



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: March 3, 2014 @ 6:30 P.M.

AGENDA:

CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

APPROVE MINUTES:

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

APPOINTMENTS:

- 6:32 Affirm Appointment –Police Dispatch
- 6:35 Purple Heart Town Presentation
- 7:00 Building Inspector-Fees
- 7:15 Chief Anderson-Ambulance Billing Fees
- 7:45 John O'Rourke-Municipal Aggregation
- 8:15 Arlene Miller-DEP-(executive session)

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

- 1 Accept Departmental Reports
- 2 Approve and Sign Maintenance Warrant-#0050, 0051, 0052, 0053, 0054
- 3 Public Announcement-DCR-Proposed acquisition of 178+/- acres
- 4 Sign-Off on Dufresne Rentals
- 5 Approve and Sign a Common Victualler's License

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:



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Meeting Minutes of March 03, 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

None

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 #0050-#0054. (3-0-0)

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

14-25	Joyrides, LLC	d/b/a Happy Days Family Fun Spot	172 W State St
14-26	Granby Pharmacy Inc	d/b/a Center Pharmacy	242 State St

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

Public Announcement-DCR-Proposed acquisition of 178+/- acres: In accordance with 301 CMR 51.00, et seq., Mary McDowell read a public announcement that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is interested in acquiring approximately, 178(+/-) acres of land, or other property interest, in the Town of Granby. The land if acquired shall be incorporated into the state system of parks, reservations and forests, for open space, natural resource protection and passive recreation use. The property abuts the Mt. Holyoke Range State Park. Mr. Barry as chair signed the certificate of announcement stating that the announcement was read at their March 3, 2014 meeting.

Sign-Off on Dufresne Rentals: On a motion by Mrs. McDowell and seconded by Mr. Bail, the Board voted to approve and Mr. Barry as Chair signed the following Dufresne Park Rental permits:

Apr 19	9:00am-12:00pm	Granby PM Club	Gazebo & Lawn Area	Kendall St
June 23 & 24	Set-up:10:00-4:00	Chief Wishart -SALT	Large Pavilion	Kendall St
Aug 9	8:00 am- 4:00 pm	Adventure Dogs USA	Large Pavilion	Kendall St
Sept 26	3:00 pm- 6:00 pm	K & N Brooks	#-3-Sm Pavilion	Kendall St

These permits were approved with no alcohol on premises.

Oct 4	10:00 am-7:00 pm	J Przybycian	Large Pavilion	Kendall St
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This permit was approved pending one-day alcohol license submittal with approval.

APPOINTMENTS

Affirm Appointment –Police Dispatch: On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to affirm the appointment of Lori Hebert for a term starting 3/3/14 and ending 3/2/15 as a full-time dispatcher for the Granby Police Department, (3-0-0). Ms. Hebert was one of nine individuals that were interviewed by Chief Anderson, Sergeant Smith and Chief Wishart for the open position.

Purple Heart Town Presentation: Retired Staff Sergeant Brian Willette and John Lastowski Jr. (of Post 266, Granby) were proud to present to the Town of Granby a plaque designating the Town of Granby a PURPLE HEART TOWN. August 6th is proclaimed as Purple Heart Day in Granby. The plaque will proudly be displayed at the American Legion on Pleasant St.

Building Inspector-Fees: Russell Ducharme, Granby Building Inspector came in front of the Board to discuss proposed fee changes he would like to put in place with approval from the Select Board. Mr. Ducharme went over the proposed changes and the fees structure in surrounding towns compared to the Town of Granby. The biggest changes are in the building fees, which are going to a fee that is based on cost to build rather than sq footage. On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Mary McDowell, the Board unanimously voted to approve the proposed Building, Gas and Electrical fees as presented (copy of new fees included in back of minutes).

Chief Anderson-Ambulance Billing Fees: Moved to March 17th meeting

John O'Rourke-Municipal Aggregation: John O'Rourke of Good Energy gave a presentation to the Board concerning his company regarding Municipal Aggregation. He is hoping the Town of Granby will look into using his company for the town in the future. The Board thanked Mr. O'Rourke for his presentation and information packet and will take everything under advisement and will get to him in the near future.

Arlene Miller-DEP-(executive session): Arlene Miller came in front of the Board to discuss contract negotiations for Municipal Solid Waste for the Town of Granby.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Free Cash Certification: Chris told the Board that 1.3 million figures were certified for the Town of Granby as of July 1, 2013 by DOR.

OLD BUSINESS & INFORMATION

RFP Review Committee for Kellogg Hall: On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to affirm the appointments of Michael Beck, pro-tem chair, Cynthia Gaspari and Pamela Desjardins for a term ending 45-days from affirmation.

Fire Department Contract: Lou Barry, Fire Department Liaison was ready to have the Board sign the contract. Mary McDowell would like to have a discussion as a Board before signing off. The Board agreed to move the signing to the next regular scheduled Select Board meeting.

Bookkeeper: The ad for the bookkeeper went in the Daily Hampshire Gazette and applications are due in by this Friday March 7, 2014.

Mary McDowell: Requested that it be on the record that she received an email from Mark Bail concerning two potential conflict of interest issues, (1. the appearance of conflict of interest and 2. asserting pressure). She stated that in her 61 years of life she has never been looked at as someone who has asserted pressure on anyone or had involvement in anything with conflict of interest. She wanted to make it clear that her involvement in this bookkeeping process has been merely one and only thing, her interest for the Town of Granby. Mary said, if we go back to the end of January when an ad was supposed to go in the paper, because we were in a critical situation with HCOG. On February 10 it was not in yet and she felt that for the Town of Granby it was a very serious thing for us to be able to move on. So she asked at the February 10th meeting if Chair Lou Barry would talk to Mr. Martin about getting it in the paper, he said he would. The ad finally went in the paper on February 22. My only hope is that we hire a bookkeeper. In the world of business when people know of someone who can fill a position and fill it well, she thinks that in the best interest of the town you mention it. She is fully aware of who hires and who doesn't, but this process has been a very-very long one. So the insinuation that I am in conflict of interest or that I am asserting pressure is very disturbing to me. Mary would like Chris Martin to publicly answer whether or not she is asserting pressure on him to hire a particular bookkeeper. She wants this done publicly because of what she is being accused of. She wants this process to move and she wants a good person in the position end of story. That is all she wants for the Town of Granby. She said that she asked Chris 3 to 4 weeks ago if he wanted this person to come in and meet with him.

Chris said he was willing to meet with her.

Mary knows she has asserted pressure to get the ad in the paper.

Chris said she has not pressed him, but that she has constantly brought up that you have someone who you know that could fill the position.

Mary believes that he is not correct in saying that. She wants a bookkeeper and does not want our Town Administrator doing it. People didn't want our Town Administrator doing it; all she has wanted from the beginning of this process is to hire a bookkeeper and had the ad gone in the paper at the beginning none of this would be an issue. Lou you said you would take care of this on February 10 and yet the ad did not go in until Feb. 22. We

decide things as a Board and then when I want to move the process forward I am accused of conflict of interest and asserting pressure.

Mark Bail asked Mary to read the whole email, because he didn't accuse her. I sent you a personnel message.

Mary read the email out loud "I am not writing in any capacity. I am certainly not making a complaint, but I thought I would let you know you are running the risk of conflict of interest and in your recommendation for bookkeeper position. There are two issues here: 1 appearance of conflict of interest and 2 asserting pressure, you can read about relative advisory here."

Mary answer's to Mark was "Thanks my only goal here is to move the process along and get the best person for Granby. As you recall the ad was suppose to go into the paper a month ago, never happened. The situation is a serious one for Granby and it baffles me why we drag our feet in situations like this. I have always felt that there is a big conflict of interest with the Town Administrator doing the accounting work, not only a conflict of interest but a big liability for the town. As you remember Lou brought a gentleman from the Cape in and it didn't work out. What we all should be worried about is getting a professional who can do the job and do it well. I do not feel that TA should be the Accountant and voted against it.

Chris said you signed the appointment paperwork.

Mary said she did, but it is in the minutes on how she voted.

Lou Barry said to clarify one thing: A decision was made by Chris and hopefully with a consultation with Mark Bail, they had a meeting with the School on combining positions, there was some concern over their employees if we hired a bookkeeper that those employees would be replaced. So until that was brought up and clarified the ad was delayed. A decision was made right, wrong or indifferent. At that point and time they felt it was the best decision they could do. It delayed it.

Mary said we had a motion, so if it is going to be different the whole Board should know what the reasons are.

Lou said it was brought out at the next meeting why it wasn't done. I called Chris asked why it was done and he explained to me the reasons. I was satisfied with the answer. The meeting was over at that point and the ad went in. He does not see how a two-week delay made a crisis.

Mary said she simply put forth a name because we needed someone in that position. There is no pressure or anything like that and to have implied she takes serious offense to it. She will call the Ethic Board tomorrow.

Lou Barry called for a recess until the next appoint arrives. On a motion by Lou Barry and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to recess the meeting at 7:50 pm till the Board's appoint arrives. Lou Barry called the meeting back to order at 8:05 pm when there 8:00 appoint arrived.

APPROVE MINUTES

On a motion by Mary McDowell and seconded by Mark Bail, the Board unanimously voted to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 10, 2014.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mark Bail and seconded by Louis Barry it was unanimously voted to recess the regular session meeting @ 8:06 PM and go into executive session with Arlene Miller from DEP to discuss contract negotiations for Municipal Solid Waste for the Town of Granby and to only return to regular session to adjourn the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Leonard
Town Administrator's Secretary