

(Draft only – not approved by the Selectboard)

Greensboro Selectboard

April 11, 2018

Meeting Minutes

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Romans, Michael Lapierre, Matt McAllister, Susan Wood (present via. speakerphone)

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Andy Kehler

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Greaves, Josh Karp, Tom Camarra, Barbara Brooke, Chief Aaron Cochran, John Moffat, Erika Karp, Nancy Hill, Clive Gray, Ellen Celnick, David Kelly, Dan Predpall, Dylan Laflam, Michelle Laflam

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

MINUTES

Minutes from 3/14/18 regular meeting and 3/23/18 special meeting unanimously approved as written.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

1. **Speeding on Breezy Ave. – *John Moffat.*** John told the Board that he is frustrated that speeding on Breezy Ave. has continued, despite an increased police presence. He said that some cars are going 50 MPH, and is worried someone will get hurt or killed. Discussion of lowering the speed limit, increasing the police presence, and radar signs. Stop signs and striping/crosswalks at the four corners were also discussed.

H.P.D. Chief Aaron Cochran observed that untrained people tend to over-estimate vehicle speeds, and that a speed study to determine average speeds should be completed prior to changing the speed limit. Otherwise, an unreasonable speed limit could be set that most drivers won't follow.

2. **Partial collapse of house in Greensboro Bend.** An abandoned house in the Bend belonging to Winston Jennison has partially collapsed. Peter wondered if the building could be condemned by the town health officer, and the owner forced to clean up the debris.

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.

The Board reviewed the G.F.D.'s March report.

POLICE

Officer Aaron Cochran was present.

1. The Board reviewed the March police report.
2. **Opiate forum.** On Wed. April 25 at 7 PM, there will be an opiate forum at the Hardwick Memorial Building. Panelists and attendees will discuss ways to combat the opiate crisis.
3. **Speed cart.** Since Greensboro pays 24% of the H.P.D.'s budget, Peter asked if the H.P.D.'s speed cart could be placed in Greensboro 24% of the time. While this was not formally agreed to, Chief Cochran said that he would bring up the cart this spring and summer.

ROADS

1. Road Supervisor's report – Tom Camarra

- Mud season! The road crew has spread 588 yds. of gravel over the past few days.
- March totals: 529 yds. of sand spread; 65.5 tons of salt spread.
- Sand usage for year: 4506 yds.
- Salt usage for year: 738 tons

2. **Paving.** Main St. in the Bend will be paved this season. The current road will be ground up prior to paving; Tom was asked why this step is necessary. Tom said the road will hold up better with this pre-paving prep.

3. **Highland Lodge – parked cars sticking out into road.** Peter said that there has been an ongoing situation of parked cars at the Highland Lodge sticking out into the road, making plowing the main road dangerous and difficult for the road crew. The Lodge management is aware of the issue, but it seems to be continuing.

4. **Speeding in Greensboro Bend – three-way stop signs?** Discussion of installing three-way stop signs on Main St. in Greensboro Bend in the hopes of reducing speeding. Locations discussed were 1) at the Post Office intersection on Main St., 2) at intersection of Main St. and Schoolhouse Rd., and 3) at the Four Seasons of Early Learning.

H.P.D. Chief Cochran advocated a speed study prior to installing any stop signs, saying that an accurate account of actual speeding is needed to make an informed decision. Michelle Laflam noted that she doesn't see much of a problem on the south end of town.

On the north end of town, however, speeding has been an ongoing problem. Barbara Brooke lives on that stretch of road and spoke in favor of a speed study.

GREENSBORO CONSERVATION COMMISSION – Erika Karp, Clive Gray

Lauren Sopher, an M.A. candidate at UVM, would like to do a 'Sense of Place' study of Greensboro Bend through the Place-based Landscape Analysis and Community Engagement (PLACE) program at UVM. During the study she would bring different parts of the community together who care about the future of the Bend, culminating in a public presentation and written report. UVM charges towns \$5k for a PLACE study. The Conservation Commission is proposing to contribute \$2000 from the Greensboro Conservation Fund towards this project, with other grants funding the remainder.

Erika Karp, having worked there for many years, said that the Bend hasn't gotten the attention it needs or deserves over the years. Nancy Hill said that this study would be very useful to the

community as plans are made to revitalize the Bend. Bend residents, as well as other town groups and committees, would be involved.

Planning Commission member Ellen Celnick said that in order to understand how to revitalize a community, you need to figure out what the community is all about. It would be a huge advantage for the town to have Ms. Sopher undertake such a time consuming study, and \$2k is a great deal for the town.

Michael Lapierre said there's a problem of absentee landlords who don't seem to care about the Bend, and wondered how the study could influence or engage them, even if they are not present.

Peter Romans said that a Bend revitalization group is forming, and is seeking interested residents to join. The group will work on community development projects such as developing affordable/workforce housing, as well as other needs, including ones discussed in the Town Plan. Clive Gray said that this group could give Ms. Sopher some guidance as her project is planned and gets underway.

Peter made the following motion:

The Board approves the Greensboro Conservation Commission's request to spend \$2000 on the PLACE study of Greensboro Bend.

Matt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

RECREATION COMMITTEE – Michelle Laflam

Michelle said that Martha Neimi has been advocating for replacing the backstop at the ball field for the past few years. The committee has received \$2k from the Pleasant's Fund for this project. The total cost of the project is about \$4k, and with the grant the committee has enough in their account to complete the project. Michelle said this will be the rec. committee's major project for the year.

TOWN CLERK – Kim Greaves

1. **Swimming lessons.** One instructor dropped out. The position will be advertised.

2. **Funky Fourth.**

- Fireworks. This year's display is scheduled for July 7 and costs \$6k, with the Greensboro Association expected to pay 50% (as in years past). Michael made the following motion:

The Board accepts the \$6,000 fireworks contract with NorthStar Fireworks.

Matt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- National Guard Army Band. Michael Lapierre said that the Guard Army Band would likely be available for the 2019 funky fourth, assuming it's on Sat. 7/6/19. The Board unanimously approved Michael signing up the band for the 2019 parade.

TREASURER – Barbara Brooke

The Board reviewed and discussed FY 2018 budget YTD.

OTHER BUSINESS

Caspian Challenge race. This annual race is sponsored by the Greensboro Association and is scheduled to be held on Sunday, July 29. The Board unanimously approved the event.

ONGOING BUSINESS

- 1. Selectboard Rules of Procedure.** Discussion. Kim will make the edits discussed and the Board will sign the document at its May meeting.
- 2. Scheduling special town meeting.** There will be two items on the agenda: **1)** electing a town treasurer, and **2)** setting speed limits on gravel roads.
Peter will look into whether a speed study is required prior to taking action on speed limits.
The Board agreed that the meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 30, at 6:30 PM at Fellowship Hall, contingent upon space availability.
Town moderator Tim Nisbet is available.
- 3. D.R.B. appointment.** After reviewing a letter from D.R.B. Chair Jane Woodruff, Sue made the following motion:

The Board appoints Linda Romans to the Development Review Board.

Michael seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- 4. Animal control ordinance.** Peter reported that the town attorney is rewriting the animal control ordinance so it will be enforceable. This means, ideally, that the Hardwick Police Dept. could issue fines to owners who are not in control of their animals. The revised ordinance may be ready to review and sign at the Board's June meeting.
- 5. Trail Life USA fundraiser at recycling.** Michael Lapierre asked the Board for permission to hold a fundraiser for Trail Life USA at the recycling center. Chocolate bars will be sold. The Board approved his request.

ADJOURNED: 7:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk