

Groveland Board of Selectmen
Meeting minutes
November 13, 2017

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

Absent: None

Others present: Denise Dembkoski, Finance Director

The meeting was called to order at 6:31PM.

RESIDENT/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVE WARRANTS

PW#18-19 \$150,726.63

Chairman Wood made a motion, seconded by Selectmen O'Neil to approve payroll warrant #18-19 in the amount of \$150,726.63; voted 5-0-0; warrant approved.

BW # 18-19 \$1,155,859.71

Chairman Wood made a motion seconded by Selectman O'Neil to approve bill warrant #18-19 in the amount of \$1,155,859.71; voted 5-0-0; warrant approved.

APPOINTMENTS

None

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE

Summer Program 2017 Recap with Matt Castonguay

Mr. Castonguay provided the Board with a written summary of the 2017 Summer Program and reviewed staffing levels, number of registrations, towns represented and financials. Mr. Castonguay also highlighted some of the activities and manners of communication used to inform parents.

Chairman Wood asked what they were looking to do with the excess funds raised. Mr. Castonguay indicated they would use the funds for scholarships for residents of Groveland to attend next year. The Board asked for a portion of the excess funds from the program to be set aside for maintenance of the fields. Mr. Castonguay agreed to pay the \$3,200 cost for the fertilizer program.

Public Comment Discussion-Information submitted by Jan Dempsey (taken out of order)

Jan Dempsey submitted to the Board information regarding how other towns handle public comment. Mike Dempsey indicated that public comment participation has greatly diminished since the current policy was instituted. Mr. Dempsey asked the Board to open public comment without the need to submit four days prior and see how it works.

Chairman Wood expressed his desire to be prepared and would not be in favor of changing the policy. Selectman Dunn stated that he is willing to try it but past experience has been that it has been used as a forum and often got out of control. Selectman Watson indicated that participation is important and under the right parameters it can work but four days is too restrictive. He would like to try it without the four day requirement. Selectwoman Carpenter thinks that removing the four day requirement makes it much easier for citizens to participate and the chair has the ability to stop it from getting out of control. She would also like to try it without the four day requirement. Selectman O'Neil agrees with Chairman Wood but remains open to the idea and suggested the Board use the document presented as a first draft and rework it to make some more specific guidelines. Mr. Dunn suggested for the next three meetings to remove the 48 hour requirement to see if attendance increases.

Tracy Gilford, 4 Abbot Circle, asked the Board to allow public comment without the 48 hour restriction. He indicated if it was allowed he would have used it tonight to take the opportunity to thank Chairman Wood and the fire department. Mr. Wood stated that he would allow that type of public comment if asked.

Jan Dempsey stated that people need to feel they can come before the Board with an issue. Selectwoman Carpenter made a motion that the Board remove the 48 hour notice requirement for the time being while the Board explores making a permanent policy change, leaving the remainder of the policy unchanged during this interim time; seconded by Selectman Watson; voted 3-2-0. Chairman Wood and Selectman O'Neil opposed.

Recreation Committee update regarding the Pines with Mike Houghton

Mike Houghton stated that they will dig a trench across the middle of the field for future lighting. Also, a trench along the slope of the hill will be dug to help with drainage, and depending on weather, they would like to bring in topsoil but most likely that will not be until the spring. Mr. Houghton is looking to put fencing up to protect the field.

Selectman Watson suggested contacting their state senator to get something in the state budget or soliciting donations to help pay for the lights. Selectman O'Neil asked about using Groveland Electric to install the lights. Mr. Houghton did not speak to them about the lights since it is not in their budget at this time. The Board discussed ways to generate revenue in order to fund the maintenance of the fields. Ché Condon, 2 Berrywood Lane suggested charging a user fee. Ms. Demboski recommended the Board look at what the costs would be for maintaining the fields and work with the different groups to come up with a plan to cover the costs.

Personnel By-Law Discussion

Selectman O'Neil suggested taking the by law section by section and working with department heads to incorporate what they need. Selectwoman Carpenter indicated that the Board would need to go to Town Meeting to remove the requirement of a Personnel Advisory Board. Ms. Demboski indicated that the Personnel Advisory Board was abolished by the Board of Selectmen in 2005. Ms. Carpenter suggested reinstating the Advisory Board because the Board cannot change the personnel policy without following the guidelines in the personnel bylaw. Ms. Demboski indicated that the personnel procedures manual does not go before Town Meeting. Selectman Dunn suggested seeing if anyone is interested in serving on the committee and if no one comes forward than they go to Town Meeting to remove the Advisory Board. Ms. Carpenter made a motion to solicit membership for a personal advisory board consistent with what the

current by law says, composed of 5 members, one of which shall be a town employee, and see the response if people are interested; seconded by Selectman Dunn; voted 5-0-0.

VOTES OF THE BOARD

Minutes from October 16, 2017

Selectman Watson made a motion to approve the minutes from October 16, 2017; seconded by Selectman Dunn; voted 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectwoman Carpenter asked for a status regarding bathroom at Pines from Mr. Arakelian. Ms. Dembkoski reported that to date there has not been a response.

Chairman Wood asked about Mr. Watson's meeting with the contractor regarding Route 97. Mr. Watson stated that items have been corrected, some are in process and those not on the plan will be discussed between the road commissioner and the contractor.

CORRESPONDENCE

Minutes from October 30, 2017

Selectman Watson asked for the following corrections: Page 4- votes of the Board-items declared surplus by road commissioner, the sentence needs to be corrected to indicate all items are offered to other departments first. Ms. Dembkoski will check on the policy for that. Page 5-4th line should read "applicant was interviewed and was **not** right for the position." Mr. Watson also asked for page numbers to be placed at the bottom of the pages.

Jim Day proposal for "GameDAY Youth Sports Clinics"

Letter from the Attorney General to Kathleen Prunier regarding her Open Meeting Law complaint

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S TIME

Ms. Dembkoski stated that the school building project planning workshops started and the next meetings are November 15th and December 13th from 6-9PM. She thanked the highway department for dismantling the staging and disposing of all pumpkins from Pumpkinfest. The rededication of the Bates Veterans Memorial Bridge is confirmed for December 2nd at 11AM. Ms. Dembkoski wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

SELECTMEN'S TIME

Selectman Watson informed residents that the new trash truck is in operation and trash and recycling is being picked up at same time. He also suggested adding a section of the meeting for committee reports. Mr. Watson also announced his office hours tomorrow at 10AM.

Selectman Dunn stated that he will be volunteering his time, outside of his role as a selectman, to move to the Town Hall lawn the uprooted tree at Nichols Village and that Valley Tree will donating the use of a crane.

Selectwoman Carpenter stated that the Elm Square Committee will have their next meeting on December 6th.

Chairman Wood will not be available for the meeting on December 26, 2017. Selectwoman Carpenter and Selectman Watson also indicated they will not be available on that date. The

Groveland Board of Selectmen meeting- November 13, 2017

Board agreed to vote at the next meeting to authorize either Selectman Dunn or Selectmen O'Neil to sign the warrants.

Selectman Watson made a motion to adjourn at 8:28PM; seconded by Selectman Dunn; voted 5-0-0.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Monday, November 27, 2017** at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Laurie Burzlaff, minutes clerk

**** Unanimously Approved on January 8, 2018 ****