



*Approved April 11, 2022*

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, March 28, 2022**

*Groveland Town Hall*

*183 Main Street, Groveland, MA 01834*

This meeting was held in-person and also broadcast live on Groveland Public Access, Channel 9, as well as through Zoom virtual meeting software for remote access.

**PRESENT:** Chair Ed Watson, Selectmen Bill O'Neil, Jason Naves, Dan MacDonald and Kathleen Kastrinelis.  
Rebecca Oldham, Town Administrator

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Immediately following Open Session, Town Hall 183 Main Street, Selectmen Conference Room – expected to return to open session at 7PM.

- MGL Ch. 30A §21(a)2: To conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Fire Chief).  
A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to enter Executive Session for the following:  
MGL Ch. 30A §21(a)2: To conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Fire Chief).  
Roll call vote: Naves; yes, Kastrinelis; yes, O'Neil; yes, Watson; yes. MacDonald absent.

The Board of Selectman returned to Open Session.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

### **APPROVE WARRANTS:**

PW # 22-39 \$182,150.89

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to approve Warrant PW # 22-39 in the amount of \$182,150.89. Voted: 5-0-0.

BW # 22-39 \$560,319.37

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to approve Warrant BW # 22-39 in the amount of \$560,319.37. Voted: 5-0-0.

### **22-39 BILLS WARRANT BREAKDOWN:**

Town:	\$ 111,316.81
W/S:	\$ 6,756.79
Payroll Withholding:	\$ 31,529.59
Health Insurance:	\$
Light Bills:	\$ 393,494.29
Grants & Revolving:	\$ 17,221.93
Chapter 90:	\$
Pentucket Assessment:	\$
Whittier Assessment:	\$
Capital:	\$

**APPROVE MINUTES:**

- March 14, 2022, Meeting Minutes

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to approve the minutes from Monday, March 14, 2022.

Voted: 4-1-0. Chair Watson abstained.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Appointment of Sam Joslin, 583 River Street Haverhill, MA to the position of Inspector of Animals effective March 28, 2022. This is a volunteer position.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to appoint Sam Joslin, 583 River Street Haverhill, MA to the position of Inspector of

Animals effective March 28, 2022. Voted: 5-0-0.

**VOTES OF THE BOARD:**

- A. Vote to approve ballot language for FY23 Budget override:

Chair Watson read a draft letter in the packet that will go out to the Town Clerk for the ballot .

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to accept the language presented here for the ballot.

The Board discussed the ballot question that will be on the Town Election ballot on May 2, 2022, first and then will go to Town Meeting to also be approved. TA Oldham stated that if this override fails at the ballot, the question will not appear on the Town Meeting Warrant. The recommended amount per TA Oldham is \$427,838.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to approve the language to be placed on the ballot as stipulated in the amount of \$427,838.

Voted: 5-0-0.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

- B. Clean River Project, Mike Bacher:

Mike Bacher was present and addressed the Board and first reviewed the mission of the Clean River Project and then discussed the grant that was granted by the Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF). The Town of Groveland has been granted \$22,980 for Groveland shoreline cleanup. Volunteers will be needed, and this will be a community building opportunity; Mike asked for assistance from the town to promote this event. Approximately 3-4 miles of shoreline will be cleaned.

- C. Auditors Report, Michael Nelligan

Michael Nelligan, Audit Manager, Powers & Sullivan, was present and addressed the Board; Michael was accompanied by Laura Stone, Manager. Michael noted the Audit went very smoothly and full cooperation was received from staff. This is a clean audit report. The Management Letter has no new notes this year. Bank reconciliation and tax title progress has been made. Michael noted a variance that has been carried over from a prior year(s); this appears to be an error; Michael noted there is a way that Management could "write this off" to bring things in balance. Investments are diversified according to Michael. Michael will provide information to TA Oldham regarding options for the significant amount of Tax Title owed by Valley Screw. Selectman O'Neil asked about the Financial stability of the Town as of right now to which Michael responded that the Town is "is doing well."

## **DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE:**

**A. Groveland Precinct Changes, Town Clerk:**

Beth Cunniff, Town Clerk was present and addressed the Board and noted that there were very few changes for Groveland and Town Clerk Cunniff noted the read the list of changes that did occur. Notices have been sent to all voters whose precincts changed. This was just for informational purposes and no vote was needed.

**B. Vote to approve Pines Recreation Area, Practice Field for use by Pentucket Youth Football August 2022-November 2022:**

Scott, representing the Pentucket Youth Football Board was present and addressed the Board to ask for approval to use the Pines Recreation Area, Practice Field.

A motion was moved by Selectman O'Neil and seconded by Selectman MacDonald to approve the Pines Recreation Area, Practice Field for use by Pentucket Youth Football August 2022-November 2022 contingent upon them providing the town with a certificate of insurance naming the Town as one of the insured. Voted: 5-0-0.

**C. Vote to approve Common Victualler License for Riverside Pizza, LLC, 180 Main Street, Peter Aresco:**

Peter Aresco was present and addressed the Board; he is in the process of buying Riverside Pizza. All paperwork is in order.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to approve the Victualler License for Riverside Pizza, LLC, 180 Main Street, Peter Aresco. Voted: 5-0-0.

**D. ARPA: Additional Request for Premium Pay per request of the Highway Union and Water & Sewer Union:**

Matt Silva, Water and Sewer Department was present and addressed the Board to provide an explanation of why the request for Premium Pay is being made; Matt explained the exposure to COVID 19 that the front-line workers were subjected to during the pandemic. There are three members of the department and the total being requested is \$6,000; Matt asked for the Water and Sewer Department staff to be separated from the Highway Department as that is a separate department. The Board discussed this item under the next agenda item.

**E. ARPA: Selected Project Review:**

Selectman Naves asked the Board to reconsider the prioritization list and approve Premium Pay for all of the employees as has been previously discussed. Premium Pay has already been approved for First Responders. Selectman Kastrinelis urged everyone to keep to the priority list that has been previously discussed. Colin Stokes, Water and Sewer Department Superintendent was present and addressed the Board and discussed infrastructure needs in town.

TA Oldham noted two additional items: a wage and salary classification study in the amount of \$30,000 and the police cruiser in the amount of \$51,700 which are both already listed on the warrant to be funded through Free Cash; the recommendation is to fund this using ARPA funding.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to use ARPA Funds in the amount of \$51,700 for a police cruiser and \$30,000 for a wage classification study. Voted: 5-0-0.

**F. Request to fly the Ukrainian Flag, Correspondence from Walter Fedvnshyn and Elizabeth Wyka:**  
Chair Watson read the request which asks for the Town of Groveland to fly the Ukrainian flag to show sympathy and support to the Ukrainian citizens. The residents have provided a flag. The Board discussed having this on a separate pole. Selectman MacDonald will reach out to someone he knows to see if he can find another flag pole and Selectman Naves asked to ensure the flag is raised properly and respectfully.

A motion was moved by Selectman O'Neil and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis that Selectman MacDonald do the leg work to find out what is required to properly fly the Ukrainian flag on Town property and report back to TA Oldham with what he finds.  
Voted: 5-0-0.

**TOWN ADMINSTRATOR'S TIME:**

TA Oldham reported: the town received a safe routes to school grant for a sidewalk along Center Street. The Town has started to do internal reorganization. Senator Tarr reached out asking for any additional requests to the general appropriation bill that is being put forward; TA Oldham will reach out regarding Chapter 70 school aid, and other local aid efforts that are less than adequate especially during the current fiscal environment. Selectman O'Neil asked if school transportation is included, and TA Oldham replied in the affirmative that this is on the list.

**SELECTMEN'S TIME & REPORTS:**

**SELECTMAN MACDONALD:** noted concerns with the school budget and the upcoming override vote and the impact on the residents.

**SELECTMAN O'NEIL:** agreed with Selectman MacDonald's comments.

**SELECTMAN KASTRINELIS:** reached out to Superintendent Bartholomew and asked him to reconvene the Regional Agreement Committee. Asked the Board for permission to review the trash bills; TA Oldham will send the data out.

**OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**OTHER ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED AT TIME OF POSTING**

TA Oldham noted there was a resignation on the ZBA, and they have a variance scheduled on April 6<sup>th</sup> and the BOS will not meet again before that meeting and asked to have someone from the BOS appointed to be the required fifth member of the ZBA. Selectman Naves volunteered.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to appoint Jason Naves as an Alternate ZBA member effective immediately until June 30, 2022.

Voted: 4-1-0. Selectman Naves abstained.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Letter from Police Chief
- Stop the Bleed Flyer

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm. Voted: 5-0-0.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Monday, April 11, 2022, at 6:30PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Katherine T. Ingram*