

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN AGENDA

### June 2, 2014

6:15 P.M - Call meeting to order
All stand for Pledge of Allegiance

Vote needed - Elizabeth Gorski, Chairman

Approve Bi-Weekly Warrants, votes needed

 Payroll Warrant –
 PW14-48
 \$ 130,924.09

 Bill Warrant –
 BW14-47
 \$ 719,718.61

 Deduction Warrant – DW-14-46A
 \$ 25,179.66

Approve Property Use Permits, if any

Report of Finance Director - if needed

Review Correspondence, take action if needed, votes may be taken

- (1) Review attached Downtown Hanger Proposal, vote may be taken
- (2) Review request for One Day Special Beer & Wine License for Retirement Party at Veasey Park on Sat., June 14, 2014 from 6:00PM to 10:00 PM
- **6:30 P.M. -** Soccer/Recreation representatives to discuss Groveland Day activities Decision on Special Event Guidelines & Checklist; vote may be taken
- **6:45 P.M**. Groveland Baseball League representative Joe Sullivan & Erin Pinkham-continue discussion on Washington ball field playground equipment needs; vote may be taken

Board review of written update on status of potential land purchases (Bussing, Angelini, Mattingly); vote(s) may be needed

Board of Selectmen members - general discussion period, if needed

Adjournment

Date of next regular meeting: 6:15 P.M. - Monday, June 16, 2014

#### MINUTES

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN

June 2, 2014

Meeting called to order at 6:21 P.M.

Present Selectmen Joseph D'Amore, William Dunn and Chairman Elizabeth Gorski

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

Moved D'Amore, seconded Dunn, and it was

VOTED: To name Elizabeth Gorski as Chairman of the Board effective

immediatey. 3-0

# Approve Warrants

Moved D'Amore, seconded Dunn, and it was

**VOTED:** To approve Payroll Warrant #14-48.

D'Amore, Dunn – "Aye"; Gorski – "Abstain" 2-1

Moved D'Amore, seconded Dunn, and it was

**VOTED:** To approve Bill Warrant # 14-47.

Moved D'Amore, seconded Dunn, and it was

**VOTED:** To approve Deduction Warrant #14-46A. 3-0

### **Finance Director Report**

Finance Director Denise Dembkoski informed the Board that she has requested the town's Auditors, Powers and Sullivan, to conduct a preliminary audit the week of June 16<sup>th</sup> and will return in the Fall to complete the fiscal '14 audit.

Dembkoski told the Board that she has asked Public Access to expand coverage of as many boards and committee meetings that they can each month; that she's trying to get coverage of more than just the Selectmen, Planning and Zoning Boards; that there is still some opposition out there but we are working on that. Dunn asked who we is and Denise responded that she and the Board's Assistant had talked and decided to ask Charlie to record as many meetings as is possible. D'Amore thanked them saying he has wanted that for a long time; that they have a pretty significant investment updating the equipment and is pleased to hear more meetings will be covered. Denise told the Board that Public Access has the authority under the Open Meeting Law to record all board/committee meetings; that it's a change that some committees and boards aren't use to. She stated she told one committee member that she will reach out to the Attorney General for a ruling. Denise reported that this one Commission is stating it has a space issue and doesn't have room to have someone recording their meetings. Dembkoski informed the committee member that they should find a large enough space to meet in that will accommodate the public and the person recording; that he didn't seem too willing to do that.

Chairman Gorski asked Dembkoski if she had informed all committees and boards that they are duty bound to allow the public to view all meetings and Dembkoski responded that she had sent emails to all boards and committees, attaching the open meeting law highlighting the section that states meetings are allowed to be recorded as long as it is announced. Gorski commented that all doors should be unlocked for access by the public unless there is an Executive Session. Denise reported there is space at the library, at the public safety building and meetings don't have to be held in town hall. Denise told the Board she would like to see all meetings held in this building or this complex but the problem is some of the boards are elected and don't answer to anyone but the public; that they don't have to comply with the request to hold their meetings here, but they do have to comply with the Open Meeting Law.

Moved Dunn, seconded D'Amore, and it was

**VOTED:** To support the recording by Public Access of all meetings in the town. 3-0

Chairman Gorski told Dembkoski that she has the full support of the Board of Selectmen on the recording of all public meetings.

### Selectmen's Meeting Room

Finance Director Dembkoski told the Board that she a conversation had come up whereas next year the Board would increase from 3 to 5 and the Board may be moving into the main meeting room; that she wanted the Board to think about that before they spend a lot of time and money installing new equipment in the current room. D'Amore told his fellow Board members that discussion had taken place at a Cable Committee meeting and he had advocated for the Selectmen moving to the main meeting room because it is visually more appealing, it's friendlier, and there's good technical reasons why that would be a better room anyway; that the sound would be better and would again advocate for the Board of Selectmen to meet in the other room.

Selectman Dunn asked video recorder Tracy Gilford what he thought and Tracy responded that he works for the Board and feels it is their decision to make. Gilford did say that if the Selectmen continue to use their current meeting room, more cameras will need to be installed. Dembkoski told the Board that she will met with the vendor last Thursday and discussed equipment for the Selectmen's conference room. She explained where the new cameras would be located in the present room. Gilford introduced himself to Dembkoski, telling her he is the Chairman of the Cable Advisory Committee and he will be working with her regarding the purchase of new equipment. D'Amore told the Selectmen that there was a vote taken at the Cable Advisory Committee meeting for the Selectmen to use the main meeting room. Gilford responded that it was a recommendation; that the Advisory Committee works for the Selectmen and it is his opinion that the Selectmen should make that decision. Dunn asked how much it would cost to set that room versus the current meeting room. Denise responded that the middle room is being redesigned and cameras will be relocated and added but, before they spend money in the current meeting room she would like the Board to think about where they want to meet. She told the board that they will be doing the same set up in both rooms, if the Board decides to continue using their current room. Denise told the Board that the vendor plans to start installing the new equipment sometime in July. Chairman Gorski stated that they already have a shortage of meeting space and they wouldn't want to displace anyone and thanked Dembkoski for giving the Board a heads up. Gorski stated she wasn't aware that they were

### MINUTES-PAGE #3 JUNE 2, 2014

buying new equipment and Gilford told her they need to update the equipment because they've had problems with it for years now. Tracy told the Board they will be spending approximately \$130-\$140,000 to set up both rooms so when one room goes live, the other room can have a meeting that is being recorded for future viewing.

Dunn asked if having five Selectmen will draw more people to the meetings and D'Amore responded that he believes it will; that it will be more inviting. D'Amore told Dunn that he has experience from being on a larger board (School Committee) and that visually the main meeting room is perfect. Chairman Gorski suggested the Board think about the information they've received this evening and D'Amore agreed telling her it was a great idea to institute the two meeting rule; that the Board's next meeting will be June 16<sup>th</sup> and the Board should make its decision at that meeting.

#### 6:30 PM - Recreation/Soccer representatives - Groveland Day

Recreation members met with the Selectmen to hear the decision on the Board's Special Event Guidelines & Checklist. Erin Merrill stated that they need clarification on the Check List and expressed concern to the Board that if they require 16 police officers during the daytime hours at Groveland Day, it would be financially impossible for the committee to afford that. Merrill told the Board that they worked with the police last year and had two or three officers. Chairman Gorski remarked she thought there were four and Merrill replied that one was the officer on regular patrol. Merrill told the Board that they could understand if it is an event with alcohol that police presence should be required, but a church having a yard sale and having to hire officers would not be feasible.

Steve Merrill told the Board that he had spoken with one of the Sergeants and was told they were under the impression that the details were required for events with alcohol. Chairman Gorski responded for alcohol and control of large crowds. Steve suggested the Board meet with Police to discuss the requirements. Selectman D'Amore responded that that was a great idea and told those present that his position is that the Guidelines have to be met to the letter except if you have an authority that is part of the process, such as police, with a written plan that says we can make it work with less than 16 officers for an example, then he thinks that would be something the Board could vote on and accept. Steve disagreed stating that they need to remove that requirement; that he can understand about events with alcohol, but without alcohol it needs to be removed. Merrill suggested that because of the new rule he would be required to have two police officers present on the field stating that he (Selectman D'Amore) is foolish if he thinks Merrill will have two police officers on the field from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Merrill stated that there were no issues last year at Groveland Day and it worked fine with the number of officers they had; that there were no issues and there never is.

Selectman Dunn asked why the Board is getting involved in talking about polices officers when they should have the Chief come in; that the Chief should say how many police officers are needed, and Erin Merrill interrupted stating that it is because of how the Guidelines are written. Dunn stated he understood but the Chief would know how many officers would be needed.

Steve Merrill told Dunn that they met with the Board last November and both Sergeants were here and actually agreed to increase the police presence to four and they thought they were all set; that it was just for the night time and the day time went well. Merrill told the Board that the

#### MINUTES-PAGE #4 JUNE 2. 2014

road race went well last year, but according to the Guidelines he would need to hire 8 police officers for that event this year. Steve stated that he is trying to donate money to programs, such as last year he did Wounded Warrier; that he can't donate any money if he's actually taking a deficit. Chairman Gorski asked the Finance Director if the Board of Selectmen have the authority to make changes to the Events policy and Dembkoski responded yes, they can make changes.

Gorski stated that she and Erin had spoken about the number of police officers she would need for the daytime portion of Groveland Day and the numbers were, Erin interrupted stating they would have to call the State Police out. Recreation Chairman Pam Blaquiere told the Board that the policy would require every day time event to hire two officers. Dunn asked didn't Gorski think they should leave the number of officers needed up to the Chief, and she responded she thinks the Board of Selectmen can make that decision and Selectman D'Amore stated that he thinks they can make a decision. Gorski added she thinks the Board of Selectmen is capable of making a decision; that they (she and Erin) had just done some quick figuring on what they would need. Gorski asked Merrill how many people attended Groveland Day last year during the day, and Erin responded that the day time is where they have the biggest dispute; that for the night activities they completely understand because there is alcohol involved then they completely agree, with Steve Merrill interrupting and stating based on the decision of the Police because that's where they came from; that it needs to be written in the Event Policy. Steve told Dunn he completely agrees with him; that the Police should be brought in to a meeting on this; that they came last November and planned to be present tonight but their schedules changed. Merrill stated they talk to the police on a regular basis about the plans they are making.

Tracy Gilford, Cable T.V. Advisory Committee member and video recorder of the Selectmen's meeting asked Chairman Gorski for a point of information as to whether the Events Guideline has now been accepted by the town; that it's the law of the land right now? Gorski responded that she doesn't know that she'd say it's the law of the land; that she had interpreted it to be a draft and they could work on it until everybody was comfortable with it, not trying to put Groveland Day out of commission. Gilford responded saying his question to her is was there a public hearing on it with all groups that may be affected, such as the Churches, the sports groups, etc. to say this is what we're proposing, can we sit down and talk about it with the different groups that may be affected by it; that our whole goal is we all live in town and want to work together; that we want to make things safe for everyone involved but since this seems to have more of a far reaching effect. Gorski responded that what they are concerned about is what happens in the Town of Groveland on their watch; that Churches have events and they are not dictating to the Churches about their events; that that's not the intent of the Events Policy. Erin Merrill suggested the Friends of COA town-wide yard sale should be required to have a Special Event Permit and Finance Director Dembkoski responded they weren't considering the yard sales a special event. Erin asked if the Policy is for alcohol or non-alcohol; that alcohol is fine; that if it's for both then there needs to be two policies, one with alcohol and one without. Dembkoski responded that there are sections in the policy for each.

D'Amore asked Steve Merrill what the Policy requires for non-alcohol events and Merrill responded that it's two officers for every 100 people outside, one for the first 100 inside. Chairman Gorski commented that if there is a shower at Veasey Park you would need a police officer and recreation members responded no, only if there is alcohol being served. Selectman

### MINUTES-PAGE #5 JUNE 2, 2014

Dunn asked Dembkoski to make the sections on alcohol and no alcohol very clear and that should help fix the problem. Dunn also suggested that a line be added to the policy that in the case of a big event the Chief will come before the Board and the committee to sit and discuss how many officers would be needed for the big event. Dunn stated he has been saying the town board's need to intertwine better and feels this is a good example why. He told the group he is big on not allowing alcohol period, but if it is allowed he would rather see more officers present then less. Steve Merrill responded saying that allowing alcohol was created by those putting Groveland Day together, and that they and Chairman Gorski and former Selectman Greaney wanted some checklist for all groups to follow; that it happened before Selectman D'Amore was on the Board. Merrill and Blaquiere both stated that the questions about police detail requirements is holding up their planning for 2014 Groveland Day. Selectman D'Amore responded that he understands the lack of policy is holding up their planning and Erin Merrill told the Board that if they need 16 police officers for day time events Groveland Day will not happen.

Selectman D'Amore read aloud "for indoor functions with greater than 100 guests a minimum of two police detail officers is required. D'Amore stated that the recommendation and consensus of the Board is one officer, not two. Blaquiere responded that it is still very detrimental to Veasey Park. Blaquiere told the Board that a lot of the weddings at Veasey are over 100 guests but they do not have alcohol. D'Amore read the section regarding outdoor functions stating that a minimum of two police officers are required for every 100 guests. D'Amore told the group that what he read is the recommendation already in the Policy and Steve Merrill responded that it's not feasible; that two officers for every 100 people with no alcohol is not feasible. D'Amore asked Merrill if he is saying one officer for every 100 will work and Merrill replied that he is saving they should leave it to the discretion of the police officers to be discussed based on the type of event. D'Amore responded he likes that idea. Selectman Dunn and D'Amore agreed the plan should go before the Police Chief. Merrill responded that they are fine with two officers for every 100 people with alcohol being allowed; that Groveland Day is the only event that has alcohol. Merrill told the Board that the police were very happy with last year's event; that the first year they were really excited about the event; that last year there were a couple of hiccups; that they knew what they were and they addressed them; that they did what they were supposed to do, the organizers did what they were supposed to do and everything was handled, and now the police recommend what is needed based on last year; that it's a growing thing.

D'Amore stated that his recommendation to the Board is that the Police Chief be asked to provide the Board with a report of how many police officers he recommends are needed for Groveland Day. Erin stated that the Recreation members generally provide the Board with a plan having a Permit for using the Pines Rec area, a map that has already been worked out with the Police Department of what's going to take place, a detailed list of what's going to happen, where it will happen, sometimes the times of the events, their insurance certificates, and the number of police details they will hire.

Erin Pinkham asked how the Special Event Policy will affect other groups or activities. Steve Merrill told the Board that Pinkham is referring to Baseball's Opening Day with a couple hundred people attending. Chairman Gorski responded that baseball is fine; that there's no alcohol there, streets are blocked off for the kids to march from the fire station around the block to the

## MINUTES-PAGE #6 JUNE 2, 2014

field; that there's two cruisers assisting by leading the way and blocking traffic off; that it has never been a problem.

Selectman D'Amore asked his fellow board members if the board is comfortable that the Guide is written so they receive something from the Police Department in writing regarding their requirements for all events. Selectman Dunn responded that he thinks the Guide needs to be amended for the smaller group of people. Chairman Gorski stated that she remembers going to an event at the library where they served wine and had one police officer there, and Blaquiere responded that that's all the ever had at Veasey's Wine & Art night is one officer. Gorski asked how many attend the Wine & Art night at Veasey and Blaquiere responded that over 100 attend. Chairman Gorski told the Board that she thinks the Board of Selectmen has the capabilities of working with any group that comes before it; that the group makes its presentation to the Board then goes and talks with Sergeant McDonald or whomever over there and work it out that way, and they can say to the Selectmen's Office that they are all set with it. Steve Merrill suggested it would be just like when they apply for a one day alcohol license; that the Board's Assistant keeps a file with all required documents and once the insurance certificate is received the Board is told everything is in place and they approve the license; that they would only need to come before the Board once and Selectman Dunn responded yes, have your whole package together after meeting with the Police Department, then meet with the Board for final approval.

D'Amore dictated the following change be made to the Special Events Guidelines-Police Details "Contingent upon securing a permit, the Police Department is to provide a memo to the Board of Selectmen of a detailed plan for the number of detail officers needed specifically for the applied for event." D'Amore asked if his amendment was satisfactory to Merrill and Steve responded that it was.

Erin Merrill began to question if there is a baby shower at Veasey, and before she finished Mike Dempsey, Chairman of Conservation who oversees Veasey Park interrupted and told the Board that he doesn't want Veasey Park to be part of the Special Events permit process; that Veasey Park is different; that the Board of Selectmen do not grant any permits for events at Veasey other than one day liquor licenses that are applied for. Dempsey told the Board that his concern is the Board is changing the number of detail officers required for alcohol events which will affect Veasey. Selectman Dunn responded that the way they are writing the Guidelines it will require that they go to the Chief who will decide how many officers will be required. Dempsey asked why stating that it's the same always; that they have one facility that someone will rent for a wedding with 125 people; that what they do is they go to the Police Department and arrange for a detail officer; that they are told they need one detail officer. D'Amore told Dempsey that what they are doing fits the policy and Dempsey responded that it's okay as long as the Board or Chief doesn't require more than one detail officer. Selectman D'Amore told Dempsey that he just dictated a change to the policy so that won't happen.

The Board's Assistant asked Dempsey how many guests are allowed for a wedding at Veasey; that that number is important to know and Chairman Gorski agreed. Dempsey responded that typically it is 100 or under; that they have had some events where they use the whole facility and have maybe 125 or so. Lewandowski asked if the whole facility meant outdoors and Dempsey replied sometimes or even in just the whole building, but those are very rare. Selectman Dunn told Dempsey that even with 125 they would still only require one officer; that the Board is only adding to the requirements that the applicant meet with the Chief. Chairman

### MINUTES-PAGE #7 JUNE 2. 2014

Gorski told those present that their Assistant already tells those requesting a one day license at Veasey that they need to contact the Police Department to hire a detail officer. Lewandowski added that she forwards a copy of the license to the Chief so he knows the party will be calling to arrange for a detail officer two weeks prior to the actual event; that the officer taking the detail is provided with a copy of the license so he is aware of the hours alcohol has been approved for.

Erin Merrill asked the Board if she's correct in her understanding that now they can plan the daytime events but have to meet with the Board again on receiving approval for the evening events. Selectman D'Amore responded he will open up discussion about that and Dunn asked why it would be any different and Merrill responded because the Board of Selectmen consider it two different issues. Dunn responded that he understands but asked don't both have to go before the Police Department for their recommendation on both day and evening. Steve Merrill told Dunn that because there will be alcohol in the evening they need the approval of the Board of Selectmen before they even go to the Police Department. Merrill told the Board that those planning Groveland Day are seeking permission from the Board of Selectmen to have a beer and wine tent from 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM at this year's event as they have had the past two years; that the permission to do so is contingent upon them meeting the criteria by going to the Police Department to create a plan and also providing the required insurance which has already been agreed upon; that all the people they use are insured to the \$5million max. Merrill told the Board that they need the Board's permission because they need to ask the companies to participate this year and they are running really late requesting them.

Chairman Gorski called for a motion to allow a beer and wine tent in the evening of Groveland Day. Selectman D'Amore responded that he would like to have discussion about some ideas he has and moved that alcohol be allowed at Groveland Day. Selectman Dunn seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion. D'Amore stated that the Board has a new Policy that they are just starting to work it out; that they have some hard working volunteers; that they need to allow the policy to work. D'Amore stated he does not want to go to the Police Department and say that the Board of Selectmen wants to have alcohol, now tell them what they need to do to make it work. D'Amore stated what he would like to do is let the Police Department know that the Board of Selectmen would allow alcohol if they come up with a plan but if the Police Department objects to it because there were problems last year the Department should let the Board know. Erin Merrill responded that that is what they do; that they go to the Police then come back to the Selectmen with a plan that the Police have approved. D'Amore remarked that they talk about families and memories; that he knows it's a different age and there are risks out there right now but alcohol at Groveland Day does not necessarily negate it as being a family event all of a sudden, at least to him, but if they are able to meet all the standards, the insurance, the liability and a good plan with the Police Department, and they are falling into place with the new policy that they are just putting together now, why not give these people a chance; that he doesn't think that is good policy on the Board's part. D'Amore told the committee members that the Board needs to give them at least one more chance and allow the alcohol but if there are problems again he will be the first person to stand up and say he never wants to see alcohol again. D'Amore stated the way he would like to approach the Police Department is by saying the Board will grant the permit if the Police Department thinks it's okay, and tell the Board what the plan is. D'Amore said he doesn't want the Police Department to say the Board of Selectmen don't care; that they are telling the Department they want alcohol; that he doesn't want to approach it that way; that he wants to approach it that the Board will grant it if

### MINUTES-PAGE #8 JUNE 2. 2014

it is acceptable to the Police Department as well, and the Board receives a detailed plan the Police Department is comfortable with, that he doesn't think it is unreasonable to allow. D'Amrore thanked the Board for allowing the discussion.

Selectman Dunn stated that he is kind of on board with what Selectman D'Amore said; that Groveland Day was originally started for kids and families and now Groveland Day, in his eyes, has grown into an alcoholic event at night. Dunn continued that probably kids go home and go to bed and parents and a lot of volunteers come down to have a good time. Dunn told those present that before meeting tonight he had a big problem with allowing the alcohol, but as long as the Police Department is involved in the decision and the Police Chief comes before the Board or the Recreation Committee with a plan, he won't have a problem with it. Dunn told the committee members he does not want to see it get out of control; that they know how alcohol can be, and he does not want to change the criteria; that if the Police are asking for two police officers, or whatever they ask, that is the way it will be and should be. Steve Merrill responded to Dunn by informing him that the first year they had about 150 people and last year they were just over 200/250 people, and a good portion are the kids; that they do keep things going at night. Merrill told the Board they did have some issues with the construction going on, the dunes and whatever; that was the major issue and he and some others talked to Sgt. McDonald about it, about the kids going over to the dunes and they were pulling them back. Merrill also reported that they had issues with the lighting. Merrill told the Board that some of the issues will go away once the development at the Pines is completed. Dunn responded he was talking more about the liability of kids getting their hands on alcohol. Dunn said he would feel better allowing it if it was all grown-ups in the evening and no kids, but if kids are involved they could get their hands on some alcohol and something could happen, someone could get hurt and there would be liability to them and to the Board of Selectmen and that is why he was dead set against it. Dunn said he would feel better if they can come back with a plan from the Chief, a very firm plan stating how many officers will be there, there'll be an officer at the counter, and he would feel better about it and be in favor of it.

D'Amore suggested the following wording for the Board's motion: "That the Board's Assistant approach the Police Department and makes a request for a plan of action for police detail and control of the alcohol portion of Groveland Day and contingent to that, if the Police Department feels there should not be alcohol, they should communicate that to the Board as well." Selectman Dunn suggested that the motion should include that the Rec Board should be involved in that decision, and D'Amore accepted Dunn's request as a friendly amendment.

Moved D'Amore, seconded Dunn, and it was

VOTED: That the Board's Assistant approach the Police Department and makes a request for a plan of action for police detail and control of the alcohol portion of Groveland Day and, contingent to that, if the Police Department feels there should not be alcohol at the event they should communicate that to the Board as well; that the Recreation Committee should be involved with the decision made by the Police Department.

Dunn, D'Amore - "Aye"; Gorski - "Nay"

### MINUTES-PAGE #9 JUNE 2, 2014

Chairman Gorski apologized to the committee for voting against the motion to possibly allow alcohol at Groveland Day explaining that she truly believes it is a family day; that she knows the committee does a great job; that they are all having fun down there, and Steve Merrill responded it is okay. Gorski continued saying she worried last year after she heard the stories about what happened down there; that it's dark and dangerous and Merrill interjected that he thinks a lot of those will be resolved as the years progress with the lighting and such. Erin Merrill added that they will have better lighting this year; that they have been working with the Light Department. Gorski told the group she doesn't want them to be angry because they know she supports their group and Steve said absolutely. Gorski continued that she thinks it is too big of a risk; that people leaving there after drinking, it is on us, and they can't monitor everybody; that they don't know anybody's capacity for a beer, two wines, or whatever, and it is just too big of a worry for her. She told the committee that she applauds them all for working so hard. Erin Pinkham responded saying that the responsibility needs to be on the adults that are consuming alcohol, bringing their children; that she doesn't think that the town board or anyone in the building should assume responsibility for every person's actions; that at some point every adult has to be responsible for their own action. Erin stated that it's a cop out to say she went down there (Groveland Day), was served alcohol, then she drove home and got into an accident and it's somebody else's fault. She told the Board that she doesn't think that should be brought on to the town or the Rec Committee because it's not really fair; that if you are going to consume alcohol you have to be responsible for your own actions. Chairman Gorski told Pinkham that they are in a different world now; that everybody is ready to file a lawsuit. Pinkham replied that she understands and totally sees where they are coming from but the people need to take responsibility for their actions and nobody does anymore, but it's not fair to punish the group for that one irresponsible person.

Selectman Dunn spoke saying there are two parts to what Erin Pinkham has said. First, the Selectmen are an elected Board and personally, if she sat there (in a Selectman's seat) and was elected by the townspeople, she would have been elected to do the right thing. Pinkham responded that she hears Dunn. Dunn stated the second part is if a younger kid gets involved drinking alcohol, that's what Bette was talking about. Pinkham replied she totally agrees with him. Dunn told Pinkham that he is hoping the Police Chief will come back to them with some type of firm plan that he will then vote on. Steve Merrill responded to Dunn stating that he wanted to be clear that last year there was only one incident, the rest of it was minor incidents of kids playing in the dunes which they are doing right now. Merrill told the Board that they will figure out how to deal with it this year if the dunes are still there. Merrill said the one situation that did occur, the police did handle the situation properly; that person did not drink alcohol, and that's how the system works. Merrill stated he has two people bouncing, standing out there, plus the four cops that were out there last year. Steve told the Board that they check ID's; that they are only allowed 5 drinks; that the guys mark off the bracelet, and on top of that the cops move around as do all of the committee members and they talk amongst themselves in order to make sure the situation doesn't occur. Merrill commented that he doesn't even drink himself because he bounced when he was younger and knows what his liability is.

Merrill told the Board that he can't wait for the Pines to be done because they will have all kinds of lighting, tennis courts where the drinking can be caged. Selectman Dunn asked if there's a way they can coral the drinking area in and Merrill responded they will. Dunn also suggested someone talking to the highway department to use the temporary lights and Merrill said he will use some of the highway lights and some from private businesses. Dunn responded that the

committee knows the issues, what they have to work on and that they have to come back before the Board after talking with the Police Department and working out a good plan. Erin Merrill responded that they need the Selectmen's permission to talk to the Police Department. Selectman D'Amore responded saying they (BOS) should initiate that process first; that on June 16<sup>th</sup> if they can say it's a go, then the committee can meet and discuss a plan with the police. D'Amore told those present that he doesn't want to be in a position where the Police Department says that the Board of Selectmen doesn't care about the issues they had last year; that they are telling them to make a plan. Selectman Dunn addressed D'Amore stating that it sounds like D'Amore would like to have the police meet with the Board and he doesn't have a problem with that. D'Amore responded either talk or present something in writing; that if he gets a letter from the Police Department saying this is a bad idea, he will vote on that too. D'Amore stated that if it's not a bad idea the committee should give the Board a plan to vote on. He apologized for giving this more time knowing they are rushing and behind in their planning, but the Board will try to get this information by the next meeting on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

Finance Director Dembkoski told the Board that she thinks it's important for the committee to put something together of what the day entails, what the activities are, what's needed, where the alcohol tent will be and when. Denise continued saying she thinks that it is important that that be laid out so when they go to the Police Department we can say this is what they need, this is their activities, this is how many people they are expecting, this is where they will be parking cars, what do you propose for details, instead of us starting a conversation and having them question us and us not knowing the answers. Chairman Gorski responded that that makes sense and asked the committee members to give a description the best they can of from the time the event starts until its ending. Selectman D'Amore received a phone call and excused himself from the meeting room. Selectman Dunn suggested the committee needs to get all their information together for the Board's next meeting, ask a representative of the Police Department to attend, and instead of going round and round, they resolve everything that night. Pam Blaquiere responded that she likes Dunn's idea. Chairman Gorski and Dunn asked their Assistant to arrange for a member of the Police Department to meet with the Board and members of the Groveland Day committee on June 16<sup>th</sup> to go over the committee's plan for Groveland Day 2014.

Steve Merrill told the Board that he would like a meeting regarding the historical house and the tenant there; that he doesn't know what the Board receives, but he is getting a million complaints, the police have gotten involved, things are being said and it's been a problem. Chairman Gorski asked if they are all set for their 4<sup>th</sup> of July event, and Merrill responded that that is a separate event and it has already been agreed on by the Board. Gorski responded that is fine, and they will talk about the issue Merrill just mentioned when they meet again on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June.

Erin Pinkham – Groveland Baseball League – playground equipment at Washington Park Erin Pinkham informed the Board that she was present to see what the decision was from Bob Arakelian on scheduling excavation and the availability of woodchips, and if there aren't any available that she return on June 16<sup>th</sup> to see if there are funds available through the municipal budget to purchase the needed woodchips for the Washington Park playground area. The Board's Assistant informed the Board that she has not been able to talk with the Road Commissioner about either of the requests; that she just found out his mother-in-law recently passed away and he was obviously busy with that.

Chairman Gorski mentioned that she had spoken with Joe Sullivan at the baseball field one evening and they believe Groveland Baseball should apply for some Community Preservation funds. Pinkham agreed and told the Board that that is in their long-term plan. Gorski told Pinkham she had spoken with the former Finance Director, Greg Labrecque, and had a discussion about the little league using the CPA funds. Gorski asked Erin if she knew what the excavation around the playground area would entail. Erin responded that she believes it needs to go 6 to 8 inches deeps; that there is 9 inches of woodchips that need to be applied and that a 6 inch timber may sit along the top. Pinkham explained you would have 6 inches of woodchips below ground, 3 inches at grade and then you have a 3 inch lip around the area. Gorski asked what the dimensions of the area would be and Erin responded that they would have an area approximately 20'x20' and that the swings would have to be part of the future plan with CPA funds. Selectman Dunn calculated the yards needed and told Erin they would need 15 yards to do the area she mentioned; that at a high number it would be \$52.00 a yard or \$780.00.

Erin told the Board in the estimate the league has it was for 27 yards of rubberized mulch or 45 yards of playground mulch; that the area required 40 12 foot timbers at \$39 each. Dunn told Erin that he is really busy at this time but if the Highway guys don't have the town to dig the area out, he will find time on a Sunday to volunteer and his time and machine to dig out the area they are concerned about provided they have \$700 or \$800 to buy the woodchips. The Board's Assistant stated that she would be able to afford that from municipal buildings budget but wasn't sure when they were talking about needing the \$1800 because all of the bills aren't in yet. Erin responded that it sounded great to her and that the league will be going before CPA in September for their future playground needs. Finance Director Dembkoski told Pinkham that if she can get an estimate for up to \$1,000 for the woodchips, the Board's Assistant will speak with the Road Commissioner about them helping so there will not be a need for her to return to another meeting in two weeks. Selectman Dunn expressed his opinion that it is unfortunate the town can't take better care of its parks; that he thinks a lot of people in this town volunteer and put a lot of blood, sweat and tears into the parks and it's really the town's responsibility to take care of their parks and thinks they need to do a better job of it. Erin thanked everyone saying she appreciated their help.

# Written update on status of three pending land purchases

Chairman Gorski read aloud the following:

1) Bussing's attorney has informed our counsel that they have located the owners of the 13 & 8 acre parcels and the third parcel in question which is in the name of another of Bussing's companies; that they have reached agreements with the owners and feel they will have these three issues cleared up shortly and in time for the Board's June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Selectman Dunn stated that at town meeting it was decided that the deadline would be 11:59 p.m. on June 30<sup>th</sup> and that's where he thinks they should stay, and if they haven't cleared the title by then, all discussions should be off as far as he is concerned. The Board's Assistant responded that the Board has to follow the vote of town meeting. Selectman D'Amore repeated the update for the public viewing the meeting, further stating if the seller doesn't meet the deadline given by town meeting, we need to take back the approval for financing the purchase which was voted at 2013 Town Meeting because they don't want the financing to be out there for someone else to come by and want to use it for something else. Chairman Gorski also

# MINUTES-PAGE #12 JUNE 2, 2015

commented that the seller has agreed to pay for any additional title examiner's costs or additional counsel fees, if any. Selectman Dunn asked that his understanding be clarified, that at 11:59 p.m. on June 30<sup>th</sup> Bussing would need to have proven he has clear title to our counsel and/or title examiner. The Board's Assistant responded that was correct and stated that if he doesn't meet the deadline the Board doesn't sign a P&S to purchase.

 Mrs. Mattingly's attorney is working diligently on locating the paperwork that wasn't recorded regarding a portion of her parcel.

The Board's Assistant explained that a title issue was found but it did not involve previous sales of the property, rather that one of the heirs to the property lived out of State and did not file the proper paperwork with the Massachusetts courts when he/she inherited the parcel; that Mrs. Mattingly's attorney is hoping to received and record the necessary document for filing in Massachusetts which will then clear the title. Lewandowski told the Board that this purchase will be using CPA funds and grant funds so there is no deadline for completion. Mike Dempsey, Chairman of Conservation was present and reported that the town cannot close on the Mattingly property until the State tells the town it can because of the land and water conservation fund grant. Mike told the Board he spoke with the woman in the State who is working on this grant and she informed him the funds may be available in about a month.

3) Angelini property - Chairman Gorski read aloud a public hearing notice for the Earth Removal Hearing on a portion of Angelini's property, which permit will be made a part of the P&S agreement. As part of Angelini's selling price, he will be allowed to remove a stock pile of earth materials he has stored on one section of the land he is selling to the town.

Selectman Dunn asked if the Water Department is trying to remove the earth, or is Angelini trying to remove the Water Department's earth? The Board's Assistant explained that part of the agreement to buy Angelini's land was to allow him to remove the loam and gravel he has stockpiled there and bring it to his property in N.H.; that because the town will be the owner of the land, the Water Department is involved by filing for the Earth Removal Permit which only the Board of Selectmen can grant. The Selectmen were advised by counsel not to sign the P&S until the Earth Removal Permit has been granted. Dunn asked if the Water Commissioners are buying the land and Mike Dempsey responded no, the town is buying the land; that the Water Department has an interest in a portion of the land for a well site and are contributing to some of the cost (\$100,000); that the rest of the purchase price is coming from CPA funds. Dunn asked if the town is purchasing all of Angelini's land that abuts up to Bussing's land and Dempsey responded yes. Dunn asked how long Angelini has to remove the earth and was told 5 years, with a possibility of a two year extension. Dunn asked if that timeframe will be a concern to the Water Department's plan to construct a well and Dempsey responded that they do not have any plans right now for constructing a well so what Angelini will be doing will not affect the placement of a future well. Dunn asked what the selling price was and was told just under \$1,000,000. Dunn asked if the Earth Removal Permit will be in Angelini's name and the Board's Assistant told him no, that it would be in the Water Department's name and Angelini will be the contractor under the permit for the Water Department. Dunn also asked who determines how deep, how wide the area of removal will be and was told that will all be determined by the Earth Removal Permit. Dempsey informed the Board that on Mattingly's purchase he is still waiting to

hear from Natural Heritage & Endangered Species about releasing some funds. Chairman Gorski asked if he thought he would hear by the Fall and Dempsey told her he did not know; that the Water Department is working on that and Mike said he is hoping they will release the \$120,000 within 4-6 weeks.

Regarding another property, Selectman Dunn stated he had received a phone call from resident and business owner, Greg Stark, asking about the former gas station property located in Elm Park. Dunn said Stark brought him up to speed on how the property will be cleaned up and told Dunn that he personally knows the owner and she is going to reduce the price significantly and that we should jump on board to try and work it out. Dunn stated that he had asked Stark to come into the meeting to talk with the Board and he said he had been on the Bridge Committee and sounded like he was burnt out and not interested. Dunn said Stark told him he thinks it would be a good idea for the town to buy the property and put a parking lot in; that it's an eyesore for the town which Dunn said he agrees but how they find the money, he doesn't know and had suggested to Stark that they need to get a committee together. Chairman Gorski told Dunn that the Selectmen have talked about that through the years when Greg Labrecque and Selectmen Darke and Greaney were here, how it's important for us to have that location and not leave that gas station there but they really wanted the cleanup done by the Getty people, the Tyree people; that they did not want to get involved in something that is not a clean site. Selectman D'Amore told his fellow board members that there is something that might work in this situation; that he doesn't know a lot about it but had asked an attorney who knows something and was told there is something called a friendly eminent domain and basically it cures all title issues, if that is true, but he's not sure. D'Amore continued saying that a friendly eminent domain is kind of what it sounds like; that if you have an agreeable seller and the municipality would like to take over the land and they come to an agreement on a fair price, it's a very quick way to get a deal done and it also cures all title issues, if there are any. The Board's Assistant commented that she thinks that may take quite a while and Chairman Gorski agreed. D'Amore responded that it taking a long time is the only downside to that process.

Chairman Gorski told the Board that when her former fellow board members were here they all knew that property couldn't just sit there as is with the new bridge being built and that she is sure the current Board will continue to work on this and hopefully they will be able to make some sort of agreement with the owner. The Board's Assistant stated that the former Board has made several offers on the property but they weren't satisfactory to the owner, and she now has a realtor. D'Amore commented that Selectman Dunn has now presented a unique situation where he had a member of the community call him, and Chairman Gorski acknowledged that she also spoke with Stark. D'Amore asked whether they should call the owner and Chairman Gorski stated that Stark has a good relationship with the owner and he did sit on the Bridge and Square Committee with a lot of other people, but as Dunn said, he's burnt out after watching this for more than a decade. Gorski told her fellow Board members that she thinks when the Board receives documentation that the site is clean they should then move ahead with reaching out again to the seller. Selectman Dunn asked Dempsey if Conservation will keep an eye on this, and Dempsey replied that they have to get a permit from Conservation to do the work and Gorski said she asked Dempsey to keep the Selectmen informed. Dunn commented that it's premature at this point to discuss the property and the Board's Assistant suggested they could send Mrs. Delaflor a letter informing her that it's the Board's understand that she is entering the

cleaning process on her property and when she has received her certificate to let the Board know because they would like to have the opportunity to submit another offer. The Selectmen agreed that a letter should be sent. Chairman Gorski reported that at the meeting she attended the Engineer reported that they have been doing boorings at the site and Dempsey stated that he is waiting to hear about scheduling a site visit relative to the required permit process.

# Proposal from Nunan's Florist

Selectman Dunn informed the Board that he had spoken with Nunan's Garden Center in Georgetown and asked them to send a proposal for putting hanging plants in the town square; that they do this every year in Georgetown and he stated he doesn't know if there is money to do so but he would like to see it happen. The proposal was for hanging plants on 20 poles in the square and around the corner to TDBank and maintenance of them through the summer for a total of \$2,640.00. Chairman Gorski told Dunn she thinks it's a great idea and would like to see the Board approve doing so.

Moved Dunn, seconded D'Amore, and it was

<u>VOTED:</u> To accept the proposal received from Nunan's Garden Center for the beautification project in downtown Groveland at a cost of \$2.640.00.

3-0

3-0

# One Day Liquor License

The Board reviewed a request for a one-day liquor license for a retirement party at Veasey Park. Moved Dunn, seconded D'Amore, and it was

**VOTED:** To grant a one day liquor license to

for a retirement party at Veasey Park on June 14, 2014 with beer and wine being served from 6:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. with Detail Officer required.

#### Selectmen's General Discussion

Selectman D'Amore stated this is his favorite part of the meeting and told the Board he would like to suggest the following items for future agenda discussion:

1) Have a meeting with the new Board and Fire Chief Lay in open session to receive an update on the department and any needs or concerns that he has; that it is not a contract negotiation but to let the Board know if there are any issues he may need some help with, some advice on, or wants to update the Board on. D'Amore stated it would be at the Chief's discretion when he can meet with the Board. Chairman Gorski stated she thinks that is a good idea. Finance Director Dembkoski told the Board she has spoken with the Chief and he is gathering some documents and some accomplishments to come before the Board at a future meeting.

Selectman Dunn asked why they are saying just the Fire Chief and asked why wouldn't the Board meet with the Police Chief too. The Board's Assistant responded that the Board can invite anyone they want to a meeting. D'Amore asked that they do the Fire Chief right now because they have gone through several months of contentious debate about anything but the department and he thinks they owe it as a courtesy to the Chief; that they want to make sure they are in partnership with the Chief to make sure our Fire Department is well taken care of. Chairman Gorski commented that she thinks it is a good idea. Gorski told her fellow Board members that she was in touch with Larry Gallant, who serves on Essex County Fire Chief's

Commission, and she wanted to ask him if he would ever have any time to come in and talk with the Board about what they should be expecting from their Chief, what they need to have here; that fire services has changed and are we in compliance with everything we need to be doing, and what do we need for equipment, and if her fellow Board members both agree, she would like to ask him if he'd be available to talk to them. Selectman Dunn responded that he agrees 100% and Selectman D'Amore responded that he is not in agreement to a study but thinks this a great idea to pick someone's brain outside of our town with a different perspective. Chairman Gorski told the Board that she did not mention a study or spending money when she spoke to Gallant; that she just felt he had a lot of knowledge and knowledge is power. Dunn commented that maybe he would have others that could come in with him to help us determine what our Fire Chief needs for a contract; that he would like to see it done outside of the town rather than inside the department and would like to have it come before the Board with a packet in front of them to decide what is the right thing to do, then make their decision after that. Gorski asked the next available date to meet with the Fire Chief and was told that due to not knowing how long the Earth Removal Public Hearing may take, it would be better to wait to the next meeting to meet with the Chief. Dunn asked if the Board has a deadline for working out a contract for the Fire Chief and the Board's Assistant responded no; that there is no requirement for the Fire Chief to have a contract, but he is allowed one.

D'Amore continued with his list for future open session discussions.

- 2) The Finance Director has put together a report regarding Recreation Committee proposals and he thinks sometime in July the Board should look at the proposals; that he would like it on an upcoming agenda for discussion only, then vote on it at the following meeting; that his is a big issue. Dembkoski commented that her proposal is in response to what Steve Merrill had given the Board and wanted it to take effect July 1<sup>st</sup> about the fields and permitting.
- 3) D'Amore stated that based upon consensus and approval of the Chair that he had put together four policies, internal management policies, on how the Board operates, how people get things on the agenda, and he would like the Board's Assistant to place them on future agendas so he can share them with his fellow members and invite them to use their pen and edit them and maybe two meetings later they can actually start to put some policies in place. D'Amore stated that this practice was used when he was on the school committee; that someone would write or take them off websites from other schools and he would like to see that practice followed here.

The Board's Assistant told them that Selectman D'Amore had sent several policies to her by email last week and she apologized stating that she had forgotten to print them for the meeting; that she would email them to the members so they have them for the next meeting.

Selectman Dunn asked if the town has someone who deals with personnel problems. The Board's Assistant responded that to a certain extent she does. Dunn asked if there was a complaint from a contracted employee it would either go the Board or their Assistant and Lewandowski responded that all union contracts have grievance procedures in them and the first step would go before their supervisor, and if it's not settled at that step it would come before the Board of Selectmen. Lewandowski told the Board that under the contracts and personnel

### MINUTES-PAGE #16 JUNE 2, 2014

policy the Selectmen are in charge of personnel and Chairman Gorski added that they are the body who hires and lets go of employees, but you hope it gets ironed out before it gets to their office so they don't have to have that very distasteful job. Lewandowski told Dunn that there have been times when there were grievances before the Board and they worked out fine; that we haven't had grievances under the contracts in a long time. Selectman D'Amore commented that he has read the town's bylaws several times over the last year and recommended that others should do so; that it's a good process and the grievance procedure is very well written, in plain language and you can understand exactly how to go through it if you work for the town, have an issue and how to escalate it. D'Amore stated he likes the town's policy a lot better than they had at the school committee.

The Board's Assistant told Selectmen Dunn that she had made a copy of Mass Municipal Association's Selectmen's Handbook for him and Selectman D'Amore; that the Manual gives a lot of information as to what their roles are as a Selectman and she thinks it will help them if they read it.

Selectman D'Amore thanked the board for the open session stating that it is his favorite part of the meeting, an open spot where the members can express things. Chairman Gorski commented on information the Board was given relative to parks, commissions, land authority stating that she believes the Board of Selectmen should be well versed on it; that they don't want to give up anything that is of value to the community; that as long as you have reasonable people sitting on this Board she is sure the best thing will happen for everyone; that she doesn't think there is anything they don't see that they can't work out, even if they disagree on things but still it is good to work with each other and bring it out here (at a meeting).

D'Amore responded that he is glad she mentioned this; that one of the policies he borrowed from the school committee is a public comment portion of the meeting; that if they can get people into the habit of coming to a meeting because they have something to discuss rather than what they do now calling Bette or Bill; that if every meeting there was a fifteen minute period where they could come in and talk to the Board would be great. Selectman Dunn responded that he thinks part of the problem is people don't want to come before them with a complaint because they don't want to have someone against them; that they are not comfortable coming in before a camera. Chairman Gorski responded that she thinks you can say anything as long as you are respectful but she does think people get apprehensive about coming in front of a camera. D'Amore told the Board that the policy is written very clearly that before anybody gets up to the mike and speaks the Board reads the policy and reminds them what they can and cannot say; that they can't talk about someone else if they aren't present. D'Amore told the Board the policy is very well done.

#### Adjournment

Moved Dunn, seconded D'Amore, and it was

VOTED: To adjourn.

Adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,