

(Draft only – not approved by the Selectboard)

Greensboro Selectboard

September 9, 2020

Meeting Minutes

[Meeting was held via Zoom conference call]

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Romans, Andy Kehler, Gary Circosta, Matt McAllister

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Tracy Collier

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Ely, Tom Camarra, Kim Greaves, Josh Karp, Chief Dave Brochu, Jr., Christine Armstrong, Carol Fairbank

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

MINUTES

Minutes from August 12 meeting unanimously approved.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

None this evening.

POLICE

The Board reviewed the August police report.

ROADS & DRIVEWAYS

- 1. Road Supervisor's report – Tom Camarra.** The road crew has been working on grant-funded projects on Shadow Lake Road, Garvin Hill Road and Town Highway 8.
- 2. Town Garage furnace.** The town received a notice from Fred's Energy that the town garage furnace is no longer safe to use. Fred's will be submitting an estimate for a replacement unit.
- 3. Road Crew labor.** The road crew has been temporarily using a fourth road crew member. While this allows more work to get accomplished, the Board reminded Tom to keep an eye on his labor budget.
- 4. Letter from LaPoint family about moving Lake Rd.** The Board received a letter from Eric LaPoint and family, asking for permission to move a section of Lake Rd. Andy said the town attorney recommended against allowing this, due to the complexity of the proposal.

Andy made the following motion:

The Board denies the LaPoint family request to move Lake Rd.

Matt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- 5. New Town Garage planning.** Peter suggested that the Board continue to plan for a new town garage. If a suitable piece of property is not found, planning for the project will proceed on the

current town garage lot. Peter and Matt will investigate the Sullivan property on Bend Rd. as a possible site. Kim Greaves' property on Rt. 16. was also discussed; it was unclear whether it is available.

TOWN CLERK – Kim Greaves

1. **Emergency Management Plan.** Kim made changes as requested by the Board. Gary made the following motion:

The Board approves the updated Emergency Management Plan.

Matt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. **Personnel Policy.** Earlier versions of this policy were focused on the road crew; the new version was expanded to include all town employees, members of town boards and other town volunteers. Discussion about elements of the updated policy. Kim noted that most of the changes were based on guidance from VLCT. The Board will read through the draft and submit proposed changes to Kim in writing before the next Board meeting.
3. **Ballot Lock Boxes.** Kim has purchased a lock box for election ballots. The VT Secretary of State will reimburse towns up to \$1000 for these boxes, which could also be used for tax payments.

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.

1. **New tanker purchase – proposal.** Chief Dave Brochu Jr. told the Board that the GFD has found a new truck to replace the tanker. It's a 2017 International, a dealer hold-over that's brand new. The dealer is located in Canada, with the exchange rate helping to keep the truck lower in cost. Dave noted that the truck is a basic model, not 'fancy'.

After discussion, Andy made the following motion:

The Board approves the Greensboro Fire Dept. moving forward with the purchase of the 2017 International truck for approx. \$168,000, with the actual cost depending on the exchange rate at the time of purchase.

Peter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. **Fire Dept. Capital Budget.** Discussion of the Fire Department's capital budget for replacing fire trucks over time. Chief Brochu said there's a concern about setting truck replacement at 30 years, since you may spend a sizeable amount of money on maintenance of the older trucks. He commented that the GFD has never had a good capital plan, and that while it's better late than never, the GFD is playing catch-up. Large annual appropriations required for a few years to get the replacement fund up to where it should be.

Andy said these catch-up numbers are pretty big and that the town has to manage the capital account in a way that's respectful to the taxpayers.

If it seems too fiscally painful to boost the capital budget to where it needs to be, bonding for trucks could be a future option.

This will be further discussed in upcoming budget meetings.

TREASURER – Barbara Brooke

Barbara was not present.

1. The Board reviewed the FY 2021 budget, YTD.
2. The Board reviewed the August check warrant reports.

ONGOING BUSINESS

- 1. Spark – Town Hall Lease.** The Board discussed the draft lease between Wonderarts and the town for use of four Town Hall rooms. Wonderarts Executive Director Carol Fairbank said that their intention is for the town to have priority use of Town Hall spaces as needed, such as the Collier Room (used for meetings) and the hallway (used for voting).

Discussion; it was agreed to add language to the lease describing the shared use of one of the rooms housing both the Giving Closet and Spark, as well as the use of the hallway for elections.

Peter made the following motion:

The Board authorizes Andy to sign the lease with Wonderarts, and to add the amendments just discussed to the lease.

Matt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Carol thanked the Board on behalf of Wonderarts and Spark – they are all excited!

- 2. Moving Recycling to Fire Dept. lot – update.** Peter and Ken looked at the site multiple times and weren't able to come up with a solution for good traffic flow; a challenge is that the FD has specific requirements for traffic flow and parking. A good amount of gravel would also have to be brought in. Peter, Andy and Gary will make another site visit.

- 3. Caspian Lake trail.** Discussion. Linda Ely said that ideally, landowners would just allow access for trail users. She's also concerned that if public access to the trail was proposed, a number of landowners would get their backs up and refuse. Linda felt that the issue shouldn't get to the point of litigation, since it could be very divisive.

She added that this isn't really a town issue, and that the Greensboro Association is not taking a stance.

Christine Armstrong said that she hasn't seen much use of the trail on the north side of the lake, which she is happy about. She felt the south side might have had more historical trail use. She agreed with Linda that this isn't a town issue, and felt people should be able to manage access to their properties as they see fit.

Peter said that a big question is whether the town should be involved. Would taxpayers want to pay attorney's fees if the town gets involved and there's litigation? Probably not, he said.

Andy said a number of factors point to the trail being a 'community asset'.

- 4. Boathouse suit.** Andy reported that the Boester/Wrights have prevailed and that there's little to no chance of the town winning on appeal. He added that the neighbors could appeal.

OTHER BUSINESS

Municipal Planning Grant. After discussion, Andy made the following motion:

The Board adopts the FY21 Municipal Resolution for a Municipal Planning Grant. Grant funds of \$22,000 will be used for a rail trail economic impact study. The grant requires a 10% local match.

Gary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk