

Groveland Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
July 27, 2015

Present: Chair William Dunn, Selectman Joe D'Amore, Selectman Daniel MacDonald,  
Selectman Ed Watson, Selectman Michael Wood

Absent: None

Others Present: Denise Dembkoski (Finance Director)

Recorder: Melanie Rich

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**RESIDENT/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Tracy Gilford (4 Abbott Circle) would like to propose a formal employee recognition program and discuss it at a future meeting.

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:**

Selectman Wood voted to approve PW#16-05 in the amount of \$177,281.42; Selectman Watson seconded; all voted in favor; warrant approved.

Selectman Wood voted to approve DW#16-03A in the amount of \$30,533.05; Selectman Watson seconded; all voted in favor; warrant approved.

Selectman Wood voted to approve BW#16-05 in the amount of \$832,589.31; Selectman D'Amore seconded; all voted in favor; warrant approved.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Selectman Watson made a motion to appoint Matthew D. Silva to the position of Water & Sewer Operator effective August 3, 2015 pending an approved CORI screening; Selectman D'Amore seconded; voted 5-0-0.

Selectman Watson would like to see the five-week temporary position of the Water/Sewer Seasonal Laborer filled with a Groveland resident and suggested it be re-advertised. Mr. Cusick said it was posted in town hall and received no Groveland applicants; there was only one applicant. Jack Willett (Water/Sewer Chairman) said it is not a top priority position; it is a temporary position. Selectman D'Amore supports Selectman Watson, but for this purpose moved to appoint the position with the recommendation made by Mr. Cusick and made a motion to appoint Nicholas V. Mammolette to the five-week position of Water/Sewer Seasonal Laborer effective July 28, 2015; Selectman Wood seconded; voted as follows: Selectman MacDonald opposed; Selectman Watson opposed; Chair Dunn opposed; Selectman Wood for; Selectman D'Amore for; 2-3-0; motion not passed. Mr. Cusick will follow-up with Ms. Dembkoski on the action he is taking.

Selectman Watson made a motion to appoint Cassandra Murphy to the position of Administrative Assistant effective July 28, 2015 pending an approved CORI screening; Selectman Wood seconded; voted as follows: Selectman MacDonald abstained; Selectman Watson for; Chair Dunn for; Selectman Wood for; Selectman D'Amore for; 4-0-1.

Selectman Watson made a motion to appoint Spencer Roccapiore to the five-hour/week position of Library Page effective July 30, 2015 pending an approved CORI screening; Selectman D'Amore seconded; voted 5-0-0.

Selectman Watson made a motion to appoint David C. Evans to the on-call position of Firefighter effective July 28, 2015; Selectman Wood seconded; voted 5-0-0.

Selectman D'Amore made a motion to appoint William Carter to the Stormwater Management Committee through June 30, 2016; Selectman Watson seconded; voted 5-0-0.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE:**

Joe Ryan (865 Salem Street) – Regarding Greenwood Auto Body, Mr. Ryan said Salem Street was reconstructed and taken over by the state with state money and federal aid which included granite curbing on the north side, and on the south side bituminous concrete berm with a speed limit of 35 mph with no parking on either side. He submitted Article 12 from the 2011 town meeting which Selectman Watson read for the benefit of those watching which was to see if the town will vote to amend Chapter 12, Vehicles and Traffic – Article II Stopping, Standing and Parking – Section 12-44, Parking Regulations/General Prohibitions of the Groveland General By-Laws by adding the following paragraph #4 under Section entitled “Prohibited on Certain Streets”: Prohibitive Streets shall read as follows: (1) Elm Park west, westerly side from its intersection with Main Street west to 200’ southerly; (2) Elm Park west, easterly side from Gardner Street northerly to the entrance to the parking area; (3) Center Street, both sides, from the Boxford town line, easterly 900’; (4) Salem Street, both sides, from the Georgetown line to the City of Haverhill line. Majority voted Favorable Action on April 24, 2011.

Article 13 from the 2012 town meeting was to see if the town will vote to amend Article II. Stopping, Standing and Parking – Section 12-44. Parking Regulations/General Prohibitions, Time Limited in Designated Areas – No person shall park a vehicle for a period of time longer than hereinafter specified; add the following two designations: (1) Salem Street southerly side, starting at a point of 50’ northerly from the intersection of Washington Street for 80’ for one hour; (2) Salem Street southerly side, between Nelson Street and Sewall Street one hour. Majority voted for Unfavorable Action on April 30, 2012.

The board received a letter dated July 10, 2015 from Mr. Greenwood stating that “there will be no parking past the white line to the center line on Salem Street in front of the business.” Chair Dunn wanted to be clear what the board’s jurisdiction is as far as enforcing no parking. Selectman D’Amore said the Police Department has jurisdiction for enforcement of no parking and the Highway Department has jurisdiction over the posting of signs. Selectman MacDonald made a motion that the board inform the Police Department of the issue that was brought before us and ask them to enforce the no parking along Salem Street; Selectman D’Amore seconded. Mr. Dempsey said Mr. Ryan also contacted the Conservation Commission regarding the missing berm and stormwater concerns; stormwater is flowing down Sewall Street. The MA DOT environmental unit is conducting a site visit today and Mr. Dempsey will forward a copy of the written report when he receives it. Selectman Watson feels Mr. Greenwood should be here before we take action. Chair Dunn said the complaint before the board is parking, sight lines and safety concerns. Ms. Demboski stated at a previous meeting that with the exception of Mr. Ryan, the police have not had any complaints or safety issues on that road. Voted as follows: Selectman D’Amore for; Selectman Wood abstained; Selectman MacDonald for; Selectman Watson opposed; Chair Dunn for; 3-1-1.

Bagnall Summer Program Excess Funds Update – Selectman D’Amore read the email with Town Counsel’s legal opinion. The first warrant article would be to dissolve the revolving account which was reauthorized at town meeting; the second warrant article would transfer the excess funds to the surplus revenue as identified as an acceptable method under 53E ½; and the third article would reauthorize the initial revolving account. Town Counsel further said that it is lawful for a town meeting to appropriate excess funds directly out of a revolving fund, for any municipal purpose, regardless of the purpose of the fund. In the fall, a warrant article could be proposed to appropriate out of the Bagnall School Summer Revolving Fund, a specific amount to construct a soccer field. Selectman MacDonald wanted it noted for

the record that he was not trying to circumvent the law and was right when he initially read the law. Jim Day (Bagnall Building Committee) said they are putting a proposal together and meeting on Wednesday to discuss it. He was advised to include the cost for maintenance, installing a well, and helping Groveland with the grass mowing. He was also told that if there is any contingency with the school system, he needs to speak with Greg Lebrecque; the proposal needs to be shaped around the existing lease.

The board will solicit proposals. Ms. Dembkoski will put the proposals on the website; residents can choose; then the board will take them into consideration. Selectman MacDonald said if people get involved they will be heard. Mr. Castonguay asked if a public hearing could be held for feedback from the residents and then move forward with the chosen one in October. Chair Dunn wants to make sure that all money will be earmarked for the Bagnall School. Selectman D'Amore made a motion that we appropriate excess funds directly out of the Bagnall Summer Program Revolving Fund for the expressed purpose of use at Bagnall School; Selectman Wood seconded; voted 5-0-0. Selectman D'Amore made a motion that we entertain other proposals from other interested groups with a deadline of September 15<sup>th</sup>; Selectman Watson seconded; voted 5-0-0.

Fire Department Study Proposal – Ms. Dembkoski said previous negotiations with the current Fire Chief and the former board resulted with the Fire Chief saying a full-time Chief is needed; the former board did not agree. She was asked to find a consultant to review the department to see what was really needed; the proposal before the board is from DI Jacobs Consulting Company; the cost is not to exceed \$6,000. Because this was a decision made with the former board, she asked the Chair if it should come back before this board, and he said yes. Chair Dunn said when discussed with the current Fire Chief, he didn't feel he was willing to make the decision for more hours, full-time position, etc. and was a supporter of finding an outside company to review the department. Selectman D'Amore feels it is important to bring in a third-party. Selectman MacDonald has concerns with what the recommendations will be. Ms. Dembkoski suggested the consultant attend a meeting before making a decision to move forward with the proposal. If the board decides to put a warrant article to vote whether we want to go back to the previous system, they can do that. Selectman MacDonald suggested that if we are going to talk to the consultant that he considers that as an alternative in the process. Selectman D'Amore made a motion that we interview the consultant for the proposal and that we restrict the conversation between the BOS and the consultant with the discretion of the Chair; Selectman MacDonald seconded; voted 5-0-0.

### **VOTES OF THE BOARD:**

1. Selectman D'Amore made a motion to accept the June 29, 2015 Meeting Minutes; Selectman Wood seconded; voted 5-0-0.
2. Selectman D'Amore made a motion to approve the Special Event Permit for Groveland Day, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 11PM; Selectman Wood seconded; voted 5-0-0.
3. Selectman Wood made a motion to approve a One Day Liquor License for a Party at Veasey Park on August 15, 2015; Selectman D'Amore seconded; voted 5-0-0.
4. Route 97 Project (Order of Taking) – Bob Arakelian gave a summary of the project. Salem Street was last paved in 1967; Tea Garden to Parker Road was paved in 1987. He petitioned the state for 8 years to repave it; the state and federal government pay for the reconstruction of the road, but the town has to pay for the design and any easement taking by eminent domain. He said they are at 100% and ready to go out to bid; the right-of-way had to be secured by September 30<sup>th</sup> or they could lose the \$6.5 million. He secured the right-of-way through easements and eminent domain. Selectman MacDonald asked how it was paid for; Chapter 90 funds. Ms. Dembkoski is in the process of checking the list to see if anyone owes back taxes. If they do, we have the right to take the money and apply it to their

taxes. Selectman Watson made a motion to accept Route 97 Project to adopt the Order of Taking presented to the board on the date for the purpose of acquiring the requisite permanent and temporary easements in certain lands abutting Salem Street and School Street in the town as set forth in the Order and depicted on the plan entitled “County of Essex, Massachusetts Easement Plan of a Portion of Route 97 School Street and Salem Street in the Town of Groveland, Robert Arakelian Road Commissioner, dated April 14, 2015, prepared by Bayside Engineering, Inc.” to allow the town to carry out the road improvement project for Route 97 as depicted on project plans on file with the Road Commissioner and to award damages for such taking as set forth in the Schedule A attached to the Order; Selectman D’Amore seconded; voted 5-0-0.

5. Honor Certificate for Building Inspector Patsy Schena – Selectman Wood read the citation thanking him for his years of service to the town.
6. Honor Certificate for Nancy Lewandowski – Selectman D’Amore read the citation thanking her for her years of service to the town.
7. Citation for Robert M. Henderson & Bob’s Cleaning Company – Selectman Watson read the citation thanking him for his years of service to the town.

#### **NEW AND OLD BUSINESS:**

Chair Dunn talked about the complaints received from Seven Star Road where the trenches have settled due to the construction that was done. Ms. Dembkoski to write the Planning Board to see if there is anything they can do to repair that section of the road since it was caused by the development and not the town.

Chair Dunn also talked about the possibility of moving the Veto to Washington Hall freeing up the space for use by the COA. Ms. Dembkoski said work would be needed before it could be used (HVAC, mold removal). It is an agenda item for August 24<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Dunn asked for the board’s consensus for him and Ms. Dembkoski to visit upcoming projects monthly to check the process and report back to the board. Members can also be informed of a site visit. It will be a future agenda item.

Selectman MacDonald received an email about the Gloucester Heroin initiative and would like to sit with the Deputy Chief to discuss. Ms. Dembkoski said they are meeting in August and plan to come before the board with a report to recommend if we should follow that initiative or how it can be tailored to our community.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Minutes from July 13<sup>th</sup>; Executive Session Minutes from July 15<sup>th</sup>; Minutes from July 15<sup>th</sup>; July 22<sup>nd</sup>; letter from Lacey Page; and letter from Dianne Elardo to be reviewed.

#### **FINANCE DIRECTOR’S TIME:**

The town has not yet been sprayed for mosquitoes. Northeast Mosquito will contact us when they believe it is time for Groveland to spray. The board will need to agree to move forward. There have been no positive tests results in Groveland for a few years and they do not have any updated results of recent testing that was conducted.

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Town Hall hours will be changing effective August 7<sup>th</sup>. All offices will close at noon on Friday and all offices will be open on Monday nights to conduct business.

Regarding the renaming of the Auditorium at Bagnall School, a message was put on the website. As of this meeting there are 17 responses; 6 are in favor of renaming; 7 are against; 4 have no opinion. Nominations received: Donald Beaton (2); Dick Sciacca (1) John Osborne (1).

**SELECTMEN'S TIME** – No items for discussion tonight.

The next meeting will be held Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Selectman D'Amore made a motion to adjourn; Selectman Watson seconded; voted 5-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

\*\*\* Unanimously approved on August 24, 2015 \*\*\*