

Groveland Board of Selectmen
Meeting minutes
October 2, 2017

Present: Chairman Michael Wood, Vice Chair Lisa Dube-Carpenter, Selectman Ed Watson, Selectman Bill Dunn and Selectman Bill O'Neil

Absent: None

Others present: Denise Dembkoski, Finance Director

The meeting was called to order at 6:32PM.

RESIDENT/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

The Board observed a moment of silence for the victims in Las Vegas.

APPROVE WARRANTS

PW#18-13 \$207,406.15

Chairman Wood made a motion, seconded by Selectman Watson to approve payroll warrant 18-13 in the amount of \$207,406.15; voted 5-0-0; warrant approved.

BW#18-13 \$1,007,351.53

Chairman Wood made a motion seconded by Selectman Dunn to approve bill warrant #18-13 in the amount of \$1,007,351.53; voted 5-0-0; warrant approved.

APPOINTMENTS

Appointment of Kathleen Bussell, 121 Main Street to the Affordable Housing Committee through June 30, 2018

Ms. Bussell was present to answer any questions from the Board.

Selectwoman Carpenter made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dunn to approve the appointment of Kathleen Bussell to the Affordable Housing Committee through June 30, 2018; voted 5-0-0.

Appointment of seven (7) members to the Elm Square Committee through June 30, 2018. Scott Bucuzzo, 1 Groveland Commons Way

Mr. Bucuzzo was present to answer any questions. Selectman O'Neil inquired about Mr. Bucuzzo's interest in the committee. Mr. Bucuzzo stated he believed the committee is long overdue and in the best interest of the town.

Selectman Watson made a motion to appoint Scott Bucuzzo to the Elm Square Committee through June 30, 2018. Selectman Dunn seconded; voted 5-0-0.

Jim Cicatello, 26 Rollins Street

Mr. Cicatello was present to answer to any questions. Mr. Cicatello discussed his interest in finding a better use for the gas station property. Selectman O'Neil asked if Mr. Cicatello would

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commit to getting the project done without taxpayer money. Mr. Cicatello indicated that would be the goal but it's too early to make that commitment.

Selectman Watson made a motion to appoint Jim Cicatello to the Elm Square Committee through June 30, 2018. Selectman Dunn seconded; voted 5-0-0.

Mike Dempsey, 33 Uptack Road

Mr. Dempsey was present to answer any questions. Selectman O'Neil asked if Mr. Dempsey would commit to not using taxpayer money to fund the project. Mr. Dempsey indicated he would commit to reduce the cost to Groveland to as little as possible. Selectman Dunn asked if Mr. Dempsey thought there should be a chair to the committee. Mr. Dempsey agreed there should be a chair. Chairman Wood indicated a major component of the committee is for it to work well with the Selectmen.

Selectwoman Carpenter made a motion to appoint Mike Dempsey to the Elm Square Committee through June 30, 2018. Seconded by Selectman Watson; voted 5-0-0.

Bette Gorski, 182 Washington Street

Ms. Gorski was present to answer any questions. Ms. Gorski, a former Groveland selectwoman, indicated she was confident there would be a chair, vice-chair and note taker and will keep the Board informed.

Selectman Watson made a motion to appoint Bette Gorski to the Elm Square Committee through June 30, 2018. Seconded by Selectwoman Carpenter; voted 5-0-0.

In response to a question from Selectman O'Neil, Ms. Dembkoski indicated Lauren King withdrew her application for appointment to the Elm Square Committee.

Kathleen Prunier, 7 Harvard Road

Ms. Prunier was present to answer any questions. Selectman Dunn asked if Ms. Prunier could commit to not spending taxpayer money. Ms. Prunier indicated she is experienced in fundraising and applying for state aid. Selectman O'Neil asked if she believed this would interfere with her work with the library. Ms. Prunier indicated it would not. Chairman Wood indicated he would not support the appointment due to Ms. Prunier's criticism of the Board in the past.

Selectman Watson made a motion to appoint Kathleen Prunier to the Elm Square Committee through June 30, 2018. Seconded by Selectwoman Carpenter; voted 2-3-0. (Wood, O'Neil and Dunn opposed).

Selectwoman Carpenter stated that based on correspondence she has seen she does not believe Chairman Wood or Selectman Dunn should have voted on the appointment.

Gregory Stark, Jr., 1 Off King Way

Mr. Stark was present to answer any questions. Selectman Dunn stated Mr. Stark has a lot of knowledge about the history of the property. Mr. Stark indicated he understood Mr. O'Neil's concern about not using taxpayer money. In response to a question from Chairman Wood, Mr. Stark indicated that the Town appropriated money to have plans drafted but there was never anything that was approved to be done.

Selectman O'Neil made a motion to appoint Gregory Stark Jr. to the Elm Square Committee through June 30, 2018. Seconded by Selectman Dunn; voted 5-0-0.

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Claire Walsh, 478 Main Street

Ms. Walsh was present to answer any questions. Selectman Dunn indicated he is familiar with Ms. Walsh's background and hopes she brings her historic background and fiscal conservativeness to the committee.

Selectman Dunn made a motion to appoint Claire Walsh to the Elm Square Committee through June 30, 2018. Seconded by Selectman Watson; voted 5-0-0.

The Board agreed there should be seven members on the committee and asked Ms. Dembkoski to continue to advertise for another volunteer to serve on the committee.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE

Streetlight request by Joseph and Jennifer Vasapolli for Webster Way/ Center Street Intersection

Joseph Vasapolli was present to answer questions regarding his request for the Board to approve installation of a streetlight at the intersection of Center Street and Webster Way. Mr. Vasapolli stated that the area is very dark during bus stop hours making it unsafe for children and pedestrians. Mr. and Mrs. Vasapolli have agreed to donate the light. Ms. Dembkoski indicated that the Town appreciates the donation; however, the light department cannot accept it. The cost for a new light is approximately \$42 per year for the next 5 years and then will drop to approximately \$16 per year with the new LED light. Ms. Dembkoski also stated that the General Manager of the light department supports the installation of a light at this intersection. In response to a question from the Board, Ms. Dembkoski indicated there is no cost to install the new light and confirmed the total cost would be approximately \$42 per year per light. Selectman O'Neil asked whether the Board should consider installing more than one light given the low cost. Because the vote needs to include the pole number for the light, the Board will consider adding other lights at a future meeting.

Selectman O'Neil made a motion to approve the installation of a streetlight at the intersection of Webster Way and Center Street on pole #3/191. Seconded by Selectman Dunn; voted 5-0-0.

Veasey Park Property & Liability Insurance

Ms. Dembkoski explained that the Town was notified by its insurance carrier that given all of the activities that go on at Veasey Park the insurance company would no longer be covering Veasey Park as of July 1, 2017. The old policy only had minimal coverage and was undervalued. The Town was able to get a new policy through Seneca for approximately \$11,000; however there is no money in the budget to cover the cost and the account is already in a deficit. Mike Dempsey, member of the Conservation Commission, which oversees Veasey Park, indicated Veasey Park does not have the funds to cover the cost. The Board discussed the need to have a plan for the future of Veasey Park if it is not self-sustaining. Mr. Dempsey agreed to work with the Town to try to have the Veasey Park revolving fund pay for a portion of the cost.

Selectman Dunn made a motion to pay the first insurance payment and have the Conservation Commission come before the Board to discuss ways to fund the remaining balance for the year. Seconded by Selectman Watson; voted 5-0-0.

Lieutenant Governor Meeting of August 29th recap

Ms. Dembkoski explained that the Friday prior to the Lieutenant Governor's arrival, she received a phone call that the Lieutenant Governor had a forty-five minute window between traveling and wanted to stop by on Tuesday and speak with Ms. Dembkoski about the Community Compact and building department grant. Ms. Dembkoski invited the Chairman and previous Chairman to attend. A meeting with the full Board could not be scheduled given that notice could not be

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posted 48 hours prior to the meeting. Chairman Wood stated they talked about the post office and gas station. Ms. Dembkoksi indicated they also spoke about funding for the senior center, the building department grant and the community compact.

Michael Dempsey, 33 Uptack Road, asked the Board to reconsider their vote for Kathleen Prunier to the Elm Square Committee. Chairman Wood stated the Board has already voted. Selectwoman Carpenter stated she respects the Chair's position but disagrees and would be willing to revote.

VOTES OF THE BOARD

Minutes from September 5, 2017

Selectwoman Carpenter made a motion to revise the minutes from September 5, 2017 to include under "Discussion and Possible Vote" regarding the Open Meeting Law Complaint, that Selectwoman Carpenter attempted to speak and was not permitted to speak and was told she was out of order. Seconded by Selectman Watson. Chairman Wood indicated he did not want to vote until the video is reviewed. No vote was taken on the motion.

Selectwoman Carpenter made a motion to revise the minutes of September 5, 2017 by amending paragraph three under "Selectman's time", by deleting "cost" in the first sentence and replacing it with "process". Chairman Wood indicated they would review the video and vote on the minutes at the next meeting.

Executive session minutes from September 5, 2017

Selectman Watson made a motion to approve the executive session minutes of September 5, 2017. Seconded by Selectman Dunn; voted 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectman Dunn stated Governor's Road looks complete and he hopes the neighbors are happy and commended the highway department for a job well done. Selectman Dunn thanked the road commission and the highway department for addressing the other roads in town that needed to be done. The School Street project should be done in the next couple of weeks.

Selectwoman Carpenter provided the Board with an open meeting law ruling determination from the Attorney General's office in order to provide some guidance on the definition of "an emergency". In accordance with the Attorney General's opinion, "an emergency is defined as a sudden, generally unexpected occurrence or set of circumstances demanding immediate action".

Selectwoman Carpenter requested personnel bylaws be placed on the agenda. Chairman Wood stated they would try to place on the next agenda for discussion.

Selectman O'Neil asked for Mr. Houghton and Mr. Castaway to be placed on the agenda for an update. Selectman O'Neil thanked Selectman Dunn for his work on Bagnall grounds. Selectman O'Neil also asked if there was any progress on the bathrooms at the Pines.

Chairman Wood asked for an update on the function of the well at the Pines. Ms. Dembkoski indicated the next step is to go out to bid for a pump.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Minutes from September 18, 2017
2. Letter from the AG's Division of Open Government regarding the Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Anne Brodie on August 21, 2017.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S TIME

Ms. Dembkoski reminded everyone that the Pines Speedway Reunion is this Saturday at the Pines.

The light department has asked Ms. Dembkoski to remind residents that are using automatic bill pay from their checking account to please update the address for the payment to read "944 Salem Street". Mail is no longer being forwarded from the old address.

The Town has flu clinics scheduled for Tuesday, October 17th and Tuesday October 24th from 9-11AM for residents over 60, and Tuesday, November 7th and Tuesday, November 14th from 5-7PM for anyone 9 and older. You must bring insurance card and/or Medicare card.

Tomorrow morning at 10:00AM, the Council on Aging is hosting a joint meeting with the Police Chief and Fire Chief regarding process and procedures when someone calls 911.

Pumpkin Fest is Thursday, October 26th from 5:30-7:30PM, with a rain date of Friday, October 27th. Information is posted and the Town hopes to have staging set up so pumpkins can be dropped off anytime from October 19th through October 26th.

SELECTMEN'S TIME

Selectman Watson asked for a discussion of resident's comments with parameters to be placed on a future agenda.

Selectman Dunn asked that a letter be sent to the recreation committee to find out the process at the Pines with scheduling of repair work, raising money for maintenance and where they are with the plan. Selectman Dunn also requested a letter be sent to the Bagnell maintenance committee and find out what their plan is for maintenance. Ms. Dembkoski indicated that an agreement has been signed with a landscaping company to provide services for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Selectman O'Neil stated that his child was injured by a piece of equipment at The Pines. Selectman O'Neil asked that anyone that leaves equipment there should make sure it is secured. Mr. O'Neil also stated a resident commented to him that nothing seems to be getting done but when asked what should be done, there was no response. Mr. O'Neil asked that if there is something that is not getting done, please inform the Board.

Selectman Dunn made a motion to adjourn at 8:06PM. Seconded by Mr. O'Neil; voted 5-0-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Monday, October 16, 2017** at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Laurie Burzlaff, minutes clerk