

Greensboro Selectboard

November 12, 2014

Meeting Minutes

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Marsha Gadoury, Peter Romans, Susan Wood, Warren Hill, Jr.

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Valdine Hall, Josh Karp, June Cook, Lenny Schiavone, Erwin Salls, Jr., Dan Tanner, Anne Harbison, Linda Romans, Sean Thomson, Ernest Machia, David Kelly

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Minutes from October 8, 2014 approved as amended.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

- 1. Banner at Town Hall for Benefit Concert – *David Kelly*.** David Kelly is organizing a benefit concert for the Greensboro Arts Alliance; well-known musician David Mallet will be performing at the U.C.C. on Dec 13. Kelly asked if a banner could be put up across the front of the town hall; after discussion it was clear that Board members had reservations about this idea. The Board gave Kelly a number of suggestions for publicizing the event.
- 2. Selectboard Opening.** Sean Thomson and Ernie Machia are interested in filling out Bridget Collier's Selectboard term (Collier resigned last month). Each told the Board why they were interested in the position, and answered questions from Board members. Linda Romans spoke in favor of Thomson.

POLICE

No police report was available this evening, and no representative from the H.P.D. was present.

TOWN CLERK – Valdine Hall

- 1. FY 2015 Budget.** The Board reviewed the FY 2015 Budget, Y.T.D.
- 2. FY 2016 Budget.** The Board formed a FY 2016 budget committee, which will consist of Sue and Marsha, along with Valdine and town department heads. Meetings will be held Fridays at 2 PM, starting 11/21. There will be no meeting on 11/28.
- 3. Town Assessor Position.** Current town assessor Tom Vickery will be leaving in December. Valdine said that his replacement should be in place by January or February.
Stearns Allen submitted a letter to the Board, expressing his interest in serving as town assessor; he will soon be retiring from the state Division of Property Valuation and Review after 35 years there. Valdine has worked with Allen in his state capacity, and observed that his working style would be a good fit with the town. Warren wondered if someone from the private sector might be a better candidate. The town's purchasing policy does not require this position be advertised; however, after

discussion, the Board agreed to advertise the position. Warren will research where the advertisement should be placed for best results.

4. **Town Hall Maintenance.** Valdine will get quotes for painting the inside of the town offices.
5. **Grand List Errors & Omissions.** The Board unanimously approved the Grand List Errors & Omissions letter submitted by town assessor Tom Vickery.

ROADS

1. **Road Salt.** Road Supervisor Dan Tanner told the Board that the price for road salt has gone up significantly. Discussion of using less salt this coming winter; the Board approved using less salt and more sand, at Dan's discretion.
2. **New Town Truck.** The new town truck will hopefully be delivered by December 1 – much later than anticipated.
3. **New 2015 Town Truck.** The Board approved Dan soliciting bids for next year's new town truck. Discussion about having a delivery deadline for this truck included in the bid request.
4. **Snowplow Turnarounds.**
 - 'No parking' signs have been bought and put up at snowplow turnarounds where parked vehicles have historically caused problems for the road crew.
 - Dan will ask the Bartlett's, again, to move hay bales from the snowplow turnaround.
5. **Snowplowing Contract.** The town has exceeded the maximum number of driveways in the Perry's contract, and thus will have to pay extra this winter. Valdine didn't know where the funds would come from to cover this unexpected expense; if the town has to run a deficit in the 'snowplowing driveways' line item it could be made up in next year's budget.
6. **Uniform Service.** The town currently contracts with Unifirst for road crew uniforms and other services. Warren said that the company's price has gone up quite a bit over the last few years, and felt that the town should consider switching companies. However, fine print in the service contract specifies the following: to cancel the contract, the town must notify Unifirst at least 90 days prior to the contract renewal date, or another multi-year contract will automatically begin.

Warren suggested that the town switch to a more local company, G.K. Services, who is used and liked by area businesses (as well as the town of Hardwick) and is much cheaper than Unifirst. After discussion, the Board unanimously agreed to cancel the Unifirst contract – despite the fact that the town will be unable to meet the 90 day requirement – and switch to G.K. Services. Warren will call Unifirst and G.K. Services.

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT – Chief Erwin Salls, Jr.

1. **Rescue Truck.** Chief Salls told the Board that instead of replacing the rescue truck, they should replace the pumper: the current pump truck is 29 years old, and when the truck becomes 30 years old insurance rates will increase.
2. **Storing Fire Truck for Walden F.D.** The Walden F.D. has asked if they could store a fire truck in Greensboro's new firehouse for the winter. Chief Salls said it could fit and be out of the way; the Board approved the truck being in storage in Greensboro's new firehouse as long as it's properly insured.
3. **Lock Boxes.** Peter and Chief Salls will discuss a policy for lock boxes that the fire dept. needs to have access to.

4. **Wood Stove Approvals for Insurance Companies.** Chief Salls has been getting calls from insurance companies asking him to inspect and approve new wood stove installations. It was agreed that a fee might need to be assessed if this becomes more common.

ONGOING BUSINESS

1. **Noise Ordinance Committee.** After discussion, Warren made the following motion:

The Board appoints Tom Anastasio, Peter Romans, Anne Harbison, Cilla Bonney-Smith, Sue Wood, Erwin Salls, Jr., Megen Rose, and Lenny Schiavone to the Noise Ordinance Committee. Up to three additional members may join, at the discretion of the Committee. The Committee's objective is to determine whether the town should enact a noise ordinance, and if so, put an ordinance on the warning for the March 2015 town meeting.

Marsha seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. **Willey Beach Update.** The town has received a conditional use permit from the D.R.B. for very basic development of the Willey Beach parcel. Conditions imposed on the permit include removal of existing gravel outside the bounds of the new parking area, and no boardwalks may be constructed. The town road crew could remove the gravel, but Warren thought this cost should not come out of the road budget.
3. **Town Hall Janitor Update.** Nicole Leblanc has been hired; she will be paid \$25/hr. with no benefits.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Nature Conservancy is asking the Board to send a letter to the VT Trails & Greenways Council to help Barr Hill and Long Pond be recognized as part of the statewide VT Trails System. Marsha made the following motion:

The Board will send a letter to the VT Trails & Greenways Council, as requested by the Nature Conservancy.

Peter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Warren made the following motion:

The Board will enter executive session at 9:10 PM to discuss contracts, personnel, and filling the current Selectboard vacancy.

Peter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 10:15 PM.

Warren made the following motion:

The Board appoints Ernest Machia to fill the open Selectboard seat until the 2015 town meeting.

Peter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ADJOURNED: 10:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk
AMENDED 12/15/14 J.K.