

FINAL

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

AGENDA

Monday, December 15, 2014

Groveland Town Hall,

183 Main St, Groveland, MA 01834

6:00 P.M.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

6:00 P.M.

RESIDENT COMMENTS

APPROVE WARRANTS: PW # 15-25	\$ 176,834.78
DW # 15-23A	\$ 25,327.98
BW # 15-25	\$ 1,545,884.31

6:15 P.M.

VOTES OF THE BOARD:

- Approve Meeting Minutes from November 17, 2014
- Adopt Domestic Violence Leave Act Policy
- Town Counsel's response to Bill Angelini's attorney regarding P&S issues
- Mrs. Diane LaFrance's December 2nd Neighbor's notification of violations at 441 Main St

6:20 P.M.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion on Road Commissioner position (Appointed vs. Elected)
- Yemma Road update by Selectman D'Amore

6:35 P.M.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Meeting Minutes from November 24, 2014
- Meeting Minutes from December 12, 2014
- Letter from Liam Sullivan regarding an indoor/outdoor sports club
- Draft agenda for December 29, 2014

6:40 P.M.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Letter to Department, Boards, and Committees for January 17th workshop

New online payment system – to become effective January 1st.

Tax Rate Certification for FY15 – \$14.61/thousand effective January 1, 2015 (FY14 = \$15.06)

6:50 P.M.

SELECTMEN'S TIME: Time to be used to make statements, propose future agenda items, or congratulate residents/teams on accomplishments; this time should not be used to initiate a discussion.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:00 P.M. – Finance Board and Capital Improvements Committee to discuss upcoming budget season and FY16 Capital Requests

- Fire Chief Lay – Presentation of Truck Purchase Request

8:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Monday, December 29, 2014 at 6:15 P.M.

While every effort is made to ensure that the agenda items are scheduled to the specific time as listed, some items might take more or less time than allotted.

Meeting Minutes

Board of Selectmen December 15, 2014

Chair: Bette Gorski

Selectman : William Dunn

Selectman : Joseph D'Amore

Finance Director: Denise Dembkoski

Members of the Finance Committee and Capital Improvement Committee

Call To Order 6:00 PM

RESIDENT COMMENTS:

Selectman D'Amore secured permission from Chair Gorski to manage this portion of the meeting which began with a reading of PUBLIC COMMENT GROUND RULES and a review of parameters for encouraging residents to participate .

Presenter/Petitioner: Mike Dempsey. Mr. Dempsey provided three items of interest from recent meeting of Community Preservation Committee (CPC); a) Extension of deadline for proposals - January 12, 2014 b) Audit function of CPC will be completed by requirements that all recipients of CPA funds are to provide written status report twice a year on January 15th and July 15th beginning in 2015. C) CPC approved environmental study of 299-301 Main Street (ie. Groveland Getty / Post Office) (attached) The purpose of the study is to determine allowable uses of property as a park with parking for downtown businesses and visitors of the park , in the event a sale is consummated between current owner and the town. Selectmen D'Amore proposed the release of administrative funds from CPC to produce this study . Selectmen Dunn suggested reviewing similar studies and file items from a previously convened "Bridge Committee"

Mr Dempsey also provided details on Yemma Road visit of December 12th with Selectman D'Amore, Planning Board member James Freerer and representative from Aggregate Industries Dennis Lydon. The general consensus is that disturbing the land could possibly generate toxic waste that may exist from a long history of dumping on the grounds and therefore, there is very limited use for the property as a commercial site. Mr. Dempsey shared that Aggregate Industries has no immediate interest to sell the property and be faced with potential liability , through 21 E provisions, if there is a detrimental finding in disturbing land –even for testing purposes. Limited, possible uses could be only if a commercial use such as parking of vehicles or storage containers , whereby there is no disturbance of the ground. The

motivation behind this informal survey of the land is to explore area properties as potential tax base expansion / revenue generating sites.

APPROVED WARRANTS

Payroll Warrants (PW) # 15-25..... \$ 176,834.78

Motion: D'Amore Second : Dunn Abstain: Gorski Vote: Motion Accepted

Deduction Warrants(DW) #15-23A..... \$ 25, 327.98

Motion: D'Amore Second: Dunn Vote: Motion Accepted

Bill Warrants (BW) #15-25..... \$1,545,884.31

Motion : D'Amore Second: Dunn Vote: Motion Accepted

VOTES TAKEN

Approve Minutes from November 17, 2014

Motion: Dunn Second: D'Amore Vote: Motion Accepted

Adopt Domestic Violence Leave Act Policy for employees

Motion: Dunn Second: D'Amore Vote: Motion Accepted

Town Counsel's response to Bill Angelini's attorney regarding P&S issues

Motion: D'Amore Second: Dunn Vote: Motion Accepted

Resident- Diane LaFrance's December 2nd neighbor's notification of violations at 441 Main Street(Attached)

Motion : D'Amore Second: Dunn Vote: Motion Accepted

NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION

Per Vote: Bill Angelini's attorney responses

Selectmen Dunn asked for clarification of access issue onto property, by Water Department and other matters regarding P&S and responses provided by Finance Director, by reiterating highlighted sections by town counsel Jonathan Eichman in written response to Mr. Angelini's attorney. Selectmen D'Amore and Gorski asked for review of stipulations of agreement regarding Dewhirst Street and which elements of the agreement pertained to Earth Removal agreement; clarification provided by Finance Director

Per Vote: Review of Mrs. Diane LaFrance's written report on violations pertaining to 441 Main Street

Selectmen Dunn established a call for all affected boards to be provided a "notice" in writing to direct responses to the Board of Selectmen as to a) whether the violations are occurring b) whether there are other violations occurring not mentioned in Mrs. LaFrance's report c) how each board and authority – such as the code enforcement officer / building inspector – would respond and within what time frame to address the expressed concerns and alleged violations. Selectmen Gorski directed Finance Director to develop a letter and send to all affected boards asking for responses and their presence to articulate those responses promptly at the December 29th meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Road Commissioner's Position

Selectmen Dunn provided an informal proposal – verbatim- to convert the current Road Commissioner position from an elected position to an appointment position with an expansion of duties that would be associated with a Department of Public Works (DPW) position. Specifically, Town Buildings, Pines property, cemetery, parks should be consolidated under this position for a more efficient management of resources and personnel. Selectmen D'Amore raised the question of Home Rule Petition possibly being required which would impose the following necessary steps to formally convert the position into an expanded role and department re-organization a) Convene a committee with special charge to recommend the change after study b) allow Town Meeting vote for 2015 c) petition the General Court for law to affect the change by end of 2015 d) allow the voters to settle the matter as a ballot question in 2016. Finance Director will confirm this process or a modified version and report it on December 29th meeting. Selectmen Gorski expressed support for forming of committee and along with Selectmen D'Amore volunteered to participate as needed along with Selectmen Dunn. Selectmen Dunn will lead an effort to convene a committee for special charge / appointments completed in early January.

Letter by elementary school student Liam Sullivan – Groveland Indoor/ Outdoor Sports Facility

Selectmen Gorski read aloud a "proposal" from student Sullivan for developing an indoor/ outdoor sports facility and she stressed the well written and thought out rationale for such a facility for the benefit of the town's people. The board concurred with Selectman Gorski of the viability of the idea and

complimented the student . As a follow –up and coincidentally Selectmen Dunn has been approached by a Groveland resident who is interested in developing a sports complex and information will be forthcoming in the next several weeks

Draft Agenda changes to December 29th meeting and Change of meeting

The board reviewed draft of upcoming meeting and added additional items including requested presence of affected boards/ commissions/ authorities regarding 441 Main street as previously indicated.

The board agreed to change January 12th meeting to January 5th in order to focus on Capital Improvement committee recommendations with emphasis on Fire Chief Lay's proposal integration

Multi-Board Meeting of Board of Selectmen, Capital Improvements & Finance Committee as panel to review and discuss a strategic financial plan for investment and re-organization of the Fire Department by Chief Robert Lay

Chief Lay presented 2016 Capital Planning – Fire Department Presentation (12/ 15/2014) (attached)

10 Year plan provisions and strategic initiatives were presented and discussed extensively with questions fielded by the Chief . The revised 5-10 year plan of eliminating four trucks and replacing with 3 new ones was reviewed extensively . The consensus-concern of the boards is affordability of purchases on a greatly accelerated basis; all purchases to be made in FY 2016. The previous plan was not accelerated and is currently scheduled to phase in replacement of trucks with new purchases in FY 2016, FY 2018, FY2020. The Chief iterated and the boards provided consensus to agree- that safety is the primary rationale for accelerated replacement/ purchases. Selectmen D'Amore inserted a conceptual plan for a "modified accelerated plan" whereby replacement/ purchases be phased-in over a 36 month plan ; FY 16, FY 17, FY18. Capital Improvement committee members Bill Cook and Jeff Papas offered details on other required purchases from other department including high –priority items that could negatively impact the implementation potential for the Chief's accelerated (FY 16-only) conversion of equipment. The consensus of panel is to accommodate the Chief's request and to engage in a study with support of Finance Director and to report recommendation on January 5th Board of Selectmen meeting whereby panel members will be invited to participate in discussion a final collective agreement.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Review of Letter to Department Boards, Committees and Dept Heads that are related to permitting as an invitation to participate on an "all boards" meeting on the morning of January 17th, 2015 Saturday for the purpose of reviewing issues and composing procedural and operational efficiencies and improvements in communication.
 - Selectmen Dunn reiterated concerns for problems in executing permitting process
 - Selectmen Gorsk reiterated concerns for town's service to petitioners and the public must be improved and she welcomed this opportunity for an "all boards" meeting to address deficits
 - Selectman D'Amore concurred with both members and also suggested the attendance of Town Clerk Brodie as her office is also impacted by permitting procedures. The board agreed and Selectmen Gorski directed Finance Director Dembkoski to include Mrs. Brodie in the invitation –letter
- New Online payment system (town website)effective January 1st, 2016. This will phase in a service system available to the public through a system known as City Hall Systems. The public will be able to engage in the system and secure permit/ license applications and complete them and make payments
- Tax Rate certification got FY 15- \$14.61 compares favorably with a reduction when compared to FY 14 rate of \$15.06(FY 14)

SELECTMAN'S TIME- DISCUSSION

Selectman D'Amore complimented Finance Director's ongoing work in encouraging boards and committees to develop minutes and agendas for timely preparation and filing and "soon-to be" posted on town website.

Adjournment: 8:40 PM

Prepared and Submitted by Selectman Joe D'Amore.

Minutes Unanimously Approved on April 27, 2015