

(Draft only – not approved by the Selectboard)

# Greensboro Selectboard

February 14, 2018

## Meeting Minutes

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter Romans, Susan Wood, Sean Thomson

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Judy Carpenter, Michael Lapierre

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kim Greaves, Josh Karp, Denise Stuart, Tom Camarra, Officer Mike Glodgett, John Moffatt, Melissa Moffatt, Joe Wood, Mark Snyder, Victoria Von Hessert

**CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 PM**

### MINUTES

Minutes from 1/10/18 and 1/23/18 meetings approved unanimously.

### PUBLIC CONCERNS

**Speeding on Breezy Ave. – *John and Melissa Moffatt.*** John and Melissa live at the top of Breezy Ave. and have observed lots of speeding on that section of road. They are concerned about accidents, especially with increased foot traffic due to Circus Smirkus and the Highland Center. John felt that some of the speeding is by locals, but that most of it is out of state drivers.

Discussion of lowering the speed limit. John commented that if drivers actually went the speed limit, there wouldn't be a problem.

Discussion of putting up a radar speed sign. Peter said that a portable radar speed sign will likely be purchased next year for use around town.

The H.P.D. will also be asked to pay extra attention to speeding in that area.

### POLICE

Officer Mike Glodgett was present.

1. The Board reviewed the January police report.
2. Sue asked Officer Glodgett whether Cubo (H.P.D.'s K9) will need retraining to not alert officers to the presence of marijuana, now that possession of small amounts will be legal as of 7/1/18. Officer Glodgett said that this change in the law was anticipated and that dogs have not been trained on marijuana for the last few years.

## **ROADS**

1. **Road Supervisor's report.** Road supervisor Tom Camarra was present.
  - January sand use: 1125 yds.
  - Sand taken by residents this winter to date: 130 yds.
  - January salt use: 152 tons
  - Paving next summer will be on Main St. in Greensboro Bend. Sidewalk work in the Bend will be coordinated with the paving work.
2. **Taylor Rd. speed limit.** Peter said that people drive too fast on Taylor Rd. and that the speed limit should be lowered.
3. **Free sand policy.** Tom is collecting data on free sand use this winter. A policy will be written next summer and would take effect next winter. The Board may restrict the taking of free sand by businesses.
4. **New signs to re-direct trucks from Taylor Rd. to Garvin Hill Rd. via the Bend Rd.** New signs would likely include '*chains recommended*' wording, but since there is no chain-up area on the approach to Garvin Hill Rd., new signage won't be put up until a chain-up area is created. Peter will discuss specs for a chain-up area with VTrans.
5. Due to a recent incident, '*authorized personnel only*' signs will be put up at the town garage, and the doors will be locked when the crew is out.
6. **Craftsbury Rd. culvert.** Vtrans is offering \$80k for a major culvert replacement on the Craftsbury Rd, with a 10% town match required. Vtrans will engineer the project and draw up bid specifications. The job will be contracted out.
7. **Lake Rd.** VTrans is offering \$40-60k to make improvements to Lake Rd. through the Better Backroads program. The town's match will be in-kind (trucking).
8. John Moffatt thanked the road crew for doing a great job taking care of the roads.

## **GREENSBORO BEND DEPOT – Mark Snyder**

Mark's family purchased the Greensboro Bend Train Depot from the town, and he began rehabilitating the historic structure in 2000. He's spent many years carefully restoring the building, and takes great pride in the work he's done and the energy he's put into revitalizing Greensboro Bend.

Mark owns the building, but the land is owned by VTrans. The entire time he's owned the building, he's been trying to sign a lease with VTrans to help clean up his title, and to realize some value in the building after all these years of work on it.

VTrans has presented a lease but the terms are terrible for Mark, including a clause that the state can take the building back for any reason with a 30 day notice.

Mark wants to present a new lease to the state with improved terms for him, and has a lawyer, Senator Rodgers and House members all working on this. He told the Board that he would like a letter of support from the town, stating that he's done important restoration work to the building, and cares about the community in which he lives and works.

It was suggested that Mark also solicit letters of support from the Greensboro Historical Society and Planning Commission.

Sue wondered if a letter of support from the town could be a bad idea, legally. Sean felt that the letter would carry minimal risk if the town received a mission statement from Mark, along with a project timeline and photos.

Mark thanked the Board and will get back in touch after he's completed this background work.

### **LAKEVIEW SCHOOL – Victoria Von Hessert**

Victoria told the Board that this is a tough budget cycle for schools around the state. With low enrollment numbers and an aging school building in need of major work, the school is having a hard time remaining viable and its future is in doubt. Schools in surrounding towns are also struggling and the viability of Hazen Union could be affected in the future.

As the school looks to the future, Victoria wants to make sure there's communication between the school, Planning Commission and Selectboard to collectively work on solutions to the school's challenges. For example, the school's septic may need to be replaced in the next few years, at a cost of up to \$100k. Victoria noted that the Town Plan has discussed the need for a village and lake district sewer system for many years. If such a system was in the works, this could greatly affect the future viability of the school.

Kim and Denise said they haven't seen grant opportunities for the planning or construction of wastewater facilities.

Victoria noted that the town plan also calls for more affordable housing in town, which could attract young families and reverse the trend of declining school enrollment.

Sean said that the Greensboro Free Library and other groups are investigating getting high-speed fiber and cell service in town, paid for partially through grant funding. These types of services could attract new families as well.

Sue thanked Victoria for bringing this important issue to the Board.

### **GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.**

John and Melissa Moffat represented the G.F.D.

- 1. Tanker.** The tanker has been repaired, inspected and is back in service. The G.F.D is continuing to pursue the purchase of a new (or used late-model) tanker. The current tanker would be used as a back-up unit, and would be especially useful for getting down narrow camp roads.
- 2. 911 signs** continue to be distributed.
- 3. Fishing derby.** The annual fishing derby will be held on Saturday 2/17. Electric service to the beach will be turned on for the weekend.
- 4. Election of Chief.** At the last G.F.D. meeting, Chief Dave Brochu, Jr. was re-elected. Peter made the following motion:

*The Board approves Dave Brochu, Jr. as Fire Chief.*

Sean seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**TREASURER – Denise Stuart**

1. The Board reviewed the FY 2018 budget, YTD.
2. Denise has been looking into re-organizing and consolidating the town's many bank accounts to simplify accounting, and perhaps get better interest rates. She's been working with the town auditor to make sure this consolidation is done appropriately.
3. **Funds for library septic.** Denise reported that she's not sure whether the \$4k needed for library septic repairs is available in the FY 2018 capital budget. If not, funds could definitely be found in the FY 2019 budget but funds wouldn't be available until 7/1/18.
4. **Payroll date.** Payday was changed from Monday to Wednesday at the 4/12/17 Selectboard meeting. Discussion of moving payday back to Monday. Kim and Denise were not in agreement on this matter, and no action was taken by the Board. Peter will look into this issue.

**ADJOURNED: 8:10 PM**

*Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk*