



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: January 27, 2014 @ 6:30 P.M.

AGENDA:

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

APPROVE MINUTES:

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

APPOINTMENTS:

7:15 Gayle Demary-Granby Preservation Society

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

- 1 Accept Departmental Reports
- 2 Approve and Sign Maintenance Warrant
- 3 Approve & Sign Common Victuraller's Licenses-2014
- 4 Approve & Sign Class 2 License-2014
- 5 Approve and Sign 2014 Automatic Amusement License
- 6 Approve and Sign Support Bond Bill, House Bill 3690, Section 2 for HCOG

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:



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Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2014

Members Present:

Mark Bail, Mary McDowell and Louis Barry, 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

Jessica Scahill, Council on Aging Director, presented to the Board the new COA Clerk, Robin Oey. She will start her new position on February 3, 2014.

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. (3-0-0)

Maintenance Warrant: On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, it was unanimously voted to approve and sign the maintenance warrants. (3-0-0)

2014 Common Victualler's: On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, it was unanimously voted to approve and sign the following Common Victualler's license:

14-21	Union Mart	362 East State Street
14-22	Fairview Sportsmen's Fish & Game Association Inc.	280 Carver Street
14-23	CCLI, Corp., d/b/a Little Italy Pizzeria	56 West State Street
14-24	Judith E Camarena d/b/a Five Corner Cuts	77 West State Street

all licenses expire on December 31, 2014. (3-0-0)

Approve & Sign Class 2 License-2014: On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to approve a 2014-Used Car Dealer's License—Class 2 –Douglas Merrill, d/b/a Merrill Auto Imports located at 121 West State Street. This license expires on January 1, 2015.

Approve and Sign 2014 Automatic Amusement License: On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to approve a 2014 Automatic Amusement License to 266 Lounge Inc., located at 74 Pleasant Street for a electronic dart board. This license is to expire on December 31, 2014.

Approve and Sign Support Bond Bill, House Bill 3690, Section 2 for HCOG: Mary McDowell read a letter from Todd Ford, Executive Director of the Hampshire Council of Governments asking that the Granby Select Board support the HCOG on House Bill 3690, Section 2 authorizing \$4,000,000 for repair of the historic Hampshire County Courthouse. On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to approve and have the chair sign a letter to Senator Brian A Joyce, Chair Senate Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets concerning Bond Bill, House Bill 3690, Section 2 for Hampshire Council of Governments (3-0-0). A copy will be sent to the HCOG.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

HCOG Accounting Services: Mr. Martin told the Board that he had originally invited Jim Pietras, Roland Chaffee & Todd Ford to tonight's meeting to discuss the many accounting services issues that the Town is having with them. None of them were available for tonight's meeting. Mr. Martin then emailed them all on Friday for another meeting tomorrow January 28; he has not gotten a response back from anyone. Mr. Martin feels the meeting needs to be canceled and that the Town needs to find another accountant.

- The Board discussed the problems the Town has had and is having with the HCOG accounting services program. Here were some of the issues that remain outstanding

1. Failure to provide carry forward balances to departments,
2. Failure to respond to emails,
3. Failure to reconcile cash with the Treasurer since June 30, 2013.

These are in addition to other serious incidents that have occurred in their performance of accounting services. Also discussed was back charging the HCOG for the time that the Town is going to have to put in to get the books up to date and right. Mr. Martin was asked to keep track of all the time he puts in on the accounting services and to get the report for the town's workers comp salaries to see how much more we had to pay because the HCOG did not supply them with that information.

- The Board feels that they are at an impasse with HCOG with these ongoing problems. After numerous meetings with HCOG representatives, it is apparent that the HCOG program cannot handle the needs of the Town of Granby in this area. Despite repeated notifications and complaints by the Town of Granby, the HCOG has not been able to respond in a timely manner to the Town of Granby needs.

- Mr. Martin and the Board went over a letter that Mr. Martin put together terminating the contract with the Hampshire Council of Governments (HCOG) for accounting services per Article X of the contract for services. It is a ninety-day notification period, which the Board would like waived, as the conditions (promises) under which the Town signed the contract were never met. The Board feels that the contract should be terminated no more than thirty-days from the date they receive the letter.

- Mr. Martin sent a copy of the letter and contract to Town Council. He has not heard back at this time.

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to call Town Council to get legal advice on how to proceed in terms of recouping our financial losses and that we move forward on terminating the contract with HCOG Accounting Services under the direction and guidance of Town Council. (3-0-0)

- Mr. Barry asked that an ad be placed advertizing for a bookkeeper and then do interviews as soon as possible. The Board will look at appointing Mr. Martin as interim Town Accountant after he checks with Town Council and speaks with the Town Clerk on rescinding Roland Chaffee's appointment.

Boston Meeting Update: Mr. Martin, Chief Anderson and Special Town Council had a meeting in Boson with Representative Peake concerning Senate Bill No. 1771; House Bill No. 3456 Town of Granby Home Rule Petition-An Act Relative to the South Hadley Fire District Number Two. Rep. Peake suggested that we try Massachusetts Office of Public Corroboration, run out of UMASS-Boston. She would suggest that Rep. Story and Rep. Scibak try to arrange for that to occur. Senator Candaras could not make it, but said that if the Town needed anything just ask.

Joint Meeting with School: Chris Martin and Mark Bail have a scheduled meeting with Mike Quesnel, School Committee Chair and Dr Rodriguez, School Superintendent to discuss combining some services on Monday February 3.

MSBA-West Street School: Chris Martin participated in a conference call today with Dr. Rodriguez and MSBA concerning request for service for OPM. They would like to advertize starting Feb 5. MSBA has looked at the ad, and Mr. Martin will incorporate suggested changes for RFP and have it ready to issue by Feb 5. MSBA's legal department needs to read it again with all the suggested changes.

Landfill Update: Mary McDowell, Chris Martin and Arlene Miller, DEP met with two vendors who turned in RFP's for town-wide pick-up. They agreed to look at their figures and sharpen their pencils and come back to the Board with hopefully new figures by Feb 5. The other vendor's price was so different from the other's they did not think they could change. The Board would like Chris Martin to set-up a meeting with Arlene Miller to go over the proposal's after the 5th but before the Board's meeting on the 10th.

- Waste Management's response to leasing the 2-acre drop-off area was more expensive then curbside.

FY-15 Budgets: Mr. Martin hopes to have the FY-15 budgets out to all the Department Heads soon.

APPOINTMENTS

Gayle Demary-Granby Preservation Society: Gayle Demary and Christine Beck came in front of the Board as officers of the newly formed non-profit organization called the Granby Preservation Society. This is their first public appearance as a 501-C non-profit group. Their number one priority is to preserve buildings in Granby that need to be preserved for the town's history. They will raise money through grants and fundraisers. Their priority right now is Kellogg Hall and the garages behind it. Kellogg Hall is a footprint of what the town has been and what the town could be in the future. The Society would like the Select Board to sell them the property for \$1.00. As a non-profit they are short on funds, but would like to give back to the town something they could be proud of, as it is vital part of the town's center.

- Mr. Barry told the Society that the Board had advertised an RFP for the property twice without any bids being submitted. The Board had agreed to put a hold on selling the Kellogg Hall property until this group could be formed. Now that they are ready, the Board will move forward.

- Gayle Demary said yes they are ready to move forward also. They need to know if there are any issues/problems they do not know about with regards to the property. The Town needs to do a Title 5 inspection in order to sell the property.

- Mr. Martin told Ms. Demary that he did not know of any other problems. The group might want to talk with the Building Inspector and Fire Chief depending on what the use of the building would be used for.

- Ms. Demary told the Board they have many people ready to help with getting the building back to its original state. They also have a grant writer in town who is willing to help them apply for grants.

- Mr. Barry explained that at the ATM it was voted on to dispose of the building under M.G.L Chapter 30-B. The RFP will have to be placed back in the central register and locally advertized. It will take about 3-4 weeks to complete.

- Ms. Demary was still concerned about the Title 5 being done and who would be paying for it. Normally it is the seller. Mr. Barry said he would ask the Finance Committee for money from the reserve fund. If they say no, he would place an article on the ATM meeting warrant. They are also concerned with the \$5,000 deposit required for the RFP. The Board discussed removing the required deposit from the RFP.

- The Society will not start any fundraising until they know the building is theirs. So the sooner the process is started the better. If they do acquire the property, they hope to have the outside presentable for the Town's 250th celebration.

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to have Chris Martin change the RFP to have no deposit required and get it out to the Central Register and local newspaper by tomorrow February 4. (3-0-0)

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to recess the Select Board meeting for 5 minutes @ 7:25 pm. (3-0-0)

Louis Barry reopened the meeting at 7:30 pm

OLD BUSINESS & INFORMATION

- Mary McDowell read a statement about the Town of Granby getting the Stavros Paul Winske Award for the Granby Town Offices and Senior Center located at 10- West State Street. The awarded was given out on October 10, 2013 for the town having done a nice job for full access for all.

- Marc Dargis of Belchertown sent a letter to the Board asking if they would request from National Grid a Streetlight be placed at the corner of Batchelor Street-Granby/Stebbins Street-Belchertown. The Board asked that Mr. Martin check with Chief Wishart to see if there is any history of accidents and be placed on the Board's next meeting.

- Board received a letter from Lorrie Roussi concerning her sewer bill. Mark Bail, as chair of Sewer Commission will contact her to answer her questions.

- Tom Murray, of Waste Management sent a response letter to the Board concerning an incident with one of their employees and our landfill drop-off site. The Board asked Mr. Martin to follow-up with Chief Wishart for more info and any updates.

- Lou Barry suggests that the Board look in to regulations for 6-yd dumpsters. He believes that the Fire Department needs to inspect them (for a fee). He is not sure if it falls under the Board of Health as a public health issue.

- Lou Barry updated the Board on where he was in process of working with the Historic District Commission on the demolition of Aldrich Hall. He has met with the Committee twice. The last time they told him that he needed to have an engineering study done. The cost would be around \$2700. Mr. Barry has a hard time asking for monies for a building that the Town voted to demolish. The Board would like the Historic District Commission invited to their next meeting on February 10 for a continued discussion on the fate of Aldrich Hall.

APPROVE MINUTES

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to approve the following regular meeting minutes: November 4, & 18, 2013 December 2, & 23, 2013, and January 6, 2014.

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 @ 8:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Leonard
Town Administrator's Secretary