



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: Louis Barry, Chair
Mary A. McDowell, Clerk
Mark L. Bail, Member

Board Meeting: November 4, 2013 @ 6:30 P.M.

AGENDA:

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

Tax Title Custodian

APPROVE MINUTES:

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

APPOINTMENTS:

- 6:35 Chief Wishart-Auxiliary Appointments (2)
- 6:40 Board of Health/COA
- 7:00 Board of Health-Municipal Solid Waste Disposal
- 7:15 Public Announcement: Notice of Proposed Acquisition-APR

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

- 1 Accept Departmental Reports
- 2 Approve and Sign Maintenance Warrant
- 3 Approve and Sign Gravel Permit Renewals (3)
- 4 Sign Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid Law
- 5 SH Fire District 2 Letter
- 6 Discuss Non-Profit for the Town of Granby

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:



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Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2013

Members Present:

Mark Bail, Louis Barry, and Mary McDowell. Others Present: Christopher Martin

Mr. Barry, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and led the meeting with the "Pledge of Allegiance".

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

James White, Recreation Commission member informed the Board that the Recreation Commission has received a letter from Gary Toth asking to use Brown-Ellison Field for a youth baseball team that he coaches. The organization is called the Diamond Jacks. The organization would do some of the maintenance of the field (mow, seed, paint backstops, care of the dugouts) for the use of the field. He would also like to hang some sponsorship signs on the fence. Mr. White and the rest of the members of the Recreation Commission do not see a problem with this, but wanted to bring it the Board's attention to see if they had any problems with the proposal. Mr. Bail pointed out that the Select Board does not have any jurisdiction over Brown-Ellison Field. Mr. Martin warned that in the past when groups helped/fixed items at Dufresne they felt that they owned the fields and had certain rights. Mr. White said that he has talked to Mr. Toth and explained that they would not have exclusive rights to field. The Commission feels that there is a lot of maintenance that needs to be done and by having Mr. Toth's organization helping it will alleviate the burden on the Recreation Commission and the town's Highway Department. They really will be only using the fields one day a weekend for doubleheader games for no more than 5 hours on that day. They practice in Wilbraham Their season runs from April to middle of June. Mrs. McDowell wanted to make sure that any/all improvements/changes are brought to the Recreation Commission and approved by them before they start the project and that the request is in writing and the approval is done at a posted meeting with minutes to reflect the approval. The Recreation Commission also wanted the Board to know because of the possible changing of the Recreation Commission to appointed members rather than elected in April.

Terry Lajoie, Historic Commission: Informed the Board that she was meeting with the consultant that the Commission hired and a member of the Massachusetts Historical Committee at 3:00 pm tomorrow at the COA building. She wanted to make sure that the Board had approved and signed the contract so that it was all set for the meeting. Mr. Martin told her everything was all set.

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION

Departmental Reports: On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously accepted the departmental warrants as read.

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

Approve and Sign Gravel Permit Renewals (3): On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell it was unanimously voted to approve the following 2013-2014 Gravel permits expiring 6/30/2014. The Conservation Commission at their meeting earlier approved all permits. Owner of gravel pits on record is Nawrocki Construction Inc of 105 Chicopee Street, Chicopee with the following gravel permit locations in Granby:
Nawrocki: 11 Lyons Street
Nawrocki: North side of Carver Street and East of Former Mr. Lyman Pit
Nawrocki: Lyons Street North-side of Hampden-Hampshire County Line

Sign Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid Law: MEMA is looking to get all towns to sign on to this statewide Public Safety Aid Law. The Town of Granby Board of Health and Highway Department is asking that the Select Board approve and sign the Public Safety Mutual Aid agreement. Our Town Council has read the agreement and sees no problem with it. The town already has a signed mutual aid agreement with the Police and Fire Departments. On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to participate in the Statewide Public Mutual Aid Programs for Public Safety and Public Works with Mr. Barry signing the agreements as Select Board chair.

South Hadley Fire District 2 Letters: Mark Bail gave the Board an update that he had written a letter to be sent out concerning the Town of Granby getting out of South Hadley Fire District 2 (S.H.F.D. 2) and had forwarded to Special Council. He has not heard back from Council and that had been about one week and a half ago. He has tried contacting several different times since sending him the draft letter. He will continue trying to contact Special Council to get this moving.

In the meantime the Board has received two letters one from S.H.F.D. 2 asking that the Select Board come to their Prudential meeting on November 14th concerning this issue and second letter from the office of OEMS out of Northampton concerning both towns' Service Zone Plans with regards to ambulance service. In the letter from OEMS it was suggested that both sides get together with OEMS to look at both plans as a whole to hopefully come to an agreement.

After much discussion, the Board felt that there are two separate issues. One-“Home Rule Petition” to get the Town of Granby out of S.H.F.D. 2, and Two- to get Granby's Service Zone Plan approved. Issue #1 is on going and issue #2 is the most important at this time. Mary McDowell wanted on record that she supports Chris Martin's suggestion that he and Chief Anderson attend S.H.F.D. 2 meeting on Nov. 14. They would attend instead of the Select Board as goodwill gesture from the Town of Granby. On a motion by Louis Barry and seconded by Mary McDowell, the Board unanimously voted to have Chris Martin and Chief Anderson attend S.H.F.D. 2 meeting on Nov. 14 and only address the issue of attending a mutual meeting with OMES in Northampton to address the Service Zone Plans for ambulance.

Discuss Non-Profit for the Town of Granby: Mr. Barry told the Board that the Partyka Family would like to donate land to the Veteran's Committee to auction off. All the profits would go to the Veteran Memorial Fund towards the construction of the memorial. Mr. Egan has offered to help set-up a non-profit status for the Committee. Mr. Barry wanted to know if the Board wanted to set-up their own non-profit to accept the donation. Mr. Barry spoke with Town Council about the non-profit status for the Veteran's Committee. They would have to form another committee not under the Select Board to run the non-profit. The town would then have to accept the donation at a town meeting. The Board agreed that they should form their own non-profit status, but Mary McDowell had some concerns and asked Mr. Martin to talk to Town Council. Mr. Martin will ask Town Council the following questions:

1. The Committee members are appointed by the Select Board and therefore are an official representative entity of the Town. Can the same members of the committee serve as the officers of a 501©3 non-profit?
2. If they are able to serve as the officers, how do they avoid co-mingling of funds through their non-profit fundraising activities and fundraising activities as a Town Committee?
3. What are the pros and cons of such an arrangement?

APPOINTMENTS

Chief Wishart-Auxiliary Appointments (2): Sgt. Smith filling in for Chief Wishart presented two candidates for Auxiliary Police Officers for the Town of Granby. Matthew Paquette of Chicopee and Michael Ulmer of Ludlow (recently retired as a part-time police officer). On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to affirm the appointments of Matthew Paquette and Michael Ulmer as Auxiliary Police Officers for the Town of Granby with terms expiring June 30, 2014.

Board of Health/COA: Dick Bombardier, Board of Health Chair, Jessica Scahill, Council on Aging Director and Russ Anderson, Council on Aging Board Chair came in front of the Board to discuss the possibility of combining a clerical position between the two departments. Mr. Barry opened the discussion with a brief statement concerning the town's financial state and exploring any/all possibilities to save the town money. One possibility is to combine a clerical position as both departments are looking to replace their part-time clerks and add in the Select Board's part-time landfill clerk to make a fulltime position. The following points were made:

Cons-

- Combining the positions would take 65 hours of work and go down to 40 hours. Some one loses,
- 3 different bosses, prioritizing may become an issue.
- Adding a benefited position

Pros-

- One stop (shopping) for residents
- Full-time coverage for the 3 departments
- Fiscally responsible

After some discussion, the Board decided that the idea sounds great, but in theory, it needs much more planning and discussion before it could be put in motion. On a motion made by Louis Barry and seconded by Mark Bail, the Select Board unanimously voted the following: The COA will move forward and advertise in-house for their 20-hour part-time clerk position. The COA also agreed to help if needed during the month of December with landfill stickers. The BOH and Landfill position will temporarily stay the same with the clerk working for Landfill on Tuesday and Thursday 9-1 and for the BOH on Monday and Wednesday 9-2 and Friday's 9-noon until January 2014. The BOH will not hire a permanent replacement. The Select Board and BOH will know more on where the Town of Granby's household waste will be going in January.

Board of Health-Municipal Solid Waste Disposal: Mr. Bombardier informed the Board that when the Town no longer has a contract for household waste the responsibility of the issue falls back to the Board of Health. They would take over the enforcement of health issues involved with getting rid of the household waste. Mr. Barry gave Mr. Bombardier an update on where the Board was concerning the landfill and its closing:

- RFP out for Town wide pick-up
- South Hadley indicted willingness to allow the Town of Granby to use their transport station if we put in our own roll-off dumpster. They will take recyclables also, but would be keeping the fees.
- Looking at going in with South Hadley for a two-town contract as their landfill in closing in April 2014.

Mr. Bombardier was interested in keeping the pay as you throw program, as he feels it helps residents recycle and reduces what goes in our landfills. It encourages residents to recycle more because it will cost them less. The hauler can only pick-up what is in the town's official bags.

Public Announcement: Notice of Proposed Acquisition-APR : Mary McDowell read the following notice of proposed acquisition:

In compliance with G.L.c.7, Section 40I, the Commonwealth Massachusetts, acting by and through its Department of Agricultural Resources (the "Department"), hereby gives notice that it proposes to acquire an agricultural preservation restriction ("ARP") on the real property identified herein for the purpose of protecting in perpetuity its superior and productive agricultural resources by preventing their conversion to other uses.

The application received by MDAR indicates that the property is owned by Gregory Lyon and Justin J Obremski and consists of parcel (s) located on the northerly side of Crescent Street and westerly side Porter Street as approximately represented on the attached maps. The APR may encompass all or parts of the area shown. The current use of the property is an active hay operation. Following the recording of the APR, the use of the subject property is limited to agricultural use as more particularly set forth in the APR document, the General Laws (Chapter 184, Sections 31), and the regulations of the Department (330 CMR 22.00 et,seq).

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to accept the proposed acquisition as read.

OLD BUSINESS & INFORMATION

Tax Title Custodian: Chris Martin reported to the Board that there are 40 parcels of land in Tax Title for the Town of Granby. Total value is \$447,838.44. Total value equals taxes due, advertising, demand fees and interest up to the day of taking the parcels. He forwarded the list to Town Counsel Ed Ryan to see if he would serve as our Tax Title Custodian for the time; it took to get the parcels off the books. Atty. Ryan was not sure if he would take the roll on, but would put it out to other lawyers who might be interested. He will get back to Chris by next week.

Building Inspector Position: Mr. Martin reported to the Board that applications are due in the Select Board office by Friday. He has received three so far. Mr. Barry asked that Cathy post a meeting for the screening committee for 4:00 pm on November 14. She will also send a packet out to all the members with the posting and copies of the applications received.

Kellogg Hall: Gayle Demary has spoken with Mr. Martin and Mr. Martin sent her the RFP about Kellogg Hall. Mr. Martin has scheduled a walk-through at 10:00 am on November 12.

Town Clerk: The Town Clerk would like to know if the Select Board would like to put something about the landfill on the back of her Census flyer that will be going out on Jan 1 to all households in Granby. The Board said yes, at this time the only thing they do know is that the landfill will close on December 31. They will discuss at their next meeting about permit renewals and the Board of Health concerns.

Hampshire Power: Mr. Martin received a letter from Hampshire Power concerning signing with them for a fixed price. He also received a letter from Constellation Power that he had shared with the Board a few weeks back. He received another letter from them today with a new price. The prices keep going up with winter upon us. He is concerned that if we keep waiting the price will be even higher. Hampshire power is not going out to bid until November 22. Our contract with Hampshire has expired. We are month to month right now. Mr. Barry would like to see if one other company would like to give the town a price. He will have them get back to Chris in the next few days.

- Mr. Barry told the other Board members that Mr. Martin will be out of the office Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell it was unanimously voted to adjourn the regular session meeting @ 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Leonard
Town Administrator's Secretary