can disclose in just a couple of paragraphs. Jim would like to summarize based on the Treasurer not being present.

Financial Reports: (continued)

Bruce and Nancy questioned the Modified Cash Basis used now and Accrual Basis which was mentioned several times. Tom indicated that most towns use the Accrual Basis that is why he mentioned it several times to make it clear. The Town may want to switch in the future.

Jim inquired about the Highway Surplus accounted in the next year as a transfer. Tom indicated that it is appropriate to do so as the Town is using a Modified Cash Basis not an Accrual Basis.

Minutes:

- Marilyn and Shawn both indicated that the comment about snow in right-of-way is actually the “Town's right-of-way” the neighbor was depositing into Town's not “their right-of-way” and not allowing them access to Maston Hill. They also indicated that Gene Hammond's comment was ignored. Jim requested that they be updated and sent out again and Bruce will put on the February agenda for action and Jim seconded. All in favor.

New Business:

- Advisory Warning Articles by Petition - wording as follows; Shall the Town support the construction of a cell tower on North Hollow Road in the Granville Gulf? Yes or No. Bruce and Roger agreed to having the wording “improving cell coverage” removed.

The second petition regarding 5G cell service within the Town's jurisdiction needs to be edited and Roger would like to review again.

- Zoom Test Meeting - Robert would like to hold one early and after a lengthy discussion of the process and who will attend the training the meeting is set for Sunday; January 31, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Old Business:

- Approve Budget - \$369,054.00 total combined after last meeting's changes. Jim suggested paying off line item 9105 and making it zero for next year. Constable supplies Bruce suggested lowering by \$1,000.00 and line item 1140 suggest that the Constable be paid per hour rather than 12 equal payments which equals 32 hours per month.

Old Business: (continued)

- Jim suggests having the FICA line item recalculated. Bruce indicated that the new Municipal Total is \$185,340.00 after deducting \$114.00 for the Water Loan and \$1,000.00 from the Constable Supplies.

Highway Budget - Jim brought up discussion about gravel being cut and after further discussion it was agreed to increase the current amount by \$17,000.00 to keep up with erosion. The new Highway Total is \$189,600.00.

Bruce to work with Kathy on changes and the combined totals:
Municipal \$185,340.00 and Highway \$189,600.00 equals \$374,940.00

Shawn asked if the figures for Solid Waste (ABLE Waste Management) were confirmed and Bruce will check with Kathy.

- Approve Warning - Kathy and Cheryl spread with word through the newspaper, e-mails and postings. If there are any vacancies the Selectboard will appoint until the next Town Meeting.

Roads:

- Ken and Jim gave KUDOS to Charlie Smith for the snowplowing work he did during the last storm.

Public Communication and Comments

- Marilyn and Shawn asked if Bruce spoke with the individual putting snow in the Town's right-of-way and Bruce indicated that he had. Marilyn indicated that he was still putting it in the Town's right-of-way and therefore blocking their access to Maston Hill. Bruce will speak with him again and ask that the snow be placed elsewhere. Shawn and Marilyn would like Mark to issue a citation if he continues. Marilyn indicated that he was in the Town's right-of-way not Marilyn and Shawn's right-of-way and cited the State Highway Statue that references the topic.

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Special Selectboard Meeting January 21, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., Training meeting will be January 31, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., Selectboard Meeting February 8, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. and Special Selectboard Zoom Informational Town Meeting is March 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Jim made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m. and Jennifer seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl L. Sargeant
Selectboard Clerk