

(Draft only – not approved by the Selectboard)

Greensboro Selectboard

January 10, 2018

Meeting Minutes

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

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Greaves, Josh Karp, Denise Stuart, Tom Camarra, Chief Aaron Cochran, Chief Dave Brochu, Jr., Ken Johnston, Hal Gray, Becky Arnold

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

MINUTES

Minutes from 12/20/17 unanimously approved as amended.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

There were no public concerns this evening.

POLICE

Chief Aaron Cochran was present.

- 1. COPS grant.** The Hardwick Selectboard voted to accept the COPS grant. The Dept. won't be able to make the new hire until July 1.
- 2. Heavy trucks with poor tires.** Peter asked if truckers using tires not suitable for winter conditions could be held liable in the event of an accident. Chief Cochran said probably not, assuming the truck had passed a state vehicle inspection.
- 3. Police contract.** After reviewing the contract, Peter made the following motion:

The Board approves a three-year contract with the Hardwick Police Department.

Michael seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The Board signed the contract, which covers policing services from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021.

ROADS

- 1. Road Supervisor's report.** Road supervisor Tom Camarra was present. He reported that of ±5000 yds. of sand put up, 684 yds. were used in November and 1225 yds. were used in December. Salt usage to date is 227 tons.

2. Restricting large trucks in winter on Taylor Rd. Background research is still being conducted. Due to the fact that some trucks must use the road, i.e. milk, fuel oil, propane and log trucks, a sign ‘recommending’ chain use during winter months may be the best approach. This would avoid the complications of restricting some trucks, yet letting others go through.

3. Library parking – cars parked on street. Tom is concerned that he can’t safely plow with cars parked on the street next to the library. These cars belong to both library staff and patrons, who will all be asked to park elsewhere.

Kim noted that there is a parking ban in the town R.O.W. during the winter, and that the library has been given a ‘free pass’ for a many years.

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.

Chief Dave Brochu Jr. was present.

New Tanker. Chief Brochu reported that the Tanker is not currently inspectable and has been pulled off the road. An evaluation will be completed soon to determine whether the frame is good enough for new spring shackles. Chief Brochu reported that the tanker-less G.F.D. is currently being supported by neighboring departments through mutual aid agreements.

The Dept. has been soliciting quotes for used and new tankers. Decent used tankers have come in at \$135-150k, while a new truck came in at \$200k. Chief Brochu said that the price difference between new and used trucks is small enough that the Dept. is considering the new tanker, but if a good used tanker came along for less (i.e. \$100k) the Dept. might consider it. A big advantage of a new truck is that it would be built to exact GFD specs, whereas a used truck may not be configured quite right.

The Dept. won’t likely make a decision for at least six months. There is currently \$60k in the capital budget for a down payment.

TOWN CLERK – Kim Greaves

1. Liquor licenses.

- *Highland Lodge.* This license was approved by the Board last month but needed another signature.
- *Hill Farmstead Brewery (1st class license, 2nd class license, outside consumption permit).* The Board unanimously approved the license/permit requests and signed the licenses and permit.

2. Certificate of Highway Mileage. The Board unanimously approved the Certificate of Highway Mileage and signed the document.

TREASURER – Denise Stuart

1. FY ‘18 budget. The Board reviewed the FY 2018 budget, Y.T.D. Denise noted that many organizations have yet to request their appropriations (monies approved at the 2017 town meeting). Kim and Denise are in the process of contacting them.

2. FY ‘19 budget. Sue thanked the budget committee for their hard work on the budget. There is a ±6% increase over FY ‘18.

- Discussion of budgeting for winter sidewalk clearing. This job would either be contracted out, or the town would purchase equipment to do the job. Funds for this might be found in the capital budget.
- Discussion of budgeting for and prioritizing sidewalk repairs.

Peter made the following motion:

The Board approves the FY 2019 budget.

Judy seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 1. Library – Building repairs needed, lease unclear.** Becky Arnold, Hal Gray and Ken Johnston were present to represent the Greensboro Free Library, and discussed library repairs and maintenance needs with the Selectboard.

While exterior painting and roof repair/replacement is needed but can be deferred, repairs to the septic system must be made very soon (\$4k). The system has been investigated by area professionals and a scope of work has been recommended.

At the 12/20/17 Selectboard meeting, it was reported that the town attorney interpreted the town-library lease as saying that septic repairs should be paid for by the library, not the town. Hal wondered why the library, as lessee, would be responsible for such major exterior maintenance.

Discussion of how current lease language is unclear about which party is to pay for which types of repairs and maintenance. Discussion of typical lease arrangements; often exterior maintenance and major building infrastructure is the lessors responsibility, while interior work is the lessees responsibility.

After discussion, the Board agreed in general that significant repairs made outside the building should be the town's, and not the library's, responsibility. It was agreed that the lease should be rewritten to provide clarity.

Hal noted that the kinds of repairs and maintenance required at this time are not appropriate for funding through a library capital campaign.

Discussion about whether library repair funding should be listed as a separate appropriation on the 2018 town meeting warning, or come out of the town's capital budget. It was noted that whether paid for by library or town, the cost to taxpayers will be the same.

The Board agreed that Denise should investigate whether septic repair costs could be paid for out of the FY 2018 capital budget. If not, funds from the FY 2019 capital budget could likely be used, but these funds won't be available until July 1, 2018. In that case, since work on the septic must happen well before that, funds would need to be found or borrowed elsewhere.

Discussion of putting funds into the capital budget annually for library building maintenance (as is done for other town-owned buildings). This distributes the cost of large repairs over a number of years.

- 2. Greensboro Town Energy Committee (GTEC).** Judy said that energy issues are ongoing, and it might make sense to revitalize the GTEC. She noted that some neighboring towns have very active energy committees. Judy will get in touch with Anne Stevens (most recent GTEC Chair) about restarting the committee; past members will be contacted and asked whether they'd like to join a re-started GTEC.

ADJOURNED: 8:38 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk