

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 31, 2020
Groveland Fire Station Meeting Room
181 Main St, Groveland, MA 01834

TOWN OF GROVELAND
2021 JAN 12 PM 2:59

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place. This meeting of the Board of Selectmen will take place without any public present, but we will make every effort to ensure the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time.

This meeting was broadcast live on Groveland Public Access, Channel 9, as well as through Zoom.

Members of the public are asked to send written comments to kworden@grovelandma.com or submit questions through the Zoom chat window.

PRESENT: Chair Michael Wood, Selectmen Jason Naves, Bill O'Neil, Kathleen Kastrinelis and Ed Watson.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. There were no public comments.

APPROVE WARRANTS:

PW # 21-09 \$175,859.43

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Watson to approve warrant PW # 21-09 in the amount of \$175,859.43. Voted: 5-0-0.

BW # 21-09 \$517,402.02

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to approve warrant BW # 21-09 in the amount of \$517,402.02. Voted: 5-0-0.

21-09 Bills Warrant Breakdown:

Town:	\$ 17,023.80
W/S:	\$ 11,761.93
Payroll Withholding:	\$ 31,162.29
Health Insurance:	\$ 0
Light Bills:	\$ 426,441.14
Grants & Revolving:	\$ 31,012.86
Chapter 90:	\$ 0
Pentucket Assessment:	\$ 0
Whittier Assessment:	\$ 0
Capital:	\$ 0

APPROVE MINUTES:

- Minutes from May 26, 2020
- Executive Session Minutes from August 3, 2020
- Executive Session Minutes from August 7, 2020

The Board did not have a chance to review so opted to wait until next time.

APPOINTMENTS:

Appointment of Seth Graham, 726 Salem Street, to the Cable TV Advisory Board through June 30, 2021.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Watson to appoint Seth Graham, 726 Salem Street, to the Cable TV Advisory Board through June 30, 2021. Voted: 5-0-0.

Appointment of Heather Torres, 8 Briscoe Road Groveland, to the position of Water/Sewer Office Manager effective September 1, 2020. The position is full-time, benefit eligible at 37.5 hours a week at a rate of \$30/hr.

Board of Selectman minutes, August 31, 2020 Page 1 of 3

Ms. Torres was present and met the Board.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to appoint Heather Torres, 8 Briscoe Road Groveland, to the position of Water/Sewer Office Manager effective September 1, 2020. The position is full-time, benefit eligible at 37.5 hours a week at a rate of \$30/hr. Voted: 5-0-0.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE:

- **COVID Discussion**

Claire Walsh, Public Health Nurse and Deborah Kadar-Hull, BOH Chair were present and addressed the Board.

- Any updates, discussion items
There are currently thirty-six cases.

- **Yard Sales**

Per Ms. Kadar-Hull BOH is okay with holding yard sales. Ms. Walsh does not agree with allowing them. Selectman Watson was okay with allowing them. Selectman Naves preferred waiting. Selectman O'Neil had no problem. Selectman Kastrinelis was against allowing them for now. Chair Wood agreed to allow them and encourage people to be careful.

A motion was moved by Selectman Watson and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to allow Yard Sales per the CDC guidelines. Voted: 3-2-0. Selectman Naves and Kastrinelis voted against.

- **Public opening of Town Buildings**

- **Review Fridays & Evening Hours**

The Board will review this at the next meeting. Selectman Kastrinelis requested that all town buildings be equipped with health and safety equipment, ductwork cleaning, air purifiers and touchless hand sanitizing stations for example. Selectman Kastrinelis will research what other buildings (schools) are doing and create a plan of action.

- **In-person meetings - Still not allowed.**

- **School Re-Opening Plan** (if any information/updates are available). No updates.

- **Social Media Discussion and Policies**

There is currently not a policy in place. Selectman Naves went through the information and made some notes for the Board to review. Selectman Watson asked to see a copy of the Bagnell School policy on Social Media; Selectman Naves will obtain a copy and bring to the next meeting with a draft policy.

- **Post vacancy for Part-time Water and Sewer Office Clerk**

A motion was moved by Selectman O'Neil and seconded by Selectman Watson to post a vacancy for a part-time Water and Sewer Office Clerk, effective September 1, 2020 at a rate of \$18.00 per hour. Voted: 5-0-0.

- **733 Salem Street Purchase: Waiting on Town Counsel.**

A motion was moved by Selectman O'Neil and seconded by Wood to table the discussion until the next meeting or until the BOS received Town Counsel advice. Voted: 5-0-0.

- **Fire Dept and Grant Discussion**

Fire Chief Valentine was welcomed into the meeting and addressed the Board. The Chief provided background on the grant as well as plans on how to use the money. \$464,490 was awarded for 100% to be used for salary and benefits for two full time Firefighters for three years. The Town has thirty days to accept the funding and six months to hire the two personnel. The thirty days started last week when the Town was notified. Chief Valentine would like to hire the two personnel in January 2021 so that the positions would be paid through January 2024 and at that point other funding would have to be identified to pay these positions. Selectman Kastrinelis asked about creating a separate fund to start saving now for the time when the Town has to pay for the positions versus trying find the funding later on and/or all at once.

A motion was move by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to accept the SAFER Grant in the amount of \$464,490. Voted: 5-0-0.

- **Duties as Acting Treasurer and Collector**

Chair Wood declared that this was previously discussed in Executive Session and the Board has to vote to ratify in Open Session based on the Executive Session meeting.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to accept the following terms: Kaitlyn Gilbert is Interim/Acting Treasurer and Collector and will be paid an additional payment of \$350.00 per week backdated to August 14th until such time as an Interim Finance Director is hired or it could continue through the end of the year and with the understanding that her two weeks accrued vacation carries forward with her.

Voted: 5-0-0.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to accept the following terms: Ellen Petrillo, Town Accountant will work seven additional hours per week and receive a stipend for \$300.00 per week effective September 8th until such time as an Interim Finance Director is hired or the Board changes this and one additional week of vacation will be carried forward. Voted: 5-0-0.

- Letter to Denise Dembkoski

Selectman O'Neil read the letter in which the Town Commends Ms. Dembkoski for her outstanding service to the town and its residents. Chair Wood signed the letter.

VOTES OF THE BOARD:

- Fee schedule update for the River view Cemetery

A motion was moved by Selectman O'Neil and seconded by Selectman Naves to table this discussion until the next meeting in order to have ample time to review the information. Voted: 4-0-1. Selectman Kastrinelis recused herself.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S TIME: None.

SELECTMEN'S TIME & REPORTS:

Chair Wood: participated in a call with the Massachusetts State Department of Health. Also, gave a shout out to the two individuals who saved a resident's life recently during a fire before the fire department arrived; working on getting their names to acknowledge them.

Selectman O'Neil: reminded people to vote in the Primary tomorrow.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Selectman Kastrinelis: heard back from Mr. Fitzgerald with DEP and forwarded to Mike Dempsey the list that was sent to DEP regarding the letter of conditions for the property at the Quarry.

OTHER ITEMS NOT REASONABLE ANTICIPATED AT TIME OF POSTING:

- Strategy to negotiate with non-union personal -
- New Fee schedule for the Riverview Cemetery

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank you letter from the Cub Scouts and Scouts BSA Members of the Northern Lights District, BSA
- 104 King Street Letter

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was moved by Selectman O'Neil and seconded by Selectman Naves to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 pm. Voted: 5-0-0.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Monday, September 14, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine T. Ingram

