



TOWN OF GRANBY

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

Board Meeting: February 07, 2011 @ 7:00 P.M.

AGENDA:

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

1. Senior Tax Work –Off Program-Update
2. Landfill Fee Restructure Proposal-Update

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

REPORT OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

APPOINTMENTS: 7:10 Treasurer-Note
7:15 Catherine Ratte-PVPC-Stretch Code
7:30 Dufresne Ad-Hoc committee
7:50 Virginia Snopek-Update on MBLC Grant Submission
8:00 Executive Session

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

- 1 Accept Departmental Reports
- 2 Approve and Sign Maintenance Warrants
- 3 Approve & Sign Class 2 License
- 4 Approve & Sign Interim Police Chief Contract

ADJOURNMENT:

250 STATE STREET, ROUTE 202
Granby, Massachusetts 01033
Telephone: (413) 467-7177
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GRANBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN
COA BUILDING 10 WEST STATE STREET
MEETING MINUTES OF
February 7, 2011

Members Present:

Mary McDowell, Wayne Tack Sr., Mark Bail. Town Administrator, Christopher Martin

Wayne Tack, Sr., chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Wayne Tack, Sr., led the meeting with the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

No citizen participation.

OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATION

Senior Tax Work –Off Program-Update- Mary McDowell asked that this item be taken off the agenda for now and have it revisited by the Board at a later date.

Landfill Fee Restructure Proposal-Update: Mary McDowell told the Board that she still hasn’t connected with Denis LaFleur regarding the classification of the job description for the proposed landfill monitor. She and Chris both spoke to John Libera, Chair of Finance Committee and he seems to be supportive of the proposal. He would like someone to come to a Finance Committee meeting and explain the proposal; Mary is willing to do that. He does realize that the Board wants to start it sooner rather than later. Again he seems to be on board and he made an excellent suggestion to increase the sum to be equal to the purchase of a digital camera for use to take pictures of license plates. The other item up in the air is that Waste Management did say that they would provide the materials for the construction of a monitor’s shed.

Chris Martin suggested that that discussion take place when the Board goes into Executive Session with the other issues regarding landfill operations. He also told the Board that he talked with Interim Police Chief Wishart concerning allowing the monitor to collect checks on his/her shift and place them in a deposit bag and turn them into the dispatcher on duty and then our office will pick them up the next morning. He received a call back from the Union President and he did not have a problem with it they just need a letter from us making the request. The Treasurer is on board with reservations: he believes that all receipts should come through the office, if you were going to drop an item off you would come to the office and pay for it and then receive a voucher which you would present to the monitor when you went to the landfill. Chris has a problem with the monitor working beyond our office hours and he wouldn’t want to turn someone away because they failed to come during our regular office hours, which is why he is lobbying for having the monitor take checks only. He needs to have a numbered receipt

book and writes down the check # and info and turns the receipts in with the checks to the Police Dept. which we pick-up and then turnover to the Treasurer. The other suggestion that Chris had which he discussed with Mary earlier was the hours of operation. He suggests Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday rather than Monday, Thursday and Saturday due to a large amount of Monday holidays. The Board agreed and also with the hours of operation being from 7:30 am- 4:00 pm.

Mary McDowell the aggressive date is still in her mind for sooner rather than later, she would still like to stay on that track. She also wanted to clarify on the numbers that she was using in her proposal of the present landfill sticker tally of 3500. Chris went back and checked the actual was 1705 Primary –households/businesses. Chris explained that we have 2400-2600 parcels that we tax. Mary sees a discrepancy; maybe 200-300 households using a private carrier, it still leaves a large amount of households disposing of their waste without a landfill sticker.

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 the Board unanimously voted to approve Class II Used Car Dealer's License, with same conditions as last year's license to continue on new license and expiring 1/1/12:

2-0004 Mark W. Johnson d/b/a Mark's Garage 423 East State Street

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to approve and sign the Interim Police Chief Employment Contract with the Town of Granby effective September 12, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011. The Board will enter into another contract July 1st if he is appointed as the Chief of Police. Mary McDowell explained that the Board negotiated the contract with the hope of just smoothly transitioning him as the permanent Chief of Police. The contract would then be signed as it stands now when and if they redo the contract in July.

APPOINTMENTS

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to approve BAN Note #427-1 for the purpose of Departmental Equipment (Vacuum Tanker truck for the Fire Department) with Easthampton Savings Bank in the amount of Two Hundred-Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars with an annual interest rate of 1% payable at maturity. Loan issue date is February 22, 2011 and the maturity date is February 22, 2012.

Chris Martin told the Board that he invited Catherine Ratte from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission because part of becoming a Green Community you need to accept the Stretch Code and as part of our education process he felt it was a good idea to have Catherine come to start and talk to the Board # 1 about our action plan and # 2 to talk about what the stretch code actually entails. Catherine started with a little background on the Green Communities, as this was one of the recommendations from the Town's Master Plan, which is still being finalized. It states that the town wants to be a leader in green

initiatives. The State has caught up with the town's idea and has started the Green Communities Program, which is designed to overcome some of the obstacles that have prevented communities of Mass from saving monies through energy efficiencies. A Green Community is made up of 5 criteria's and to be designated a Green Community you must achieve all 5 of the criteria The first two relate to zoning:

1. As-of Right Siting-The proposes to pursue as of right siting for clean energy related research and development or manufacturing in the existing industrial Zone. Chris has talked with Catherine and she is meeting with the Planning Board next week on this.
2. Expedited Permit Process-Local regulations within one-year. PVPC has drafted a letter and it needs to be signed by legal counsel and sent to the State.
3. Baseline Energy Use-Chris Martin will be working with Siemens to enter into a performance contract to reduce municipal energy use. A Preliminary Energy Audit will then be done. The object is to reduce your energy use by 20% in five-years.
4. FEV-Purchasing Policy-Leading by example to purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles- except a policy stating that. Encourage ride sharing, maybe a link on our town website to Mass-Ride. Encourage residents to participate in the Pioneer Valley ride your bike to work week.
5. Stretch Code- Optional amendment to the State Building Code, if adopted it will make all new construction approximately 15% more energy efficient then the baseline. It needs to be adopted at our Annual Town meeting. The first step would be to set-up a very informal session inviting area builders, residents and anyone who has questions and concerns about the Stretch Code. They would be doing an overview presentation on the facts and then everyone could air their concerns and let them hear the details on what exactly Stretch Code means. Commercial Builders are already using the Stretch Code as they see the energy savings so quickly. Not a concern to them. For residential homes average "2700 sq. ft" it could add up to \$2500 in upfront costs, but realize savings immediately in when you pay your heating and energy bills. They have talked to area lenders and they would be willing to lend a little more money to those who are building in communities who accept the Stretch Code to overcome that upfront cost because they know they will saving on their energy bills. They would set-up a panel, having a builder, lender, and real estate agent who could answer questions. They would like to set this up as soon as possible to make the May deadline. Most builders are already building to the Stretch Code. The biggest change is that it is performance tested rather than prescription tested. Old code you had to put in certain insulation, with the Stretch Code you just have to achieve a certain level of efficiency, and you get tested as you go. You can do it however you want as long as you reach that level of efficiency. They are not telling you what to do just telling you how efficient it has to be. The Building Inspector has some concerns about the Stretch Code, as he would be the one who oversees that it is followed. Mary McDowell, Chris Martin and Catherine Ratte will meet with Don Demers to go over the program and answer any questions he has to get him on board with the program.

Catherine Ratte also gave the Board a draft of Granby's Green Communities Acton Plan Summary (A copy of Granby's Action Plan is at the back of the minutes). They would like the Board to adopt it at their next meeting.

Chris would like the Board to come up with some dates to hold the public hearings he would like to keep this going to be able to reach the May deadline. Catherine will work with Mary.

Mr. Martin spoke for the Dufresne Ad-Hoc Committee, informing the Board that they are looking for the Select Board to waive the fee for the Granby Regional Horse Council to hold a Sleigh Rally on Sunday February 20th. They would share the gate receipts 50-50 with the Dufresne Ad-Hoc for the waiver of the fee. On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to approve the waiving of the use-fee as long as it was approved by the Chief of Police and as long as one member of the Ad-Hoc Committee has a member present at the gates. This will be a test program.

The Ad-Hoc Committee also recommended to the Board that the rental fees stay the same for 2011. On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to leave the 2011 rental fee the same as 2010 fees.

Virginia Snopek updated the Board on the Library Project. They have placed drawings of the proposed new library building at the COA, Town Hall Annex, Safety Complex and Aldrich Hall. The MBLC Grant was submitted to the Library Commission on January 25th. She is excited about the project as the Library Commissioners are really excited by this one-story design. If we get this grant we will have raised over 70% of the construction cost. We have gone in front of the Finance Committee and told them exactly what we are telling the Board. The next undertaking is the grand capital fundraising campaign. They have already sent out requests for whatever people can give to all non-profit organizations. They will be doing a complete town wide mailing asking for donations and also to as many banks as they can to give donations. No amount is too small or too large. Their first goal is to raise the \$150,000 matching pledge from Dr. Thomas Bombardier and his partner John Fowler. A goal she believes can be achieved. She believes that they can give Granby a 21st Century Library. The next step will be to vote to approve the design of the Library, no money voted on the Annual Town Meeting. She is hoping that the Town residents will rally behind this project. Mary McDowell would also like to publicly thank all those who have worked on the grant. Jenn Grant, Renee Still, Virginia Snopek, Lou Barry, David Desrosiers. It was a good cross-section of people working on the grant.

REPORT OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Martin told the Board that he received the draft copy of the audit Report on the Junior Senior High School- Project #200801110505 from MSBA. It looked okay they only disallowed some mileage and some Attorney fees from Scanka to the tune of \$400-500. They said they were missing some paperwork and he made copies and sent them to them. There are two other forms that need to be addressed (close out forms) but he would like the School Committee to address them first.

Mary asked Chris to speak about the Statement of Interests that were sent to MSBA. Chris told the Board that Statement of Interests were sent for East Meadow School, West Street School and the Junior-Senior High School. The School Committee voted to make East Meadow School the priority. Which means that when MSBA starts evaluating the next project they will start with East Meadow School. The Board would like the School Committee and the Finance Committee to come to the Board's next meeting to discuss why East Meadow School was chosen as the next priority so that everyone is on the same

page and can move forward as a team. Mary has contacted Senator Gail Candaras and Senator Ellen Story. Her most recent phone call with Katherine Craven was more hopeful; she is busy but may be willing to meet with the town.

Mr. Martin spoke with Jim Baker and he indicated that he has been in contact with the Headmaster of McDuffie School and may have an agreement worked out that we can use the fields on the days that they do not use them. He said that it is 90% finalized but needs to talk to Robert Egan from FMJ Realty LLC.

Chris asked Cathy to ask the members of the Capital Committee when they are available for a meeting.

Chris updated the Board on the roofs of the schools; some parents are concerned with the amount of snow on the roofs. We do have a plan of action. Mr. Martin talked to Mr. Scully concerning each of the schools. The only one they are concerned about is the West Street School. They had a price of \$64,000 to have it removed. Chris had Dave Desrosiers look at the roof; he said it needed to have some snow removed. Chris spoke with the Superintendent of Schools and the School Committee Chair and was given permission to have snow blowers used to remove some of the snow (leaving at 3" of snow on the roof as not to tear the membrane). David Desrosiers thought maybe it can be done in 3-days at a cost of \$20,000. Chris running it through the Snow & Ice budget.

REPORTS OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Mark Bail read letter from Children First Enterprises Inc, (copy back of minutes) stating that they are a non-profit childcare center, providing care and education to the children of Granby and the surrounding communities.

The Select Board agreed to sponsor the Good Citizenship Scholarship again this year for two graduating seniors.

Chris agreed to purchase additional foods for the woman who is helping the dog officer find homes for unclaimed dogs. Mary McDowell will pick up the food.

The Board also wanted to give kudos' to the Highway Department for all their efforts during all these snowstorms. They are doing a great job.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to leave the regular session meeting @ 8:12 and go into Executive Session for M.G.L. 39 Section 23-B-Paragraph 9 to meet with a mediator regarding any litigation or decision and only go back to regular session to adjourn. Tack-AYE, Bail-AYE and McDowell-AYE.

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the regular session meeting @ 9:05

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Leonard
Town Administrator's Secretary

