

(Draft only – not approved by the Selectboard)

# Greensboro Selectboard

April 12, 2017

## Meeting Minutes

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Judy Carpenter, Sean Thomson, Peter Romans, Michael Lapierre

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Susan Wood

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dan Tanner, Josh Karp, Kim Greaves, Denise Stuart, Emily Purdy, Kristen Leahy, Wayne Young, June Cook, Charles Hill, Chief Aaron Cochran, David Miltenberger, Marsha Gadoury, BJ Gray, Lorelei Wheeler, Jane Johns, Mike Sardina, Anika Leahy

**CALLED TO ORDER: 6:35 PM**

### MINUTES

Minutes from March 8 approved as amended.

### PUBLIC CONCERNS

- 1. Streetlights at Tolman Corner.** Last month the Board approved the installation of two streetlights at Tolman Corner, anticipating overflow parking from the Highland Center for the Arts (HCA). David Miltenberger was present and expressed concern about light pollution. He said that the HCA addressed similar concerns by keeping its parking lot lights low to the ground, and added that the HCA's parking lot should be large enough so overflow parking won't be necessary. David added that Planning Commission surveys have shown that maintaining the rural character of Greensboro is very important to residents; he felt that more streetlights do not achieve this objective.

Sean agreed that the streetlight decision could be rescinded and the town could take a wait-and-see approach, but added that there may be a legitimate public safety issue at the intersection, since some people drive through Tolman Corners pretty fast.

Judy made the following motion:

*The Board rescinds its decision to have two streetlights installed at Tolman Corner. The issue will be reconsidered in November after the HCA completes its first summer season.*

Sean seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- 2. Breezy Ave. Sidewalks – Nancy Sullivan.** Nancy said that sections of the Breezy Ave. sidewalk are covered with sod, making it unsafe and unusable. She requested that the Board prioritize sod removal this spring, and noted John Sperry is available to do the work. Peter told Nancy that the job must go out to bid, but that the Board will make every attempt to have the work completed during May.

Discussion of whether the road crew could do the work; they are likely too busy.

Sean made the following motion:

*The Board approves a sod removal project from Breezy Ave. sidewalks, with the work to happen as soon as possible. The scope of work still needs to be determined, as does funding for the project.*

Michael seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- 3. Gravel on Lawn – James McIntyre.** In a letter, James complained that every spring, he has a huge clean up job due to the town piling snow on part of his lawn all winter (at the intersection of Beach Rd. and Breezy Ave.). After discussion, the Board took no action. Kim will communicate with James.

### **LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES – Kristen Leahy & Emily Purdy**

Kristen and Emily told the Board about Little Free Libraries; they would like permission to install three or four of the small structures on town-owned properties. The mini libraries would be stocked with donated books, and people could take books home and keep them if they wish. This would be somewhat of an experiment; Emily and Kristen would take care of the structures and deal with any issues that come up. If bags of books keep being left or if vandalism occurs, the structure would be removed. The structures may be built through a Greensboro Library or Wonder & Wisdom program, with kids working with area carpenters to construct the units.

Kristen said that the Little Free Libraries could prove to be an asset when the Town's Village Center designation comes up for renewal.

Judy made the following motion:

*The Board approves the installation of Little Free Libraries as discussed.*

Michael seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### **HARDWICK POLICE DEPT.**

Chief Aaron Cochran was present.

1. The Board reviewed the March 2017 police report.
2. Chief Cochran reported that their newest officer resigned after 18 months on the job; they've just hired a full-time certified officer from the local area with three years experience. He added that the HPD is lucky to have filled the vacancy after only two weeks.

Discussion of whether officers who are sent to the VT Police Academy must agree to work for the HPD for a certain amount of time. Chief Cochran said a two year commitment is requested but that in reality, an officer can leave earlier without any penalty. While the HPD doesn't pay tuition to send an officer to the Academy, the Dept. does pay their salary during their time there.

Cochran observed that salary differences between police departments is often a reason for officers to move from one PD to another.

3. Chief Cochran signed the fireworks permit.

## **GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.**

1. Chief David Brochu, Jr. submitted an activity report for March, which was reviewed by the Board.
2. It was noted that no heaving occurred in front of the new firehouse's doors this winter, a very good sign.

## **ROADS**

### **1. Road Supervisor's Report – Dan Tanner.**

- There has been a lot of ruts and mud this spring, making it hard for the road crew to keep the roads in good shape. They have been graveling, grading and smoothing.
- Truck 18 has ongoing electrical problems, and has been brought to J&B for servicing.
- Bids will go out soon for crushing, roadside mowing and paving.
- Dan reported that someone in Hardwick has a street sweeping business; it may make more sense to hire him this spring, instead of having the road crew do the job with rented equipment. Dan will discuss the budget for this with Denise and Kim.

### **2. Road Salt Purchasing Through the State of VT.** This decision must be made by May 1; Dan will discuss with Kim.

### **3. Road Crew – Personal Protective Equipment.** The town's insurance company recommended that road crew members wear steel toe boots, and that a stipend be given to employees every two years for this. This will be discussed in the fall when budget work begins.

### **4. Bill for Plowing Driveways.** Ricky Hall billed the town for some driveway plowing, because he plowed some drives that Perry's didn't get to during the last snowstorm. Discussion; if Perry's misses a driveway, they should be called – several of those present observed that Perry's is very responsive when called. The Board agreed that the Town won't pay Ricky for the plowing. Kim will let Ricky know.

### **5. Parking in Greensboro Village.** Mike Lapierre has observed parking on the roadside adjacent to the library in winter, making the road effectively one lane and creating a major safety issue. He said that more parking spaces in downtown Greensboro are needed. The Planning Commission will be asked to look into this. Judy wondered if a civil engineer should be hired to assess the situation.

### **6. Plowing Sidewalks.** It would be a great service if town sidewalks were plowed and sanded; however, it would likely require dedicated small equipment, hard for a small town to justify or afford. Additionally, the road crew in its current configuration would be hard pressed to find the time to operate the equipment.

Chuck Hill told the Board that he would be interested in bidding on sidewalk plowing and sanding. Dan and the Board will consider the idea of putting this job out to bid.

Chuck thanked Dan and the road crew for loading him with sand for his sanding route last winter, which includes the school, library, and Jasper Hill Farm.

### **7. Driveway Plowing – Drives Not Up to Spec.** A M.O.U. has been drafted between Perry's and the Town, stating that Perry's will complete driveway inspections by May 1 each year. Owners of driveways that need work will be sent a letter by the town, giving them a specific period of time (will be three or four months) to have repairs made, or the drives won't be plowed by the town the following winter. The Board signed the M.O.U.

8. **Insurance Claim.** Someone accused the road crew of sideswiping their vehicle; the Town's insurer investigated and determined the damage was not caused by Town equipment.

#### **TOWN CLERK – Kim Greaves**

1. **Liquor Licenses.** The Board approved and signed liquor licenses for:
  - Hill Farmstead Brewery (1<sup>st</sup> Class, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, Outside Consumption Permit)
  - Smith's Store (2<sup>nd</sup> Class)
  - Willey's Store (2<sup>nd</sup> Class)
2. **M.O.U. Between Lakeview School and Town.** The Town's insurance company is requesting that the M.O.U. between the Lakeview Union School and the Town be updated. Kim is working on this.
3. **Fireworks Contract.** The Board signed the fireworks contract with NorthStar fireworks for a display on July 1. The \$6,000 cost is split between the Greensboro Association and the Town.

#### **TREASURER – Denise Stuart**

1. **FY 2017 budget, Y.T.D.** Denise reported that as the end of the fiscal year nears, many areas of the budget are getting pretty tight. Former Town Clerk and Treasurer Valdine Hall was reimbursed for many hours of unused vacation time; this had not been budgeted for and has made the Town Offices budget very tight with approx. ten more weeks of payroll to cover. Discussion of whether the town should change its policy on this type of thing in the future.
2. **Changing Payday.** Denise requested that payday be changed from Monday to Wednesday. Judy made the following motion:

*The Board approves payday being changed to Wednesday, starting the first week in May.*

Michael seconded the motion, which carried unanimously
3. **Cemetery Commission (CC).** Wayne Young told Denise that the CC discovered an account at the Merchants Bank that no one knew about, containing about \$600. Members of the CC agreed that the account should be closed, with funds to be moved to the CC's active account. Sean made the following motion:

*The Board directs members of the Cemetery Commission to work with the Town Treasurer to appropriately move the funds as discussed.*

Judy seconded the motion, which carried unanimously

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **Greensboro Swim Program – Lorelei Wheeler.** Lorelei gave the Board a history of the Program and explained what its current challenges are. The Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union recently stopped its involvement with the Program, leaving the Program without an entity to handle payroll. Lorelei asked whether this could become a town program, adding that it shouldn't cost the town much, if anything, as lesson fees have historically covered costs. Denise said that anyone on the Town payroll must be classified as a town employee: a formal hiring process would have to be followed, and there would be the additional costs of

unemployment and workers compensation insurance. All this would make administering the swim program more complicated and more expensive.

Discussion of hiring swim instructors as subcontractors; it is unlikely they would pay for the proper liability insurance for such a part time job.

Could Wonder & Wisdom administer the Program? Lorelei will look into this.

Further discussion was tabled, and more information will be gathered.

**2. Woods Playground at Lakeview School.** Lorelei told the Board that the school wants to install a woods playground between the current playground and the recycling center, and is unsure of where the property line is. Judy said that since the snow has melted, the iron stakes can now be located.

**3. NVDA Representative for Greensboro.** The Town doesn't currently have a rep. on the NVDA (regional planning commission); Mike Metcalf has expressed interest.

Michael Lapierre made the following motion:

*The Board approves Mike Metcalf to serve as Greensboro's representative on the NVDA.*

Sean seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **ONGOING BUSINESS**

**1. Town Committees.** Current members of Town committees (Grange, Energy, etc.) have not been asked yet whether they intend to continue serving.

Rosann Hickey sent a letter to the Board, saying she'd like to serve on the Grange Committee.

Judy made the following motion:

*The Board appoints Rosann Hickey to the Grange Committee.*

Sean seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**2. Development Review Board.** In a letter, DRB chair Jane Woodruff told the Board that DRB member and clerk Jan Travers, who had planned to resign, has decided to remain and will serve as an alternate. Alternate Lee Wright will move into Jan's former seat. Ex-officio non-voting member Audrey DeProspero (the Town's Zoning Administrator) will become clerk.

This means there is no open position for Maya McCoy, who had expressed interest in serving on the DRB. There may be a position open on the Planning Commission which Maya could consider.

Judy made the following motion:

*The Board accepts the DRB's recommendation that Jan Travers becomes an alternate member, alternate Lee Wright becomes a regular member, and Audrey DeProspero becomes clerk.*

Peter seconded the motion, which carried (J.C., P.R., M.L., in favor; S.T. recused himself).

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION – Legal Matter**

Sean made the following motion:

*The Board will enter executive session at 8:40 PM to discuss a legal matter regarding the Cemetery Commission, with Wayne Young present.*

Judy seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 8:55 PM.

Sean made the following motion:

*The Board approves Wayne Young discussing a cemetery boundary issue with the Town's attorney.*

Peter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNED: 9:00 PM**

*Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk*