

Greensboro Selectboard

February 11, 2015

Meeting Minutes

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Marsha Gadoury, Susan Wood, Warren Hill, Jr., Peter Romans, Ernest Machias

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kristen Leahy, Artie Chaffee, Officer Kevin Lehoe, Josh Karp, Candy Fox

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Minutes approved as written for the following meetings:

1. January 14 zoning Bylaw hearing
2. January 14 regular meeting
3. January 21 special meeting

PUBLIC CONCERNS

There were no public concerns this evening.

POLICE

1. The Board reviewed the January 2015 police report.
2. **Downed Trees on State Highways within Greensboro.** It often takes some time for state crews to clear downed trees on Routes 14 and 16. Officer Lehoe asked whether the Greensboro road crew could be asked to clear trees that fall across state roads within the Town's boundaries. Liability issues were discussed; Sue will look into this.

ROADS

1. There was no roads report to review this evening.
2. Artie Chaffee has been hired as the new road crew member; he will start work February 17.
3. There has been some overtime due to snowstorms and the road crew being short staffed.
4. **Extended Warranty for Western Star Truck.** Marsha will ask Dan to provide the Board with information and options for extended warranties, as well as recommendations.
5. **Plowing Out Fire Hydrants.** John Mackin asked Peter if the town would be willing to clear snow from in front of fire hydrants; John would direct the work. Discussion; historically the hydrants were plowed and shoveled out, most recently by Chuck Hill – why was this not

done this year? In the past, has this job been the responsibility of the Fire District, the Town, or the Fire Dept.? Peter/Ernie will research. Warren made the following motion:

The road crew will clear snow from fire hydrants with direction from John Mackin, when they can find the time. After an initial clearing of snow, the undertaking of, and paying for, the job will revert back to whoever historically had the responsibility.

Peter seconded the motion, which carried (W.H., P.R., E.M., S.W. in favor; M.G. opposed). Warren/Marsha will let Dan know.

KRISTEN LEAHY – Village Center Designation; VTEL Wireless Tower Application

- 1. Village Center Designation.** Kristen told the Board that a Village Center designation is primarily a way for downtown businesses to get tax credits (e.g. for internet and façade upgrades) and gives the Town higher priority for competitive sidewalk and municipal planning grants. The Town would apply for the designation for Greensboro Bend and Village. Kristen said that Greensboro is the only town in the area that doesn't have the designation, and added that there aren't any downsides to the designation. Warren made the following motion:

The Board supports applying for Village Center designation for Greensboro Bend and Greensboro Village.

Ernie seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- 2. VTEL Tower Application.** The Board reviewed VTEL's application to put up a wireless communications tower on George and Beverly Young's property. It was unclear if the tower would provide both cell phone service and wireless internet service, or just the latter.

Kristen told the Board that VTEL will need to come before the DRB for conditional use approval, and while statute doesn't allow the DRB to reject the project as a whole, it has the authority to hire a consultant to critique VTEL's application, question the size and height of the tower, require better screening, etc.

Kristen said the DRB's review will be thorough and that the Selectboard doesn't have to be concerned that by signing off on the project now, it might not be doing due diligence in reviewing the project. Warren made the following motion:

The Board will sign VTEL's application to put up a wireless communications tower on the property of George and Beverly Young, and will check the box on the application marked "We recommend approval of the Project by the VT Public Service Board".

Marsha seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk Valdine Hall was not present.

The Board reviewed the FY 2015 budget, YTD:

- Ernie has not received his Selectboard stipend yet (pro-rated).
- There was a question as to why many appropriations have not been paid out yet. Warren thought that it's been a policy not to release funds until the organization requests them, even though the voters approved the expenditures at town meeting.
- It appears that some cemetery administration costs that were recently paid had not been budgeted for.

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.

Fire Contract with Stannard. Stannard has not signed and returned the contract; Sue will ask Valdine to make sure that Stannard has indeed received the contract.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Code of Conduct Policy. Sue told the Board that since this policy needs to be renewed annually, it makes the most sense to adopt the policy with the newly configured Selectboard right after town meeting next month.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Northeast Kingdom Learning Services.

Candy Fox from NEKLS told the Board that her organization is a non-profit that helps community members with their educational and work goals, such as getting a GED, building job skills, and assistance with job searches. This March, NEKLS is offering a *Standards of Excellence in Customer Service* training, as well as a *Job Skills Workshop* (includes help with job applications and interviewing).

2. Solar Siting Standards. Warren said this came to pass based on a loss of local control in the siting of larger scale solar projects, and the lack of a good statewide policy dealing with such projects. Discussion. Warren made the following motion:

The Town shows it's support for the Solar Siting Standards as presented by the Town of Rutland by signing the resolution.

Marsha seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ADJOURNED: 7:59 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk