

Greensboro Selectboard

January 13, 2016

Meeting Minutes

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Wood, Peter Romans, Sean Thomson, Marsha Gadoury, Ernest Machia

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jack Sumberg, Chief Aaron Cochran, Dan Tanner, Valdine Hall, Josh Karp, Adam Froehlig

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

MINUTES

1. Minutes from the December 9, 2015 meeting approved as amended.
2. Minutes from the January 5, 2016 meeting approved as written.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

There were no public concerns this evening.

ROADS

1. **Jack Sumberg (Glover Selectboard) – Gravel Pit.** Jack suggested that Greensboro and Glover work together: since the towns' gravel pits share a common boundary, joint planning of extraction and reclamation projects could save money for both towns in the future. The towns' Act 250 permits may have to be amended.
After discussion, the Board agreed to further explore this idea. Jack will continue his research on the situation; a site visit with members of both Selectboards and both Road Supervisors will happen in the coming year.
2. **Road Supervisor's Report – Dan Tanner.** Dan reported that the road crew has been busy with winter road maintenance.
3. **Greensboro Bend Culvert Replacement.** This did not go out to bid as planned; the town ended up providing the culvert, with the contractor's cost totaling approx. \$3500.
4. **Class IV Road Policy (Draft).** Sean reported that *V.S.A. Title 19, Chapter 11, §1108* provides for a fine in the case of the 'injuring of a highway'. A mechanism to levy fines had been the primary reason a Class IV Road policy was drafted; the Board agreed that in light of this statute, such a policy is not needed. Discussion about inspecting Class IV roads each spring to see if there has been damage to these roads

from logging, sugaring, etc. Sean made the following motion:

Annually, with the timing at the discretion of the Road Supervisor, an assessment and report will be completed on the status and condition of Class IV roads in Greensboro.

Marsha seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

POLICE

- 1. Police Reports.** The Board reviewed the November '15 and December '15 police reports.
- 2. Speed Study – Greensboro Bend.** Chief Cochran reported that the Dept. recently completed a speed study in Greensboro Bend, which consisted of three one-hour periods where vehicle speeds were recorded. The posted speed limit is 35 mph; average speeds during the study period were in the low 30s, with a few outlying speeds in the low 40s. The speed of 46 vehicles was measured.
After discussion, it was agreed that lowering the speed limit in Greensboro Bend does not make sense at this time, and that additional speed enforcement is the best approach to keep drivers within the speed limit.
- 3.** Chief Cochran noted that three H.P.D. officers had more solved crimes than most officers in 12 other area departments.
- 4.** Chief Cochran and the Board discussed a Dept. report comparing 2014 and 2015 arrest rates.
- 5.** Discussion of speeding on Breezy Ave. as people enter and exit Beach Rd. After discussion, it was agreed that more enforcement and ticketing would be the best approach.

TOWN CLERK & TREASURER – Valdine Hall

- 1. Budget F.Y. 2016 Y.T.D.** The Board reviewed the F.Y. 2016 budget, Y.T.D.
- 2. Budget F.Y. 2017 Draft.** The Board reviewed the F.Y. 2017 budget draft, and will meet on January 27 at 6:30 PM to finalize this budget and sign the town meeting warning.
- 3. Outside Auditor – Three Year Contract.** Pace & Hawley has been the town's outside auditor for the last three years. The firm quoted \$8650 for a new three year contract with the town (an increase of \$200); the Board approved and signed the new contract.
- 4. Liquor Licenses.** Marsha made the following motion:
The Board approves the following liquor licenses:
 - *Hill Farmstead Brewery: Class 1, 2, and Outside Consumption licenses*
 - *Smith's Grocery: Class 2 license*
 - *Willey's Store: Class 2 license*Peter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- 5.** The Board reviewed the 'Certified Equalized Property Value' report from the VT Dept. of Taxes. Valdine reported that in general, the numbers in the report are favorable.
- 6.** The Board signed the 2016 Certificate of Highway Mileage.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Temporary Signage Policy. Sean reported that recent VT & US Supreme Court rulings have found that municipalities cannot control the content of temporary signs placed on public property. VLCT is still reviewing these rulings, and has said it *may* be possible to regulate sign size (but not content) in town zoning Bylaws. The Board agreed to table the Temporary Signage Policy; Sean will keep the Board posted as the new rulings become better understood.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 1. Health Insurance for Town Employees.** Currently town employees can choose a family plan, which provides coverage for themselves plus their family members, with the town paying 90% of the cost. Discussion of changing the insurance benefit so that the town pays for coverage of the employee only; employees would have the option to purchase additional insurance for their family members. This would protect the town from major insurance cost increases if new personnel were hired and requested family plans. This change would not affect existing town employees (assuming current family situations remain unchanged). Sue made the following motion:

The Town will change its health insurance policy as follows: the town will pay 90% of insurance costs for individual town employees. Employees will have the option to purchase coverage for additional family members. This change will take effect January 1, 2017.

Marsha seconded the motion, which carried (S.W., M.G., E.M. in favor; P.R., S.T. opposed).

- 2. Selectboard Meeting Schedule.** For the time being, the Board will hold regular meetings once a month, on the second Wednesday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Sue made the following motion:

The Board will enter executive session at 8:14 PM to discuss the sale of the old Fire Station and the Greensboro Award.

Marsha seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 8:38 PM and took no action.

ADJOURNED: 8:38 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk

AMENDED 2/10/16 J.K.