

Groveland Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2017

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

Absent: None

Others Present: Denise Dembkoski (Finance Director)

Recorder: Melanie Rich

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD – ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR – Selectman O'Neil nominated Mike Wood for Chairman; Bill Dunn seconded; voted 4-1-0; motion approved with Selectman Watson against. Chair Wood nominated Selectman Bill O'Neil for Vice Chairman; no second. Selectman Watson nominated Selectman Bill Dunn for Vice Chairman; Selectman Dunn declined the nomination. Selectman Watson nominated Selectwoman Lisa Carpenter for Vice Chair; Selectman Dunn seconded; voted 4-0-1, with Selectman O'Neil abstaining.

RESIDENT/PUBLIC COMMENTS: None tonight.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:

Selectman O'Neil made a motion to approve PW#17-43 in the amount of \$163,895.32; Selectman Watson seconded; voted 4-0-1; warrant approved with Selectwoman Dube-Carpenter abstaining.

Selectman O'Neil made a motion to approve DW#17-41A in the amount of \$27,214.56; Selectman Watson seconded; 4-0-1; warrant approved with Selectwoman Dube-Carpenter abstaining.

Selectman O'Neil made a motion to approve BW#17-41C in the amount of \$750,000.00; Selectman Dunn seconded; all voted in favor; warrant approved

Selectman O'Neil made a motion to approve BW#17-43 in the amount of \$995,654.43; Selectman Watson seconded; 4-0-1; warrant approved with Selectwoman Dube-Carpenter abstaining.

APPOINTMENTS:

Selectwoman Carpenter made a motion to appoint Dan Stone to the Zoning Board of Appeals through June 30, 2018; Selectman O'Neil seconded; voted 5-0-0.

Selectman Watson made a motion to appoint Susan D'Angelo to the Board of Registrars through June 30, 2017; Selectman Dunn seconded; voted 5-0-0.

RECOGNITION:

Chair Wood read the Certificate of Recognition the board presented to Bob Guptil on behalf of the town and residents as the March Volunteer of the Month and thanked him for his support.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE:

Evaluation of Three Proposals submitted for the purchase of Town Land on Salem and Uptack Streets) – Selectman Watson asked if any of the bidders included the proposed use for the property. Ms. Dembkoski said uses included a storage facility, business office space, and business condos. Selectman Dunn made a

motion to accept the proposal from Steven Dehullu to purchase the land on the Uptack and Salem Street property for \$170K; Selectman Watson seconded. The other bids received were from (1) James Ogden of Georgetown MA at \$125K, and (2) Steven Daniels, Daniel Electric at \$55,300. Voted 5-0-0.

VOTES OF THE BOARD:

Selectman Watson made a motion to approve the April 3, 2017 Meeting Minutes; Selectman Dunn seconded; voted 4-0-1.

Selectman Watson made a motion to approve the April 4, 2017 Meeting Minutes; Selectman Dunn seconded; voted 4-0-1.

Selectman Dunn made a motion to accept the revised Complete Streets Policy; Selectman Watson seconded. Discussion: Ms. Dembkoski explained the policy was submitted to the state; the town was 3 points under for that policy. Over the last year it was determined that the Community Trail project can rely on funds from the Complete Streets project; Mike Dempsey helped revise it to the state requirements. Voted 5-0-0.

Selectman Dunn made a motion to accept the resignation of Tokala Close, Facilities Coordinator, effective May 11, 2017; Selectman Watson seconded. Discussion: Selectman Dunn said he did an unbelievable job and will be missed. Mr. Close will do his best to fill in until a replacement is found. Voted 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS (Unfinished Business):

Selectman Dunn said the Bagnall School project has been seeded; Selectman Watson got the picnic tables delivered; and the ball fields have been raked. He will make sure the sprinklers get turned on. Once the grass starts coming in, it will need to be fertilized. With the money left, they plan to look into picket fencing when the metal fence comes down; any extra will be used for hot top on the side of the building. Chair Wood thanked Selectman Dunn for donating and volunteering his time on the project.

Ms. Dembkoski responded to Selectman O’Neil’s previous inquiry about the stop sign at Gardner Street and Main Street; it cannot be changed. The Uniform Traffic Control Section 2B.04 states that the roadway carrying the lowest volume shall be controlled. Bob Arakelian checked with Merrimack Valley Planning and confirmed that a traffic count on Main Street westbound yielded 2,438 vehicles to Gardner Street’s 697 vehicles.

Selectman Dunn said he met with Mike Houghton on the Pines project. Mr. Houghton indicated that they still want to be involved. There is a signed contract for the well; we will move forward with that. Selectwoman Carpenter asked if the river as a source of water supply was explored for that property and was told yes. Ms. Dembkoski explained that when the Recreation Committee researched it, they contacted the same company that put the pump in for Pentucket using the river; the price that was quoted was significant (well over \$100K). The BOS eventually took it over and decided to move forward with the well instead of the river.

Selectman O’Neil asked about the Pines bathrooms. Selectman Dunn said he talked to the Road Commissioner and he is working on it.

Bob Arakelian will be moving the dog park gate away from the boat ramp because parking is impeding the boat ramp slightly. The upkeep still needs to be addressed. Ms. Dembkoski said we need to increase signage and it would be up to this board to decide if they want that area specifically or do they want to limit it to dogs only to the dog park. Selectwoman Carpenter suggested putting together a subcommittee to address the issues and how it can best be managed; Ms. Dembkoski will put something on the website asking for volunteers who may be interested in forming a group to maintain it.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. April 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes.
2. April 24, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S TIME: Nothing tonight.

SELECTMEN'S TIME:

Selectwoman Carpenter would like to add an agenda item for the next meeting, a contingency plan with respect for the Town Clerk if she is unable to perform her duties. Ms. Dembkoski explained the conversation she had with Anne; her schedule will be Monday through Thursday. Ms. Dembkoski does not foresee any issues other than this week with people needing to get sworn in. Chair Wood agreed we should have a contingency plan in place. He said anyone working in that office will have to be appointed by the board, CORI checked and bonded. Selectwoman Carpenter said whatever policy we have should be documented so there won't be any question that its application is being consistent. Ms. Dembkoski said volunteers would not be bonded, but the Town Clerk is required by law to have an assistant bonded. Selectwoman Carpenter asked if there was a process the board needs to go through because it is an elected position. Ms. Dembkoski said the board has the power to appoint an assistant, they both don't need to be elected. Selectman Dunn said help is also needed for other departments when someone is out. Ms. Dembkoski said when we were hiring Ms. Murphy, she requested that she be in the capacity of a floater, but the board did not what to go that way. Ms. Dembkoski said we need to look at the senior work off program. We have an accepted program though the COA that is underutilized.

Selectman Watson said the medical marijuana referendum question was defeated 59% to 40%; the town doesn't want it; hopefully this will end the discussion for a medical marijuana growth facility in the Town of Groveland. Chair Wood said it was a non-binding article; it was more for an opinion. He said he was not pro-marijuana because he wanted to force it on the town, he wanted the town to be able make their vote; they did, and he respects that.

Selectman O'Neil said he was disappointed by the turnout; so few people chose to exercise their right to vote and have their voice heard.

Chair Wood spoke of a meeting that took place on April 19th; some people were invited; some were not. It ended up being a quorum of the Community Preservation Committee. Not being satisfied with the response he received from Mike Dempsey, he would like it as an agenda item for the next meeting.

The next regular meeting will be held **Monday, May 15, 2017** at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Wood made a motion to adjourn; Selectman Dunn seconded; voted 5-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

*** Unanimously Approved on May 30, 2017 ***