

# Greensboro Selectboard

March 11, 2015

## Meeting Minutes

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Marsha Gadoury, Susan Wood, Peter Romans, Ernie Machia

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sean Thomson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dan Tanner, Josh Karp, Rod Kerr, Charlie McAteer, Tim Short, Peter Roudebush, Kelly Fairchild, Michael Waring, Arrow Waring, Doug Casavant, Tom Anastasio, Gina Jenkins, Renee Circosta, Gary Circosta, Leo Circosta, Amelia Circosta, Erwin Salls, Jr., Art Brochu, Nathan Sicard

**CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 PM**

### MINUTES

Minutes approved as written for Feb. 11 and Feb. 18 meetings.

### SELECTBOARD REORGANIZATION

1. The Selectboard voted unanimously to fill the following positions:

- Selectboard Chair: *Sue Wood*
- Selectboard Vice Chair: *Peter Romans*
- Farmers Market Liaison: *Valdine Hall*
- Highway Dept. Liaisons: *Marsha Gadoury* (PRIMARY), *Ernie Machias* (SECONDARY)
- Historical Society Liaison: *Sean Thomson*
- Driveway Plowing Liaison: *Peter Romans*
- Fire Districts Liaison: *Ernie Machias*
- Greensboro Fire Dept. Liaison: *Peter Romans*
- Legal Liaison: *Sue Wood*
- Lakeview Union School Liaison: *Sean Thomson*
- Order Sheets: *Peter Romans* (PRIMARY), *Ernie Machias* (SECONDARY)

2. **Newspaper of Record.** The Selectboard unanimously agreed upon the Hardwick Gazette as the Town's official Newspaper of Record.

3. **Selectboard Meetings.** The Selectboard unanimously agreed that its regular meetings will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, at 6:30 PM in the Collier Room at the Greensboro Town Hall.

**4. Selectboard Rules of Procedure.** The Board reviewed the “*VLCT Model Rules of Procedure for Municipal Boards, Committees, and Commissions*” and adapted the document for Greensboro. The final version will be placed in the town offices for Board members to sign.

**SELECTBOARD APPOINTMENTS**

The Board made the following appointments (unanimously). A number of committee positions were not filled; Sue will ask Valdine to advertise vacancies on the Recreation Committee, NEK Waste Management District Board, and possibly others.

Road Supervisor	Dan Tanner
Conservation Commission	Erika Karp (Chair), Kristen Leahy <i>NOTE: Tim Short resigned; his position was not filled.</i>
Tree Warden	Judy Carpenter
Animal Control Officer	Kevin Rich
Energy Coordinator	Anne Stevens
Civil Defense	Erwin Salls, Jr.
Recreation Committee	Michelle Laflam, Mary McGrath, Erika Karp <i>NOTE: Ted Donlon (Chair) resigned, Valdine Hall resigned; Kim Greaves resigned, Deborah Holmes resigned; these positions were not filled.</i>
Development Review Board	Nat Smith, Linda Romans, MacNeil
Planning Commission	Mark Snyder <i>NOTE: Diana Griffiths has resigned; her position was not filled</i>
Town Service Officer	Peggy Lipscomb
Town Forest Fire Warden	Patricia Mercier
Caspian Lake Beach Committee	Marsha Gadoury (Chair), Aileen Gebbie, William Eisner, Jr., Diane Irish, Janet Long <b>HARDWICK REPRESENTATIVES:</b> H.P.D. Chief Aaron Cochran, Mark Salls
Emergency Planning Committee	Anne Stevens (Chair), Wayne Young, Marsha Gadoury, Tim Nisbet, Eric Pilbin, Andy Dales
Emergency Mgmt. Chair	Anne Stevens
Energy Committee	Anne Stevens (Chair), Peter Romans, Tom Hurst, Valerie Carter, Sr. Bernadette Bostwick, Judy Carpenter, Cheryl Fisher, Clive Gray, Erika Karp, Nancy Potak, Mark Snyder
Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District Rep.	Ken Johnston Alternate: OPEN
Grange Building Committee	Ted Donlon (Chair), Valdine Hall (Treasurer), Stephanie Herrick, Judy Dales, Anne Stevens, Robbie Hurst, Rob Brigham <i>NOTE: Peter Romans resigned; his position was not filled</i>

**PUBLIC CONCERNS**

**Kelly Fairchild – Snow Machines on Bayley Hazen Rd.** Kelly and her family live at 786 Bailey Hazen Rd. The VAST trail used to go behind their house (which was fine) but was recently re-routed

onto the road directly in front of their house. At times, the snow machine traffic makes the road feel like a superhighway; Kelly has become very concerned about the safety of her family and animals; there are also excessive noise and exhaust fumes to deal with.

It seems like the Board's approval of this trail re-routing was done hastily and without much thought, Kelly said.

Kelly's neighbor Peter Roudebush said that a number of years ago, two snow machines that were driving in the road collided in front of his house, and two people were killed.

Kelly wondered whether she should work with VAST, the town, or both to try to solve this problem. Dennis Pudvah (*Snowflake Ridgerunners Club*) did alert Kelly that the road was going to be used, but implied that there was no alternative for the time being. Sue said that the Board approved the trail being re-routed down the road on a temporary basis only, because VAST had not been able to come to an agreement with a nearby property owner. Both Sue and Peter said they'd look into this issue immediately.

## **POLICE**

No member of the Hardwick Police Dept. was present.

No monthly police report was available to review.

Tom Anastasio said that he was surprised at the letter Chief Cochran read at town meeting regarding a noise ordinance, and that the Chief seemed to be confusing a sample ordinance with an ordinance drafted specifically for Greensboro. Tom feels that the state statute that deals with noise is not adequate to protect residents, and that it's unfortunate that those who voted against an ordinance didn't understand that.

## **ROADS**

- 1. Road Supervisor's Report.** Dan reported that the crew has been plowing, sanding and performing equipment maintenance. The annual meeting with VTrans is coming up; Marsha, Dan, Valdine will attend.
- 2. Extended Warranty for 2015 Western Star Truck.** Discussion of different options; it was agreed that more information is needed. Marsha made the following motion:

*The Board will table the decision to purchase an extended warranty for the 2015 Western Star truck until its April meeting. Dan and Marsha will research warranty options and prices.*

Peter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- 3. Greensboro Arts Alliance.**

- **Curb Cut Request.** Nathan Sicard, GAAR's civil engineer, said the driveway for the new theater is now proposed to be directly across from the new fire station's driveway (on the Hardwick Street side). Sue asked members of the G.F.D. if they had any concerns; Captain Doug Casavant said he didn't foresee any problems as long as there is no blocking of the fire station's driveway. Jr. Salls thought the D.R.B. might need to review this driveway location change.

Peter made the following motion:

*The Board approves a curb cut for the proposed theater's entrance as presented, pending approval by the D.R.B.*

Ernie seconded the motion, which carried (P.R., E.M., S.W. in favor; M.G. recused herself)

- Water Line Extension in Town R.O.W. GAAR would like permission to run a water line in the town's right of way, from the new fire station up to the new theater's location. Peter made the following motion:

*The Board approves GAAR laying a water line in the town R.O.W. as presented.*

Ernie seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **TOWN CLERK**

Town Clerk Valdine Hall was not present.

1. **Budget Review.** The Board reviewed the FY 2015 budget, YTD.
2. **Painting Bid – Town Offices.** Bids were solicited in the newspaper; only one bid was received (Workhorse Painting for \$6500). Sue reported that the town of Hardwick used this contractor and was pleased with the quality of work, as well as the price. Sue made the following motion:

*The Board accepts Workhorse Painting's bid of \$6500 to paint the inside of the town offices.*

Ernie seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
3. The Board signed a payroll direct deposit form for a town employee.

## **GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.**

1. **Chief Erwin Salls, Jr. Resignation.** The Board accepted the resignation of Chief Erwin Salls, Jr., and thanked him for his outstanding service to the community.
2. **Fire Contract with Stannard.** Stannard has signed and returned the contract. The Board reviewed and signed the contract.
3. **New Fire Truck.** Rod Kerr reported that the G.F.D. has found a good used fire truck in Florida: a well-maintained 2006 Freightliner with 80k miles and a clean title, for \$145k. Jr. Salls was able to inspect the truck in Florida. Members of the Dept. are in favor of purchasing the truck.

G.F.D. Captain Doug Casavant explained that this truck is needed to replace the Dept.'s 1985 pumper, which will soon lose its front-line pumper status due to age. The old truck will still be used by the Dept., but in a different capacity. Two other fire departments are interested in the truck, so a \$10K deposit must be sent ASAP to hold the truck for Greensboro, with the balance sent in approx. two weeks.

Ernie made the following motion:

*The Board approves the purchase of the 2006 Freightliner Pumper Truck for \$145,000.*

Marsha seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. The Board thanked Leo and Amelia Circosta for helping out with microphones at town meeting, and presented them with award certificates.
2. **Fireworks Contract.** The Board signed the contract with Northstar Fireworks; the display is scheduled for Friday July 3.
3. **Tim Short – Property for Sale Next to Town Garage.** Tim owns a small parcel of land adjacent to the town garage, and asked whether the town would be interested in purchasing it. The parcel includes a mobile home, and has been appraised by the town at \$62,500.

Board members agreed that they would like to explore the possibility of purchasing the lot, but warned Tim that this process would move slowly. Sue noted that if the Board decides to proceed with the purchase, a special town meeting and vote would have to be scheduled.

Tim said he is considering renting the trailer in the meantime, and asked whether a six-month lease would interfere with the town's investigation of the property; the Board said it would not. Tim requested that the Board send him a letter stating that the town has shown some interest in the property; he could possibly use such a letter to help obtain financing for purchasing a house.

Peter Romans made the following motion:

*The Board will look into the possibility of purchasing the Tim Short property.*

Ernie seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board formed a subcommittee which will be tasked with investigating the property, consisting of Peter, Ernie, Dan and possibly others. After the snow melts, a site visit will be scheduled.

4. **Sale of Old Firehouse.** At town meeting, a majority of voters thought the old firehouse should be sold. It is up to the Selectboard whether to sell the property or not; the Board would like to move forward with the sale. Discussion of the process for selling town property. The Board needs to agree on the value of the property; the property could then be sold at auction or get listed in area real estate listings after a 30 day warning period. Does the town want to work with a real estate agent? Such expertise could be helpful in deciding which approach to take for the sale; Ernie noted that there's usually a 10% commission for commercial property sales. Discussion as to whether another appraisal might be warranted.

The Board agreed that the first step is to contact the town's lawyer so the overall process can be clarified. Peter will contact the lawyer, and possibly discuss the property sale with local realtors.

The Board agreed that this process should move forward as quickly as possible.

**ADJOURNED: 9:20 PM**

*Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk*

*AMENDED 4/11/15 J.K.*