

MINUTES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NOVEMBER 8, 2010

Meeting called to order at 6:15 P.M. at Town Hall.

Present William H. Darke and Chairman Donald N. Greaney

Absent Elizabeth A. Gorski

Minutes

Moved Darke, seconded Greaney, and it was

VOTED: To accept the Open and Executive Session Minutes of October 25, 2010, as presented.

Warrants

Moved Darke, seconded Greaney, and it was

VOTED: To approve Warrants #PW11-18, #DW11-16A and #BW11-19.

Firefighter Appointment

At the request of the Board of Fire Engineers, and upon motion duly made by Darke, seconded by Greaney, it was

VOTED: To appoint William Neenan as a probationary firefighter, said appointment effective immediately through June 30, 2011.

Approval to Hire

Road Commissioner Arakelian met with the Selectmen and introduced Jonathan Riopelle, a Groveland resident, who Arakelian recommended be hired to fill the opening on the Highway Department. Arakelian told the Board that he had received a good number of resumes but most applicants did not have both licenses required (CDL and Hydraulic); that Riopelle has both and has past experience working for Dunn Landscaping and French which is a heavy construction company. Arakelian told the Board that Jonathan is currently employed by the town of Georgetown and works for the school department

performing maintenance and that he will be available to begin working for the town in a week or so. Riopelle currently serves the town as a call fireman. Moved Darke, seconded Greaney, and it was

VOTED: To authorize the hiring of Jonathan Riopelle, of Groveland, to fill the vacant position of Senior Operator/Driver/Laborer on the Groveland Highway Department, said position subject to 6 month probation period.

6:30 p.m. – Removal of snow from sidewalks

Resident Melanie Sullivan, together with several other residents, met with the Board to discuss the need to have sidewalks cleared of snow during the winter months so that children and adults can walk to Bagnall and/or walk/run for exercise safely. Mrs. Sullivan told the Board that she prepared a petition for a bylaw that would require residents to shovel sidewalks in front of their properties and that to date she has obtained 50 signatures. Sullivan and others spoke of their concerns for children not being able to use the sidewalk to walk to school due to it not being cleared; that most cities and towns have a bylaw requiring property owners to remove the snow or be fined. She asked that the town allow town meeting to consider passing such a bylaw.

Road Commissioner Arakelian was present and stated he wasn't totally in favor of such a bylaw due to some property owners being elderly or possibly away for the winter months. Arakelian told those present that Engineers are currently working on a new design for School Street which would allow for 8 foot wide sidewalks which would allow them to be plowed because there'd be an area to put the snow. He also reported that the road will be narrower which could possibly allow for a reduction of the speed limit from 40 to 35 mph. Sullivan told the Board she researched the entire State and only one other town does not have such a bylaw. Selectman Darke told Sullivan that the Board and Highway Department knows it's an issue and have discussed it in the past but there are problems. Darke stated that if the residents can't clear it, then the town should. One of the other residents present informed the Board that she has great difficulty trying to cross School Street even at the cross walks.

Pentucket School Committee member Jack Willett stated that he will ask the Superintendent if there are empty seats on Bagnall buses that would allow children to ride in the winter months. He also suggested maybe the school zone flashing sign could be moved farther down the road to give motorists more notice. Arakelian reported that when the road is redone it will include having a flashing red light at Center/School with a push button for crossing.

Selectmen Darke asked Arakelian to get an estimate on the cost to snow blow a mile of sidewalk. It was also suggested that the town should look into the cost of having an extra bus just for the winter months. Chairman Greaney asked Willett to report back to the Board on the bus questions for their meeting on November 22nd.

Custodial Services

Library Trustees Dube-Carpenter, Puchalski, Prunier and McGrath, and Director Deb Hoadley met with the Board to discuss cleaning issues at the library. Dube-Carpenter told the Board that the building is not being cleaned well; that the proper sanitizing cleaners are not being used in the bathrooms; that the mops and buckets being used are very dirty and smell. Prunier reported that the sinks frequently have soap scum on them. Finance Director Labrecque reported that the cleaning company cleans twice a week at the Library, twice at Town Hall, three times at the Public Safety Building, and once a month at South Fire Station. The total cost is \$1,050 a month. The Director noted that the waste basket liners aren't being changed. Selectman Darke told the Trustees and Director to put together a list of what they want done and they will see if they can afford it. The trustees agreed to put a written list together and deliver it to the Finance Director. Dube-Carpenter commented that the town is paying \$12,000 a year and not getting good service.

Correspondence

(1) Selectman Darke read aloud a flyer received for a Cash Raffle to benefit the Groveland Historical Society.

(2) Chairman Greaney read aloud a request received from the Fire Department to declare 165' of old 3" supply fire hose and a ladder pipe off the old ladder truck as surplus property, said property having a value of \$2,400.00. Moved Darke, seconded Greaney, and it was

VOTED: To declare as surplus equipment 165' of old 3" supply fire hose and a ladder pipe off the old ladder truck as surplus property, said property having a value of \$2,400.00.

(3) Request from EPA to install a groundwater monitoring well triplet on town property near the DPW yard off of Washington Street. Moved Darke, seconded Greaney, and it was

VOTED: To authorize Chairman Greaney to sign EPA's Standard Access Agreement to legally allow EPA access on town property near the DPW yard off Washington Street to install a groundwater monitoring well triplet.

MINUTES-PAGE #4
NOVEMBER 8, 2010

Once the well is no longer needed, EPA will appropriately abandoned and decommission the well.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, moved Darke, seconded Greaney, and it was

VOTED: To adjourn.
Adjourned at 7:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Lewandowski
Administrative Assistant