

(Draft only – not approved by the Selectboard)

Greensboro Selectboard

July 12, 2017

Meeting Minutes

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Wood, Judy Carpenter, Peter Romans, Michael Lapierre

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Sean Thomson

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Greaves, Josh Karp, Chief Aaron Cochran, Gary Bellavance, Mary Landon

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

MINUTES

June 14, 2017 approved as amended

June 27, 2017 (special meeting) approved as amended

MARY LANDON – NEW D.R.B. CLERK

The D.R.B. has recommended to the Board that Mary Landon be appointed clerk.

Judy made the following motion:

The Board approves Mary Landon as D.R.B. clerk.

Peter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board welcomed Mary to the D.R.B.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

Pothole on Craftsbury Rd. – Gary Bellavance. Gary told the Board that on June 20 he hit a bad pothole on Craftsbury Road and bent a rim. Kim said the road crew had been waiting for cold patch to be delivered.

Gary felt the town ‘owes me a rim’. Sue said that the town doesn’t reimburse for damage to vehicles due to poor road conditions.

POLICE

Chief Cochran was present.

- 1. COPS Grant.** Chief Cochran recently received permission from the Hardwick Selectboard to apply for a COPS grant. The grant would cover 75% of the cost of a new officer for three years. It’s been 16 years since a new officer position has been created, and crimes and incidents

have been steadily increasing, with officers spending more and more time on paperwork. If the grant is received, a current officer would be promoted to full-time detective, with the new hire being a patrol officer.

During the grant period, the police budget has to cover the remaining cost of the new officer (25%). After three years, the police budget would have to be increased to pay the full cost of the officer.

Chief Cochran presented Greensboro Police statistics to the Board:

	2014	2016
Criminal Offences	27	43
Incidents (incl. traffic stops)	298	407

He noted that in 2016 there were more burglaries, larceny, violations of conditions of release, and assault. This follows the statewide trend of an increase in drug-related crimes.

Chief Cochran said that due to software issues, it would be very difficult to run incident numbers prior to 2014.

The H.P.D. will hear in September whether they received the COPS grant.

- 2. Pig Loose in Greensboro Bend.** A pig has been escaping from its pen and running around in the Bend. Peter researched the situation and found few options; it seems like the town needs to handle the situation on its own. He noted that the relevant laws that address this situation seem quite antiquated.

The pig's owners have not been cooperative.

According to Statute, a landowner can impound an escaped animal that wanders onto their property. The animal can then be picked up by the town's animal control officer and a \$10 daily fine issued until it's picked up.

Peter asked Chief Cochran to send an officer to the scene if the pig is caught while roaming, as the pig's owners may not be in support of the animal's capture. Chief Cochran agreed to send up an officer, if available.

- 3. More Patrol Hours in Greensboro Bend.** After Chief Cochran left, the Board agreed that more police patrols are needed in the Bend. Susan Wood will call the Chief and make this request.

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.

No member of the G.F.D. was present this evening.

The Board reviewed Chief Dave Brochu, Jr.'s June report.

ROADS

Road Supervisor Dan Tanner was not present.

The Board reviewed Dan's road report for the month of June.

TOWN CLERK – Kim Greaves

1. Property Tax Rates. Kim reported that the state education tax *non-residential* rate is \$1.5246 (down \$.0043), with the *residential* rate being \$1.6216 (up \$.0496). After the town assessor finalizes the grand list, the Board can set the local tax rate.

2. Property Tax Grievance Hearing. The Board approved Kim sending a letter to Town Assessor Stearns Allen, authorizing him to represent the Town at the upcoming property tax grievance hearing.

TREASURER – Denise Stuart

Denise was not present this evening.

The Board reviewed the F.Y. 2017 budget recap.

ONGOING BUSINESS

- 1. Lakeview/Town of Greensboro M.O.U.** The M.O.U. was approved and signed by the Board.
- 2. Swimming Lessons – Update.** There have not been enough qualified applicants; one instructor and one lifeguard are still needed. It may be possible to delay the lesson program until later in the summer, giving the program more time to find qualified applicants.

OTHER BUSINESS

Zoning Administrator Audrey DeProspero – Temporary Signs. Audrey is looking for guidance on how she should enforce the zoning ordinance, regarding the many ‘temporary’ signs that are common around town during the summer. Many of these signs are up for months.

Sue told Audrey that the Selectboard tried to develop a temporary sign policy, and came up against the recent Supreme Court ruling that said you must allow all temporary signs, or none at all.

The DRB will be looking into this issue further.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Peter made the following motion:

The Board will enter executive session at 7:52 PM to discuss 1) the hourly pay rate for the D.R.B. clerk, and 2) a personnel matter.

Judy seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 8:16 PM.

Peter made the following motion:

The new D.R.B. clerk will be paid \$15.50/hr. with an increase to \$16/hr. after six months.

Michael seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ADJOURNED: 8:19 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk