

Granville Selectboard Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2023

APPROVED

In attendance: Bruce Hyde, Chair, Kenneth Beattie and Rachel Grigorian (on the telephone) Selectboard; Danial Sargeant, Fire Chief Granville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., Marilyn Dougherty, Website Manager; Richard Poole, ECF Board Member and Cheryl L. Sargeant, Town Clerk

Public: Shawn Dougherty

Call to Order: 5:34 p.m.

Public Communication:

- Shawn raised concern that the Agenda was not posted at the Post Office. Bruce indicated that it was posted by the Town Clerk and she is not responsible if someone takes it down.

Amend/Approve Agenda:

- Nothing presented.

Financial Reports:

- Orders – Bruce and Ken corrected an error they found on the Highway Order and mentioned that the window contractor would be paid a portion of the contract amount. Ken made the motion to pay the invoices and Rachel seconded. All in favor.
- Reports – Bruce indicated that they were looking good.
- Tax Rate – Bruce indicated that the new tax rate of .6708 cents was higher than last year due to the Town's deficit caused by the audit and other unforeseen increases. Bruce made the motion to accept the tax rate of 0.6708 cents and Ken seconded. All in favor.
- Grants – Bruce indicated that the Town Hall windows work would begin on Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. The North Hollow Road and Post Office Road contracts were signed and the contractor would begin work weather permitting on Post Office Road either Tuesday or Wednesday this week; he hauled stone today for the project. Bruce asked North East Logging and Davie Tree for written estimates which are needed for the Hazardous Tree Grant.
- Town Audit – Bruce indicated that the Town's Auditors are gearing up to conduct the audit later this summer.
- Annual Internal Financial Controls Checklist – Bruce made the motion to sign the document prepared by the Treasurer and Ken seconded. All in favor.

Minutes:

- June 12, 2023 – Ken made the motion to approve them as written and Rachel seconded. All in favor.

New Business:

- Internet/Phone Issues – Dick indicated that he had reached out to ECFiber regarding issues reported last week regarding the alarm and telephone lines not being operational. After discussion Cheryl was instructed to contact the alarm company (Royal Group) to have a technician check the system and remove redundancy if that is the problem.
- Chris Pratt Window Contract – Bruce indicated that they would begin in the Town Hall and remove the windows, leaving the interior storms temporarily. Upstairs will have exterior storms installed, then remove windows. This will remove any need for plywood while the windows are taken to refurbish them and all work will be performed from inside the building.

Old Business:

- Constable Report – Bruce indicated that Mark was stuck in Woodstock and hopefully will be back patrolling next month. Bruce to speak with Mark about coverage and other duties.
- GVFD Update – Dan indicated there was a slight increase in membership and due to the road conditions White River Valley Ambulance (WRVA) can't make it so Middlebury and Mad River were put on notice by WRVA. Ken indicated that he was worried they were planning on selling the 4X4 fire truck. After a brief discussion Dan invited Ken so come to the station to see what they have so he could better understand the situation. Dick inquired if it would be possible to park the truck at the Bowl Mill if the building were heated. Ken to work with Dan on the issue and Cheryl instructed to send letters to Senators Sanders, Welch and Ballant.
- ARPA Funds – Bruce indicated the Town needed to move on projects; handicap access for building, paving and Rachel wants to pursue revamping the Church space. The Selectboard needs public input on what they feel is beneficial. Marilyn asked when the monies had to be spent and if it could be used for heat pumps. Bruce indicated by 2026 or we have to give it back and yes efficient heating and cooling systems qualify.
- Buildings and Grounds – Cheryl indicated that there is a major issue with the Church Steeple. Bruce took photographs and Cheryl was instructed to file a claim with the insurance company. Bruce will reach out to the contract that refurbished it in 2020.
- Playground Mulch – Rachel indicated that it would be here in 2 weeks from Colton Enterprises approximately \$60.00/yard plus delivery. Cheryl will contact them to request an invoice so a check would be available upon delivery.
- Bulletin Boards – Nothing to report.
- Planning Commission Update – Nothing to report.

Old Business (continued):

- Cell Tower – Bruce indicated it was still going through hearings.
- Website Update – Marilyn indicated that Dan would have to update the AMP panel so that the Town would be billed directly or he could pay the fee and ask the Town for reimbursement. Dan would look into the matter.

Roads:

- Bruce indicated that North Hollow Road had some pot holes and Ken indicated that after the ditching and culvert projects were complete he would grade the roads again. Ken indicated that the Roadside Mowing would begin soon. The culvert on Butz Road was taking the water from the heavy rains.
- Winter Maintenance Contract – Ken indicated that the contractor purchased a 2015 truck with plow and wing and an F550 and he is ready to go when it snows. Dan asked if he would need to plug in his equipment; Ken will ask. Bruce indicated that the contractor was responsible for shaping the sand pile. Bruce asked Mark if he could assist with getting North East Logging to remove their broken truck and plow from the property.
- FY24 Grant for Culvert #17 on Butz Road – No word from VTrans.

Public Comments:

- Marilyn indicated that the Saben Homestead Road sign was missing. Bruce and Ken will add it to their list of signs to install.
- Ken indicated that the new owner of land in East Granville on Braintree Mtn. Road would like to perform some work. Bruce indicated that they would have to submit a permit for approval but if Ken wanted to work on the culverts the Town is responsible for that would be fine. Ken would like to use the old culverts taken out from the Post Office and North Hollow Road projects on Braintree Mtn. Road.

Items for Next Meeting:

- ARPA Handicap Accessibility & other projects
- Bowl Mill Gravel Update

Next meeting will be a Special meeting on August 7, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. because Bruce and Rachel will be out of town during the regular meeting.

Ken made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. And Bruce seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Sargeant
Town Clerk