



APPROVED AUGUST 28, 2023

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 17, 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: Chair Daniel MacDonald, Selectmen Kathleen Kastrinelis, Jason Naves, Mark Parenteau, Edward Watson
Rebecca Oldham, Town Administrator

CALL MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:30PM: Chair MacDonald called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and introduced the Board members and the Town Administrator to the audience.

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.

PRESENTATION:

Presentation of certificates to the Langley Adams Library Youth Group to recognize their Art Installment titled '*Is It Art?*' being displayed at the Town Hall.

TA Oldham noted this is the 2nd installment of art; this installment shows how items can be reused and repurposed.

Bergen Daley, Children's and Youth Services at Langley Adams Library was present and addressed the Board to explain the project.

All of the citations are the same except for the names; Chair MacDonald read the names and presented the citations to the recipients that were present in the audience.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. 7:00 PM: Chair MacDonald read the Public Notice:

Pursuant to: G. L. c. 40, § 22 provides the Groveland Board of Selectmen with the authority to promulgate parking regulations within the town. Therefore, the Board of Selectmen, on July 17, 2023 at 7PM will hold a public hearing to discuss parking restrictions on Sunset Circle. Sunset Circle is an accepted public right of way, accepted at Annual Town Meeting on XXX and as laid out on Plan Book 470 Plan 70 recorded at the Southern Essex Registry of Deed on April 2, 2019. Such regulations will state that:

There shall be no parking on the westerly side of Sunset Circle from street entrance to the furthest point of the cul-de-sac.

Public Comment:

Steve Baker, 5 Sunset Circle was present and reiterated that he wanted to be sure that public safety vehicles could go down the street if there is an emergency.

Discussion:

TA Oldham reported that the Highway Department, Police Chief and Fire Chief have all signed off on this.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to close the Public Hearing at 7:03 pm. Voted: 5-0.

A motion was moved by Selectman MacDonald and seconded by Selectman Naves to adopt a regulation that states as follows: There shall be no parking on the westerly side of Sunset Circle from street entrance to the furthest point of the cul-de-sac as laid out on Plan Book 470 Plan 70 recorded at the Southern Essex Registry of Deed on April 2, 2019. Voted: 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

2. Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes May 22, 2023

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to approve the Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes from May 22, 2023. Voted: 5-0.

3. Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes June 5, 2023

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes from June 5, 2023. Voted: 5-0.

4. Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes June 20, 2023

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to approve the Board of Selectman Minutes from June 20, 2023. Voted: 5-0.

APPOINTMENTS OF THE BOARD:

5. Appointment of Donna Arnold, of Pinewood Lane Groveland, as Assistant Treasurer/Collector & Benefits Coordinator effective July 1, 2023. The position is 37.5 hours/week at a rate of \$33.34/hour. (*Appointed at the July 5th meeting but with an updated rate of hourly pay*):

TA Oldham explained that the rate was originally approved at a higher amount than it should have been.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to appoint Donna Arnold, of Pinewood Lane Groveland, as Assistant Treasurer/Collector & Benefits Coordinator effective July 1, 2023. The position is 37.5 hours/week at a rate of \$33.34/hour. (*Appointed at the July 5th meeting but with an updated rate of hourly pay*). Voted: 5-0.

6. Appointment of Sophie Petit, Benjamin Street, to the Recreation Committee effective July 17, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

Selectman Kastrinelis read the letter of interest.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to appoint Sophie Petit, Benjamin Street, to the Recreation Committee effective July 17, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Voted: 5-0.

7. Appoint poll workers for the period September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024.

Chair MacDonald read the names of the poll workers. Selectman Kastrinelis asked if the Town Clerk reaches out to the Town Committees to see if they recommend any names and Town Clerk Cunniff who was present at the meeting responded there is no active Republican Party in Groveland. There is always a need for additional poll workers.

A motion was moved by Selectman Watson and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to appoint poll workers for the period September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024. Voted: 5-0.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE:

8. Approve streetlight placements at Center Street, near Washington Park:

TA Oldham explained there was a request by Groveland Baseball to add two lights to two of the polls on Center Street - Pole 47 and 49 so they will be focused more on the parking area. Kevin Snow, Municipal Light Dept. and Police Chief Gillan reviewed the request and agreed it will help that area during late evening hours.

A motion was moved by Selectman Watson and seconded by Selectman Parenteau to approve the streetlight placement at Center Street, near Washington Park.

Selectman Kastrinelis added a “friendly” amendment to add in “angled at the parking lot”.

A motion was moved by Selectman Kastrinelis and seconded by Selectman Naves to amend the above motion to add in “angled at the parking lot” so the motion will read: to approve the streetlight placement at Center Street, near Washington Park angled at the parking lot. Voted on the amendment: 4-1. Selectman Watson voted against.

The main motion as amended passed 5-0.

9. Review vote for salary reallocation in the Town Clerk Budget:

TA Oldham reported that she received a comment from a resident that attended the last meeting asking if the BOS acted in their legal capacity to increase or decrease salary. Town Counsel reviewed this and specifically cited:

Chapter 41, sec.108 which states:

The salary and compensation of all elected officers of a town shall be fixed annually by vote of the town at an annual town meeting, but said salary or compensation may be revised by a two-thirds vote of any special town meeting called to conduct business later in the same fiscal year for which said salary or compensation was originally fixed.

A motion was moved by Chair MacDonald and seconded by Selectman Kastrinelis to rescind the vote of our prior meeting for the salary reallocation in the Town Clerk’s budget as it was an error of law and so that we are consistent with what was voted on at the Annual Town Meeting. Voted: 5-0.

10. Town Administrator Goals:

Creation of a Public Grounds and Cemetery Division and Building and Facilities Division underneath the Highway Department:

Selectman Kastrinelis recused herself and left the meeting prior to the discussion.

TA Oldham explained that the current structure is fragmented in terms of maintenance. TA Oldham worked with the Highway Superintendent to look for a more collaborative, efficient environment where resources and capacity can be shared in better ways. Initial conversations have taken place with the Cemetery Commission – they were a little hesitant at first but they seem to have come around and took a unanimous vote to slowly move in that direction.

The Board had to pause this conversation in order to start the Public Hearing at 7:00 pm. The Board resumed the discussion immediately following the Public Hearing.

Renny Carroll, Highway Superintendent was present and addressed the Board to express his support of this proposal. This will be a better use of staff time. The Cemetery Superintendent will become a Cemetery Supervisor and the Highway Superintendent will oversee the Cemetery Department. This will also help broaden the employee's capabilities.

Chair MacDonald stated that he would like to hear from the Cemetery Commissioner.

A motion was moved by Selectman Watson and seconded by Selectman Parenteau to table the discussion. Voted: 4-0.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S TIME

TA Oldham reported: We continue to struggle with the Salem Street Dam. DCR Came out to inspect the Dam and they advised the Town to move quickly to identify funding to remedy. TA Oldham reported on the warrants that she signed.

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 Kastrinelis: met with Inge regarding Chapter 70. Inge will review the information. Also working on the idea of Solar power.

Selectman Watson: Asked for an update on the Economic Development Committee. TA Oldham reported that the Committee has not yet met, there are members that have not been sworn in and suggested adding this to a September BOS meeting agenda. TA Oldham will reach out to the members who have not yet been sworn in so a meeting can be scheduled in the near future.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- None.

OTHER ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED AT TIME OF POSTING:

- None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- None.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was moved by Chair MacDonald and seconded by Selectman Watson to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm. Voted: 5-0.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Monday, July 31, 2023, at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine T. Ingram