Greensboro Selectboard
November 11, 2020
Meeting Minutes

[Meeting was held via Zoom conference call]

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

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Camarra, Kim Greaves, Josh Karp, Barbara Brooke, Dave Brochu, Jr., Linda Ely

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Gary: CMV drug and alcohol policy; FY 2020 outside audit; Eliminating negative balances for Fire Station fund and Caspian Milfoil fund

Andy: Caspian Lake Watershed Action Plan

MINUTES

Minutes from the October 14 meeting unanimously approved as amended.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

Peter Romans spoke about the resurgence of COVID-19 in this country. With 243,000 American lives lost – 80 times the death toll of the Sept. 11 attacks – and more and more cases in Orleans County, we must take this pandemic seriously and be vigilant every day.

POLICE

No officer was present.

1. Police report. The Board reviewed the October police report.

2. Police contract. Peter and Gary had some conversations with the Hardwick Town Manager and Police Chief. The contract is still being discussed.

   Peter and Andy thanked Gary for his work on the police contract.

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.
1. **New Tanker.** Chief Dave Brochu, Jr. said that the new tanker truck has been ordered and is expected to arrive in early January.

2. **FY 2022 budget.** Dave will be submitting a Fire Dept. budget request soon.

### ROADS & DRIVEWAYS

1. **Road Foreman’s report – Tom Camarra.** The crew plowed snow once, but it’s since melted. They’ve been grading and trying to get the roads in decent shape going into winter.
   
   JP Sicard is screening sand at the pit for use next season.

2. **Circus Rd. – beavers.** Discussion of trapping (cheap) vs. hiring a specialist to beaver-proof the culvert (much more expensive but has worked successfully in many installations).
   
   Matt suggested trapping, while Peter was interested in hiring the specialist because it is a permanent solution. After discussion, Andy made the following motion:
   
   *The Board approves trapping the beavers that are causing trouble with the culvert on Circus Rd.*
   
   Tracy seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. **New Town Garage planning – update.** Gary wondered if there is any property for sale adjacent to the existing town garage, to give more room for a new layout. Discussion of the small property on the immediate right just past the town garage entrance.
   
   Matt looked at the firehouse lot and felt there is plenty of room there for a new garage and sandpile. The area is relatively flat and doesn’t seem wet.
   
   Peter said a wetlands ecologist from the VT Agency of Natural Resources will make a site visit, but maybe not until spring. She will determine whether the site can be used for a town garage. Discussion of how a new garage at that location would integrate into the landscape and soundscape of the area. It was agreed that some residents would question this choice of location.

### TOWN CLERK – Kim Greaves

**Town meeting 2021.** The Board reviewed guidance from VLCT about holding town meeting during the pandemic. The Board will further consider at next month’s meeting how to proceed with town meeting 2021.

### TREASURER – Barbara Brooke

1. The Board reviewed the FY 2021 budget, YTD.
2. The Board reviewed the October check warrant reports.
3. **Budget meeting.** A meeting was scheduled for Monday, Nov. 16 at 1 PM at the Town Hall. This will be warned as a Selectboard meeting.
4. **Delinquent property taxes.** The amount of delinquent property tax payments was not abnormally high this year. This is positive news, since it was expected that more people would have trouble paying their taxes because of financial stress brought on by the pandemic.
5. **Outside audit for FY 2020.** The town’s outside auditor has almost completed the FY 2020 audit. He submitted a list of items that need to be addressed before the audit can be finalized.
6. **Negative fund balances.** After discussion, Andy made the following motion:

   *The Board approves a transfer from the general fund surplus, in order to eliminate the -$25,552 balance in the Fire Station Fund, and the -$275 balance in the Caspian Milfoil Fund.*

   Tracy seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

7. **Barbara to resign as Treasurer.** Barbara has sold her house and will be moving away; she’ll work through November and then step down as Treasurer. Assistant treasurer Brett Stanciu, with Kim’s help, will assist with treasurer duties until town meeting. Training and help from NEMRC will be accessed as needed.

   Historically, a registered voter of the town is elected treasurer at town meeting. Brett does not live in Greensboro and is not a registered voter here.

   A vote can be held at town meeting to change the treasurer position from elected (by the voters) to appointed (by the Selectboard). An appointed treasurer does not need to be a registered voter; if this change was made, the Board could appoint Brett as Treasurer if it so chose.

   The Board agreed to put the question of changing from an elected to an appointed treasurer on the 2021 town meeting warning.

**ONGOING BUSINESS**

1. **Personnel Policy update.** Discussion about the updated policy. Kim and Barbara will clarify some aspects of the policy as requested by the Board. While not 100% finished, it was agreed that the policy can be adopted prior to a full VLCT review (which will happen soon), since Greensboro’s version is very close to VLCT’s model ordinance. It was noted that the policy could be amended if the VLCT review turns up any issues.

   Andy made the following motion:

   *The Board adopts the updated Personnel Policy, dated 11/5/20.*

   Matt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

   Board members thanked Gary for all his work updating the policy.

2. **Moving recycling to stump dump.** Before any further steps can be taken, the road crew needs to complete a cleanup of the stump dump.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **Commercial Motor Vehicle Drug and Alcohol Policy.** The policy, which originated from VLCT/PACIF, was reviewed prior to this meeting by Board members and the road crew. Andy made the following motion:

   *The Board adopts the CMV Drug and Alcohol Policy.*

   Gary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. **Caspian Lake Watershed Action Plan.** The Stewards of the Greensboro Watershed may be approaching the town for a cash donation to the Caspian Lake Watershed Action Plan. This will be further discussed when more information is available.
EXECUTIVE SESSION
Andy made the following motion:

*The Board will enter executive session at 8:25 PM to discuss the police contract negotiations.*

Tracy seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
The Board left executive session at 9:02 PM and took no action.

ADJOURNMENT
The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:02 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk*

*AMENDED 12/9/20 J.K.*