



TOWN OF GRANBY

COA Building
10 West State Street
Granby, MA 01033
Telephone: (413) 467-7177 Fax: (413) 467-2080
Website: www.granby-ma.gov

Town Administrator: Christopher Martin

Granby Select Board: Mark L. Bail, Chair
Mary A. McDowell
Louis Barry

Board Meeting: December 5, 2011 @ 7:00 P.M.

AGENDA:

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

Pay as you throw

APPROVE MINUTES:

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

APPOINTMENTS:

- 7:10 Note Renewal-Town Treasurer
- 7:15 Tax Classification Hearing-Board of Assessors
- 7:30 HCOG- Eric Weiss
- 7:45 Conservation Commission-Bill Shaheen

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

- 1 Accept Departmental Reports
- 2 Approve and Sign Maintenance Warrants
- 3 WM Commercial Letter
- 4 Approval of 2012-Annual Liquor Licenses
- 5 Approve 2011-2012 Common Victuraller's Licenses
- 6 Approve 2012-Entertainment License
- 7 Approve 2012-Automatic Amusement Licenses
- 8 Affirm Part-time Police Officer

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:



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Meeting Minutes of December 5, 2011

Members Present:

Mark Bail, Louis Barry, Mary McDowell, and Town Administrator, Christopher Martin

Mr. Bail, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the meeting with the "Pledge of Allegiance".

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

John McGreevy, Chad Chagnon and Allen Croteau came to the meeting to discuss the \$50 permit fee for commercial vehicles. Mr. McGreevy had come before the Board when Wayne Tack was on it regarding this same issue. At that meeting, the Board agreed that the \$50 fee was for the businesses in Town and not to punish a resident. A commercial plate is required on any vehicle that has a gross vehicle weight greater 10,000 lbs. Mr. Barry stated there is confusion over the definition of a commercial vehicle and the Town is trying to get a handle on what is commercial waste vs. residential waste. The Board will take this under advisement and notify them of their decision before the new permits are due.

OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATION

Mr. Martin had spoken with Kathy Kelly-Regan regarding an insert with the Town census form. She stated the Town had one side of a page available for an insert. Mr. Martin then reviewed the question and answer form, the bag mockup and program information sheet. Once all of the final documents are received, they will be handed out at the landfill and Town offices.

Mr. Bail wanted to address the permit fee issue from earlier. The Board discussed the current process regarding permits, fees and passes issued by the Town.

On a motion by Louis Barry and seconded by Mary McDowell it was unanimously voted to charge \$25 for residential vehicles, \$25 for commercial vehicles garaged in Granby and \$50 for commercial vehicles not garaged in Granby and to limit the number of permits per household to two permits.

REPORT OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Martin presented the draft police leave of absence policy from Chief Wishart. The Board reviewed the policy and discussed its relation to full-time vs. part-time employees. The Board also discussed the definition of legitimate reason. They decided to have labor counsel review and comment on the policy.

The Board reviewed the appointment of Ms. Anderson to the police auxiliary in light of ethics concerns. Per a letter from the Ethics Commission counsel, she can be appointed under a section 20(f) exemption.

On a motion by Louis Barry and seconded by Mary McDowell, it was unanimously voted to accept the letter from Chief Wishart and grant the exemption under section 20(f) and file the letter and Board minutes with the Town Clerk.

Mr. Martin presented the letter the Board of Assessors had received from Attorney Peter Slepchik Jr. regarding the District II issue as he is representing a resident in that area. The letter was forwarded to Kopelman & Paige for review and opinion. Mr. Martin received a response today. Basically, the Town cannot grant an abatement as we do not issue a fire tax but a general tax. As to the full issue, Mr. Martin has forwarded all of the documents to Kopelman & Paige and has yet to receive an opinion.

Mr. Mr. Received a call from an Attorney Levelf regarding his client and an inappropriate conduct issue at a Town building. When the issue occurred, a trespass order was issued for that site on advice of the Police Department. After the trial, his client has asked that the trespass order be vacated. Mr. Martin contacted labor counsel for an opinion. Based on counsel's advice, Mr. Martin would like to modify the order in a manner to both protect the residents rights and employee rights. The Board discussed the options the Town could take to address this situation.

On a motion by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Bail, it was voted 2-1 that the trespass order be modified to allow the client to conduct business at that location provided that prior notice be given so an escort can be provided.

Mr. Martin spoke about an e-mail received from Mr. Gaj regarding the Hastie Fence contract. Mr. Martin stated that Ms. Anderson had contacted him asking for a check to be issued to Hastie Fence. He would not issue a check until he saw an appropriation voted by the committee. Mr. Martin was then presented a contract to sign. He did not sign it as it was not made out to the Town or a town official, did not have one price and that the Town's tax id number was to be used. Mr. Martin has spoken to Mr. Gaj who will contact Hastie to have a new contract issued. A check will be issued once a new contract is received.

Mr. Barry asked about the elevator. Mr. Martin stated he had contacted one of the vendors and a battery backup would cost \$1,000. He still has a height concern, as the

vendor needs 129” between floors. He has asked that a measurement be taken to finish his evaluation of the proposals.

Ms. McDowell asked about the IT issue. Mr. Martin has submitted the information to HCOG but has not heard back yet. Mr. Glover did agree to perform the services at \$90 per hour. Once Mr. Martin receives it in writing, he will use him.

Mr. Barry asked about the Library contracts. Mr. Martin stated he received a revised contract from the OPM that he is currently reviewing.

Mr. Barry asked about a new Office Committee charge. Mr. Martin has not developed one yet.

The Board meeting schedule is as follows: December 20th; January 3rd and January 17th. There will be no office hours in December and will be held on January 14th.

APPOINTMENTS

7:10 Note Renewal-Town Treasurer

Mr. Nally presented note #431-1 in the amount of \$39,600. It is a reissue note for the pay down on a former note. The successful bidder was United Bank at 0.85%. On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry, it was unanimously voted to approve note 431-1 in the amount of \$39,600 at 0.85% with United Bank.

7:15 Tax Classification Hearing-Board of Assessors

Mark Bail opened the tax classification hearing. Mary McDowell read the hearing advertisement. Mr. Hudgik reviewed the FY2012 tax rate forms with the Board. The total Town valuation is \$572,729,524 of which \$8,719,152 was new growth. Residential makes up 92% of the total valuation. The average home value is \$228,758. The Board of Assessors also looked at the potential of shifting more of the property tax rate to commercial. If the Board looked at a 10% shift, the homeowner would save \$28 per year. This would not be conducive to keeping or attracting commercial business in the community. The Board of Assessors recommended a single tax rate of \$15.87 per \$1,000 for FY2012.

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry, it was unanimously voted to approve a single tax rate for FY2012 of \$15.87 per \$1,000 as recommended by the Board of Assessors.

Mr. Martin requested the Board vote to authorize him to sign the electronic version of the LA5 form on their behalf. The electronic version is the one submitted to DOR to set the tax rate.

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry, it was unanimously voted to authorize Christopher Martin to sign the electronic LA5 form on their behalf

Before the Board left, Mr. Martin asked about M.G.L. Chapter 59 Section 2D also known as the Hopkinton Bill. Mr. Martin stated that unless the Town voted to reject it, the Town would be required to issue supplemental tax bills on any property that increased in value by 50% or more due to new construction between January 1st and December 31st. The Assessors stated that they had unanimously voted to reject it. They recommended the Board do the same.

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry, it was unanimously voted to reject M.G.L. Chapter 59 Section 2D also known as the Hopkinton Bill as recommended by the Board of Assessors.

Chief Wishart introduced Ryan Senecal to the Board. The Police Advisory Board had met and interviewed five applicants for the open part-time officer position. They recommended Mr. Senecal be appointed to the position of part-time officer. Mr. Senecal is currently on the auxiliary police force. The Board congratulated Mr. Senecal on his new appointment.

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry, it was unanimously voted to affirm the appointment of Ryan Senecal to part-time police officer through June 30, 2012.

7:30 HCOG- Eric Weiss

Eric Weiss of HCOG introduced himself. He is the Sustainability Director of the HCOG. The HCO is looking at green energy projects and sustainability projects. Mr. Weiss gave the Board an outline of the HCOG program he oversees. The HCOG is also starting to be an aggregation of choice broker for the sale of SREC's (Solar Renewable Energy Credit). They charge a fee of 4% to broker the sale. The main reason he was here tonight was to talk about an RFP the HCOG is developing under Chapter 25A. Currently there are many firms in the area who install various types of arrays. There have been some problems with some of these companies backing out after stating they would install an array. The HCOG, through an RFP, will fully vet local vendors to install arrays on potential sites. The Town will identify local, municipally owned potential sites to be included in the RFP. The Board then discussed the proposed RFP and will provide sites for inclusion in the RFP.

7:45 Conservation Commission-Bill Shaheen

The Board asked Mr. Shaheen to come in about the Partyka property. He stated the Commission had walked the north half of the property and they were impressed with the site. He recommended the Town purchase the site depending upon financing. Mr. Barry volunteered to be the contact person for the Board to conduct negotiations.

Mr. Bail asked about Dufresne pond. Mr. Shaheen said he had contacted the Army Corps of Engineers about help with the dredging operation. Mr. Shaheen said he did do some sampling as part of the initial analysis. If something is not done soon, there will be a wetland there instead of a pond.

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry it was unanimously voted to accept the departmental warrants as read.

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

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry it was unanimously voted to approve the following liquor licenses for 2012 to expire December 31, 2012:

General On-Premise-All Alcohol

Granby Cafe Inc. d/b/a Granby Café	489 East State & School St
266 Lounge	74 Pleasant St

Package Store-All Alcohol

Polvic Inc. d/b/a Vickers Liquors	367 E State St
Granby Liquor Store Inc.	60 W State St

Package Store-Wine and Malt

SKS General Store Inc. d/b/a Summit General Store	102 New Ludlow Rd
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On Premise- Wine and Malt

Harry Martidis d/b/a Pizza Palace	31 W State St
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On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry it was unanimously voted to approve the following Common Victuraller's licenses for 2011 to expire December 31, 2011:

11-42 Western Inc. d/b/a BP Gas Station	30 West State St
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On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry it was unanimously voted to approve the following Common Victuraller's licenses for 2012 to expire December 31, 2012:

12-01 Western Inc. d/b/a BP Gas Station	30 West State St
12-02 Pioneer Valley Chapter 8 of NAFCA	104 West State St
12-03 Something Special Catering Service	181 West State St
12-04 Martidis Pizza Inc d/b/a Pizza Palace	31 West State St
12-05 Granby Liquor Store Inc.	60 West State St

12-06 American Legion d/b/a 266 Lounge Inc. 74 Pleasant St
12-07 SKS General Store Inc. d/b/a Summit General Store 102 New Ludlow Rd
12-08 Granby Café Inc. 489 East State St
12-09 Polvic Inc. d/b/a Vickers Liquors 367 East State St

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry it was unanimously voted to approve the following entertainment license for 2012 to expire on December 31, 2012:

12-01 American Legion d/b/a 266 Lounge Inc 74 Pleasant St

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Louis Barry it was unanimously voted to approve the following automatic amusement device licenses for 2012 to expire December 31, 2012:

12-01 Granby Café Inc. d/b/a Granby Café 489 E State St Jukebox
12-02 266 Lounge Inc. 74 Pleasant St Bar Top Video Trivia Game

The Board reviewed the Waste Management commercial customer letter to be sent out.

On a motion by Louis Barry and seconded by Mary McDowell it was unanimously voted to send the letter out as written.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Louis Barry and seconded by Mary McDowell it was unanimously voted to adjourn the regular session meeting @ 9:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Leonard
Town Administrator's Secretary