



TOWN OF GRANBY

Kellogg Hall, Room 1
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Granby Select Board: Wayne H. Tack, Sr.,
Mark L. Bail,
Mary A. McDowell
Town Administrator: Christopher Martin

Board Meeting: July 6, 2010 @ 7:00 P.M.

AGENDA:

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

COA-Update

District II Meeting-Update

IT Special Employee Status-Update

Public Safety Building-Update

Senior Tax Work-Off Program-Update

TA Evaluation

Website-Update

Written Charge for Library Building Committee

APPOINTMENTS:

7:15 AECOM

7:30 KELLOGG HALL ADVOCATES

7:45 CEMETERY COMMISSION

8:05 FIRE CHIEF ANDERSON

8:15 POLICE CHIEF BARRY

ACCEPT AND SIGN MINUTES:

OTHER ACTION ITEMS:

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

- 1 Accept Departmental Reports
- 2 Approve and Sign Maintenance Warrants
- 3 Approve Common Victualler's License
- 4 Affirm Appointments
- 5 Aldrich Dam-Hydropower
- 6 Green Communities Grant Program
- 7 July Office Hours for Selectboard
- 8 Special Town Meeting and Ballot Question

REPORT OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

REPORTS OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Board of Selectmen
Regular Session
July 6, 2010

Members Present: Wayne Tack Sr., Mark Bail, Mary McDowell.

Others Present: Christopher Martin, Patricia Paxton, Thomas Sambor, Charles Maheu, James Tompke, Diane Deshaies, Mary Loftus-Rooney.

Chairman Tack called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Chairman Tack led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Pamela Paxton, 332 Batchelor Street, spoke against the issuance of a gravel permit to Stoney Hill Sand and Gravel. She spoke of the increased truck traffic and the potential detrimental effects of said traffic on the residents of Batchelor Street.

Thomas Sambor, 29 Trompke Avenue, spoke against the issuance of a gravel permit to Stoney Hill Sand and Gravel. Mr. Sambor spoke of his purchase and sale agreement and asked what the potential effects of the gravel pit operations would have on the health and safety of his family.

Charles Maheu, 326 Batchelor Street, first spoke of the negative impacts on the Kellogg Hall structure due to it being empty and not heated or air-conditioned. Mr. Maheu then spoke against the issuance of a gravel permit to Stoney Hill Sand and Gravel. He had a concern regarding the increased traffic on the enjoyment of his home and asked if there would be any reduction in taxes due to the increased traffic affecting the value of his home.

James Trompke spoke that Stoney Hill Sand and Gravel as part of the permitting process would address the concerns of the neighbors. They have pits operating in other communities that do not have a lot of complaints from neighbors.

Diane Deshaies, 312 Batchelor Street, spoke against the issuance of a gravel permit to Stoney Hill Sand and Gravel. Ms. Deshaies spoke of the increased traffic and asked about noise levels and that they comply with State standards regarding noise levels from the pit operations.

Mary Loftus-Rooney, 317 Batchelor Street, spoke against the issuance of a gravel permit to Stoney Hill Sand and Gravel. Ms. Loftus-Rooney also spoke of the increased traffic and the detrimental effects thereof.

A letter from Jim and Susan Bruffee, 310 Batchelor Street, was introduced into the record against the issuance of a gravel permit to Stoney Hill Sand and Gravel. The letter is attached to the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Martin reported that the Council On Aging would be moving from Aldrich Hall to 10 West State Street the beginning of August.

Mr. Martin reported that Mary McDowell, Chief Anderson and himself will be meeting with representative from Fire District II to discuss the double taxation issue.

Mr. Martin had contacted Mr. Nally but not has heard back from him regarding coming before the Board regarding his IT special municipal employee status request.

Mr. Martin reported that the building is currently being finished per a punch list that was done. Occupancy is expected to occur within the month.

Mr. Martin reported that the Town did qualify for a rural utilities grant but did not want to proceed to Town meeting until we received an award letter from the USDA.

Mary McDowell distributed the City of Chicopee's Senior Tax Work Off Abatement Program to the Board members for their consideration. The Board discussed the plan.

The Board reviewed the Town Administrator's evaluation.

Mr. Martin reported that the website is currently being populated with information from the various departments and committees.

Mr. Martin reported that he developed a library building committee charge. The charge is as follows:

1. To identify a site for the construction of a new library.
2. To complete a conceptual design for the new library for submission to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC).
3. To advertise, interview and select an Owners Project Manager prior to submission to the MBLC.
4. To advertise, interview and select an Architect prior to submission to the MBLC.
5. To complete all work prior to October 2010.
6. To report to the Board of Selectmen on a regular basis regarding the status of the project.

APPOINTMENTS

Dennis Szetsko of AECOM presented to the Board a project progress report. He went over the report in detail with Board answering any questions they had. The report is attached to the minutes. AECOM will come again to the August 16th meeting of the Board to give another progress report.

Pamela Maheu of 326 Batchelor Street, representing the Kellogg Hall Advocates, presented a list of questions regarding the future of Town Hall and for the Board to answer. The questions are:

1. Do you have a 5 year plan for renovating Kellogg Hall? Is part of that plan putting her in “mothballs”? What does “mothballs” mean to you?
2. What’s the name of the structural engineer who determined that Kellogg Hall was structurally unsound?
3. What will be the insurance costs if Kellogg Hall is left vacant?
4. Why does the building have to be empty to begin repair and why can’t repairs be done in increments?
5. What are the specific financial costs of moving to the building now housing the Police Department (i.e. rent, adapting spaces for town offices, parking, lighting, notification to townspeople, etc.)?
6. When are town residents going to have an opportunity to vote on the possible transfer of Town Offices to the property at 194 State Street (present Police Department)?

The Board did not have all of the answers at this time and will look into the questions posed.

Cindy Watson came before the Board to discuss the state of disrepair of the Batchelor Street cemetery. She presented pictures to the Board and asked if there was anything that could be done to rectify the issues. She also indicated that there was some headstone restoration being done at the cemetery and explained the process of restoration. She would like to see the other issues addressed in conjunction with the restoration process.

Fire Chief Anderson came before the Board at the request of the Town Administrator to discuss the purchase of a new Fire Department 3,500 gallon Vacuum Tanker in the amount of \$287,600. The low bidder was Greenwood Emergency Vehicles. On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to award the truck bid to Greenwood Emergency Vehicles in the amount of \$287,600.

Police Chief Barry came before the Board to discuss the Police Department move to the new Public Safety Complex. The move is being planned for mid July.

NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to accept the departmental reports as written.

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to approve and sign the maintenance warrants.

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to approve a pool table license for the Granby American Legion d/b/a 266 Lounge Inc. 74 Pleasant Street until May 1, 2011.

The Board has received a letter from Albert Bail, Moderator, recommending two appointments to the Finance Committee. On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to affirm the appointment of Dana Ritter, 17 Lyn Drive and Scott Wilson, 74 Burnett Street to the Finance Committee.

The Board has received a letter from Edward Chapdelaine requesting appointment to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Chapdelaine was introduced and asked to speak of why he wished to be a member of the Commission. On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to affirm the appointment of Edward Chapdelaine, 120 Maximilian Drive to the Conservation Commission.

Mary McDowell mentioned that she had been speaking with Henry Clement regarding the possibility of using Aldrich Dam for the generation of hydropower. She has also spoken with Representative Story regarding this and Representative Story will fully support any efforts by the Town in accomplishing this.

Mr. Martin stated that the Town has the opportunity to apply for a technical assistance grant from DOER. This grant will give the Town up to 100 hours of technical assistance in meeting the criteria required to apply for a green community designation. This designation will allow the Town to receive grant monies for energy related projects. Mr. Martin will proceed with applying for this grant.

The Board discussed the holding of office hours for July. After discussion, it was decided to hold office hours on July 15th between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to recess the meeting at 8:43 pm.

Chairman Tack reconvened the meeting at 8:46 pm.

Mr. Martin stated that a Special Town Meeting was being planned for October 18th. There will be only one article on the warrant. The meeting will be to discuss and vote on the proposed school building project. The project will require a debt exclusion vote for the Town's portion of the project. In speaking with the Town Clerk, it is being suggested that the exclusion vote be included on the November 2nd State ballot. The reason for this is to try to get the largest turnout of voters to decide on this extremely important project. In order to get on the State ballot, the question must be submitted to State for approval and inclusion on the ballot. Mr. Martin requested the Board approve the following ballot question for inclusion on the State ballot, according to M.G.L. Chapter 59 Section 21C (k):

“Shall the Town of Granby be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to construct a new school facility at 385 East State Street, Granby MA?

YES _____ NO _____”

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to submit the above question for inclusion on the State ballot.

REPORT OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Martin reported that David Desrosiers has requested three roads be closed due to construction from July 12th until completion..

He has requested that Chicopee Street, from Carver Street to 2,000 feet beyond, Carver Street, between Taylor Street and Chicopee Street, and Taylor Street, between brook and Carver Street. The work will consist of catch basin work, reconstruction of roads and removal of the existing gravel to sub-grade to keep the same elevation. The project is estimated to take six to eight weeks to complete.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Martin
Town Administrator