

TOWN OF GROVELAND

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

2021 NOV 10 AM 9:35 Groveland Town Hall Meeting Room
183 Main St, Groveland, MA 01834

Approved on November 8, 2021

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

PRESENT: Chair Ed Watson, Selectmen Bill O'Neil, Jason Naves, Kathleen Kastrinelis, Dan MacDonald

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Executive Session:

Pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 30A, sec. 21(a) (2). To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel. (Votes may be taken). Scheduled to Return to Open Session following close of Executive Session.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to enter Executive Session.

Roll call Vote: MacDonald; yes, O'Neil; yes, Watson; yes, Naves; yes, Kastrinelis; yes.

The Board returned from the Executive Session and continued in Open Session.

Public Comment: None.

Discussion and Possible Vote:

- **Reorganization of Board:**

Selectman O'Neil spoke in regards to events at the past few meetings and felt the Board needed a new direction. Selectman MacDonald felt this could further divide the Board and felt the Board should stay the course. Selectman Kastrinelis felt that meetings have been dysfunctional and chaotic, the agenda is not organized, and communication has been an issue.

A motion was moved by Selectman O'Neil and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to reorganize the Board. Voted: 2-0-3. Motion failed. MacDonald, Naves and Watson voted against.

- **Warrants:**

PW # 22 – 17 \$214,199.42

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to approve PW #22 – 17 in the amount of \$214,199.42. Voted: 5-0-0.

BW # 22-17 \$973,836.19

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to approve BW # 22-17 in the amount of \$973,836.19. Voted: 5-0-0.

22-15 Bills Warrant Breakdown:

Town:	\$ 79,540.56
W/S:	\$ 16,313.39
Payroll Withholding:	\$ 27,554.04
Health Insurance:	\$
Light Bills:	\$ 605,042.01
Grants & Revolving:	\$ 83,347.19
Chapter 90:	\$
Whittier Assessment	\$ 162,039.00

- Review Administrative Coordinator Assistant:
Selectman Kastrinelis spoke with Ultimate Staffing regarding filling this position temporarily.
A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to have Selectman Kastrinelis reach out to the staffing company and find out availability to hire someone.
Voted: 5-0-0.
Selectman Kastrinelis will reach back out to find out how soon someone can begin.
- Re-Precincting due to 2020 Federal Census (Town Clerk):
Beth Cuniff, Town Clerk was present and addressed the Board.
A motion was moved by Selectman O'Neil and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to approve the re-precincting based on the 2020 census. Voted: 5-0-0.
- A request for the use of the Town Digital Sign by Pentucket:
No Action – this has already been handled.
- An email from Principal Day asking if we would like to provide a flyer to distribute in Bagnall advising parents of Special Town Meeting:
The Board agreed with this.
- Update on Zero Waste/Reduction in Barrels:
Selectman Kastrinelis reminded the Board that a notice needs to go out to the public. A flyer will go with the next tax bill and also sent to the Light Department to add to the bottom of their bills.
- American Rescue Act Plan (ARPA):
This was submitted by the Building Inspector, but the information is not ready.
A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to table this.
Voted: 5-0-0.
- Ruth Rivard to discuss Financial Management Review:
Ruth Rivard was present and addressed the Board. The Finance Board made a recommendation to the BOS recently that the Town request the DLS to come in to conduct a Financial Review of the town.
This is not an audit but rather a free state service. The Finance Board requests that the BOS approve this.
A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman O'Neil that the BOS contact the MA DLS and request a Financial Management Review of the town at their soonest opportunity. Voted: 5-0-0.
Selectman MacDonald asked to inquire whether there would be an engagement letter up front to know what the scope of the review would entail. Ruth Rivard responded that this would not be time consuming unlike an Audit; this will be an outline of best practices across the Commonwealth.
- Redistricting Letter – Representative Lenny Mirra:
Chair Watson reviewed the letter looking for support to sign the letter requesting Groveland to remain in the 2nd Essex District. This was due by October 18th.
A motion was moved by Selectman MacDonald and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to endorse Lenny Mirra's letter. Voted: 3-0-2.
Selectman O'Neil felt Pentucket might benefit by having better representation.
- Groveland Congregational Church – permission for sign in Perry Park and add their information to town sign for Nov. 12th, 4:00 - 8:00 pm and Nov. 13th, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.
A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to approve the use of the sign. Voted: 5-0-0.
- Consideration of Stipends – Given the DOR opinion and the article that Town Meeting Votes.
Selectman Kastrinelis felt that the Board was operating outside of the MGL and the Town Meeting vote and urged the discontinuation of the stipends.
A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman O'Neil to rescind the stipends that the Board voted.

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman MacDonald to table this until further information is provided. Voted: 3-0-2.

Selectman MacDonald asked for information for the next meeting regarding the stipends that are in place.

Old Business:

- Town Hall Monday night hours:

Chair Watson noted that according to the Bylaws the Town Clerk and Treasurer have to hold Monday night hours. Chair Watson suggested a vote to include other offices and asked if there were any suggestions.

Selectman Kastrinelis asked for this to be an agenda item in order to do some research. Selectman O'Neil did not see any reason to add any other offices except for the two offices in the bylaws. Selectman Kastrinelis felt this may be outdated and asked to see what other towns do.

- Fall Town Meeting update:

This will be held on December 6th.

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to schedule the Special Town Meeting for December 6th at 7:00 pm. Voted: 5-0-0.

- Up-date on Water and Sewer & Highway Contract Negotiations

Selectman Naves and Kastrinelis met with Ken and Selectman Naves will be meeting again Thursday along with Brian and Rebecca to bring back firm decisions to the Board for discussion.

Selectmen's Time:

Selectman MacDonald: commented on hunting season coming up in the Wildlife Management area in town.

Selectman O'Neil: thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery to the young woman injured last week. October 31st is Halloween and urged drivers to be cautious.

Selectman Naves: noted Trunk and Treat options at either the Church or the Bagnell School.

Selectman Kastrinelis: asked to have an agenda item for setting policies for the Board.

Chair Watson: asked the Board to send dates for an Executive Session to discuss the Harassment Complaint.

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated:

Correspondence:

- Letter from American Legion Veterans Day Observance
- Correspondence regarding Special Act:
The Board discussed the six questions.
- Letter to Treasurer/Collector applicant
- Response from BOS member Kathleen Kastrinelis

Adjournment:

A motion was moved by Selectman MacDonald and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Monday, November 8, 2021, at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine T. Ingram

