



APPROVED APRIL 24, 2023

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 13, 2023
Groveland Town Hall
183 Main Street, Groveland, MA 01834

This meeting was in-person and also broadcast live on Groveland Public Access, Channel 9, as well as through Zoom virtual meeting software for remote access.

Present: Acting Chair Jason Naves, Selectmen, Kathleen Kastrinelis, Mark Parenteau.
Rebecca Oldham, Town Administrator
Selectman MacDonald arrived at approximately 7:10 pm.

Absent: Selectmen Ed Watson

CALL MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:30PM – Acting Chair Naves called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT: *Written submissions for public comment must be made before the start of the meeting per the Board of Selectmen's Public Comment Policy amended November 13, 2017.*

- *None.*

APPROVE WARRANTS:

PW # 23-37 \$ 189,647.28

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to approve Warrant PW #23-37 in the amount of \$ 189,647.28. Voted: 3-0. Two absent.

BW# 23-37 \$ 586,918.57

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to approve Warrant BW #23-37 in the amount of \$ 586,918.57. Voted: 3-0. Two absent.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes January 3, 2023

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes January 17, 2023

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes January 30, 2023

A motion was moved by Selectman Naves and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to approve the Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes from January 3, 2023, January 17, 2023, and January 30, 2023. Voted: 3-0. Two absent.

APPOINTMENTS OF THE BOARD:

1. Appoint John Gray of 90 School Street to the Historic Commission effective March 13, 2023, to June 30, 2023.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Parenteau to appoint John Gray of 90 School Street to the Historic Commission effective March 13, 2023, to June 30, 2023. Voted: 3-0. Two absent.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE:

2. Request from Jeff and Maria's Food and Ice Cream for to extend the hours of operation for one night in July and one night in August by four (4) hours, from 10 PM to 2 AM, to host an "All - Nighter" Event:

TA Oldham noted that exact dates are not known at this time. Another vote will not be needed. The Zoning Board has already voted on this for three years, this is an annual vote by the BOS.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Parenteau to approve the Request from Jeff and Maria's Food and Ice Cream for to extend the hours of operation for one night in July and one night in August by four (4) hours, from 10 PM to 2 AM, to host an "All - Nighter" Event for 2023. Voted: 3-0. Two absent.

3. Request to add a streetlight on Main Street across from the entrance at Pentucket Middle/High School, Pole 149:

TA Oldham, noted this was a request by Kevin Snow, General Manager at Groveland Electric.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Parenteau to approve the Request to add a streetlight on Main Street across from the entrance at Pentucket Middle/High School, Pole 149. Voted: 3-0. Two absent.

4. Vote to sign GHA 2023 Capital Funds Form

TA Oldham noted that the Groveland Housing Authority requested that the Town sign off on this form. Selectman Kastrinelis requested further information.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Parenteau to table the vote to sign the GHA 2023 Capital Funds Form. Voted: 3-0. Two absent.

5. Presentation from Powers and Sullivan, LLC. FY2022 Reports:

Michael Nelligan and Laura Stone were present and addressed the Board to review the FY2022 Annual Audit. Michael stated that the Audit went very smoothly this year. The "books" are in good shape. This was one of the best audits that Powers and Sullivan, LLC has completed for the Town of Groveland.

6. FY24 Budget Discussion:

TA Oldham briefly reviewed the budget. An override of about \$1.2 million dollars is being proposed.

The Board took a five-minute recess to wait for Selectman MacDonald to be in attendance.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Parenteau to take a five-minute recess. Voted: 3-0. Two absent.

Selectman MacDonald joined the meeting at approximately 7:10 pm.

Ruth Rivard and Sarah McGrath from the Finance Board were present and addressed the Board. Ruth explained the process that the Finance Board went through; they met with the School and the strain on the budget for the school has nothing to do with the new High School. The override includes fair wage adjustments for employees based on the wage and classification study – this will be taking a proactive approach. Retaining employees is a priority.

Selectman Kastrinelis noted that Groveland has not had a successful General Override since 2007.

Selectman Parenteau noted that he worked for the town for ten years and left because of the pay. There are talented employees that work for the town now and we keep losing them – if we pay them a fair rate they might stay on.

Selectman MacDonald noted he considers it to be poor management practices when it comes to the school budget. The school has all the “bells and whistles”. The problem will continue year after year because they don’t have the courage to address the structural defects in the school district. They need to consolidate resources. Selectman MacDonald stated he is vehemently opposed to an override and does not feel the School Committee did everything they could and expressed his disappointment in the School Committee.

Selectman Kastrinelis noted it was not okay to “campaign” during this meeting.

Selectman MacDonald noted that he has an absolute right to express his opinion and encouraged Selectman Kastrinelis to call State Ethics if she feels he is breaking the law.

Ruth Rivard noted that the school has worked very hard this year to be open and transparent and gave information to the Finance Board to make informed decisions.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Parenteau to place on the ballot the following question:

Shall the Town of Groveland be allowed to assess an additional \$1,250,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of paying the Pentucket Regional School District annual assessment for the FY beginning July 1, 2023.
Yes or No. Voted: 4-0. One absent.

Selectman MacDonald asked for the cost of this if it passes for each household and for that information to be part of the ballot question and TA Oldham responded that it could not be added to the ballot but is available. This will go on the election ballot and will also go on the Town Meeting Warrant.

VOTES OF THE BOARD:

- None.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S TIME:

TA Oldham reported: In the process of drafting the Warrant. Asked the Board to consider closing the Warrant at their next meeting.

SELECTMEN’S TIME & REPORTS *Time to be used to make statements, propose future agenda items, or congratulate residents/teams on accomplishments; this time should not be used to initiate a discussion.*

Selectman MacDonald: Explained the reason for being late to the meeting; he was attending a sports banquet at the school for his son.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Selectman Kastrinelis asked if Selectman MacDonald had the evaluation for the TA done and Selectman MacDonald responded no. Today was the deadline noted Acting Chair Naves.

OTHER ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED AT TIME OF POSTING

CORRESPONDENCE

- Board of Selectmen Executive Session Meeting Minutes October 20, 2022

*Groveland Board of Selectmen Meeting
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- Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes February 13, 2023
- Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes February 27, 2023

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Parenteau to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. Voted: 4-0. One absent.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Monday, March 27, 2023, at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine T. Ingram

23-37 BILLS WARRANT BREAKDOWN:

<i>Town:</i>	<i>\$ 139,302.89</i>
<i>W/S:</i>	<i>\$ 12,467.95</i>
<i>Payroll Withholding:</i>	<i>\$ 31,717.43</i>
<i>Health Insurance:</i>	<i>\$</i>
<i>Light Bills:</i>	<i>\$ 178,783.27</i>
<i>Grants & Revolving:</i>	<i>\$ 107,361.03</i>
<i>Chapter 90:</i>	<i>\$</i>
<i>Pentucket Assessment:</i>	<i>\$</i>
<i>Essex Tech Assessment:</i>	<i>\$</i>
<i>Whittier Assessment:</i>	<i>\$ 117,286.00</i>
<i>Capital:</i>	<i>\$</i>