

Granville Selectboard Meeting Minutes  
October 9, 2023

**APPROVED**

In attendance: Bruce Hyde, Chair and Kenneth Beattie Selectboard; Richard Favor, Assessor; Robin Hagerman, Roger Stauss and Kelli Eckroth, Auditors; Nancy Needham, Town Treasurer; Danial Sargeant, Fire/EMS Chief Granville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.; Marilyn Dougherty, Website Manager and Cheryl L. Sargeant, Town Clerk

Public: Walter Englehardt, Kevin ?, Diane Eramo, Corner School Resource Center and Shawn Dougherty

Call to Order: 5:32 p.m.

**Public Communication:**

- Shawn asked for copies of the Pay Orders
- Roger on behalf of the Corner School Resource Center brought up the standing water on the neighboring property and was asking the Town for help. After a lengthy discussion it was determined that the Town Health Officer would be asked to work with the neighbors to find a resolution to cleaning up the potential hazard before winter.
- Diane asked when the Maston Hill Road and North Hollow Road signs would be replaced. Ken would see about getting that done soon.
- Ken indicated that there were trees within the Town right-of-way that landowners do not want them cut and wanted to know what could be done to help with site distance. Roger indicated that he was one of them and he would trim his own apple trees so they would not be damaged.

**Amend/Approve Agenda:**

- Bruce requested that Vermont League of Cities and Towns insurance approval be added to New Business

**Financial Reports:**

- Orders – Ken moved to approve and Bruce seconded. All in favor.
- Reports – Bruce indicated that there were some issues with Grant tracking expenses and reimbursements.
- Grants – Cheryl indicated that the Town did receive its reimbursements but not all that was requested. Bruce indicated partly due to information submitted and timing of request after work was completed.
- Town Audit – Robin reports that it is going well. They did find that Nancy needs a new computer so she can work along with the Town Clerk and not after hours and asked for Treasurer access to the vault when the Town Clerk is not available. After some discussion it was determined that Kelli would look into a new computer and that the Town Clerk would grant access afterhours only if the Treasurer can guarantee that there would be no public allowed in the building due to safety concerns for the Town's documents.

**Financial Reports (continued):**

- Reappraisal – Rick explained the need for the Town to come up with a compliance plan and to submit it to the State. Bruce will have Rick draft a letter indicating that the Town would put out a Request for Proposals in January and asked for a template for next meeting.
- Credit Application for Shelburne Limestone – After a brief discussion it was agreed to sign the credit application for future rock and stone needed for the town highways.

**Minutes:**

- September 11, 2023 – Ken made the motion to approve them as written and Bruce seconded. All in favor.

**New Business:**

- Office Computer – As discussed previously Kelli will work with Nancy and Cheryl on the new computer.
- Electronic Vote Counting Machine – Cheryl will call a meeting of the Board of Civil Authority to vote on the matter and the Secretary of State's Office will assist with getting everything.
- MERP Buildings & General Services Mini-Grant Approval – Bruce made the motion to accept the mini-grant and Ken seconded. All in favor.
- Sarah Wriaght of Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) discussed ARPA projects and MTAP. Harry Falconer handles MERP and Cheryl will work with him to have the Town Hall assessed for energy efficiency. Sarah would look into grants for the GVFD water and wastewater, Town Hall entrance, pump station for the septic and Church Access. After a lengthy discussion Bruce move to work with TRORC on the MTAP grant and Ken seconded. All in favor.
- ARPA Sarah clarified changes in the process you can now obligate the money for eligible budget line items and pay them off and then use the tax funds for other projects without the federal restrictions.
- Flood Hazard Bylaw – Sarah indicated that the Planning Commission would be receiving notice that our bylaw was coming up for review and that TRORC was currently working on their edits.
- Park and Ride Grant – After a brief discussion it was decided to pass on this grant for this year.

**Old Business:**

- Constable Report – Nothing provided.

**Old Business (continued):**

- Hazardous Trees – Bruce indicated that the Town received notification that they are working through the process and were running behind schedule and hoped to have the grants issued in a few weeks. Cheryl will notify the contractor of the delay and Bruce will contact the State to ask that they move things along as we have trees in the way of snowplowing.
- Town Hall Windows – Bruce indicated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment was paid, they fixed the rot on the northside and would be putting back the old storms for energy efficiency.
- East Granville Street Light – Ken indicated GMP is waiting to install a power pole prior to updating the light fixture.
- GVFD Culvert Cleaning – Ken will meet with Dan to come up with a list of culverts to clean out before winter.
- Steeple – Bruce indicated that the contractor should be here soon.
- Buildings & Grounds – Bruce indicated that the Town would have to go out with a Mowing Request for Proposals as the contract terminated this year.
- Playground Mulch – Rachel's guests raked it out last week; it looks nice Thank you! Bruce asked where the missing swings are; Mark has them.
- Bulletin Boards – Cheryl found a new bulletin board in U-Line and Bruce made the motion to purchase the board and Ken seconded. All in favor.
- Planning Commission – Nothing presented.
- Cell Tower – Nothing new to present.
- Website – Dan indicated that the Town owns the URL and he is the reseller of the Host site and is willing to pay the annual host fee. Marilyn indicated she likes InMotion and would like to stay with them. Bruce made the motion to accept the arrangement and Ken seconded. All in favor.
- GVFD Update – Ken inquired about the 4X4 Pumper; Dan indicated that after the equipment was removed the Town could sell it and hopefully use the monies towards the fire station project. After discussing the issues it was determined to find a place to put it under cover for the winter.

**Old Business (continued):**

- The GVFD building project cost would be roughly \$200,000.00; 20'X30', 8' ceiling, slab with frost wall located on the northside on the back and cost \$250/sf. MBF Architects of Rutland came up with the drawings; have the perk test done and need to apply for the permit. Extra work – resheath the walls, ceiling needs insulation and refacing. Sarah will look into grants.

**Roads:**

- Bruce indicated the Town dodged problems after this last rain and Ken agreed.
- Ken indicated that the gravel would not be crushed until spring and that there was 800 yards piled up. He indicated that the Town would need 6,000 yards to complete the work it is behind on.
- Grading Contract – Bruce indicated that there is 1 more year left.
- DiSelvestro Driveway Permit – Ken move to accept the permit application and Bruce seconded. All in favor.
- Buffalo Farm Road Barriers – Ken graded it again and Bruce requested a barrier 100' beyond the last house and plow up to it.

**Public Comments:**

- Nothing presented.

**Items for Next Meeting:**

Next meeting will be a regular meeting on November 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Ken made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. And Bruce seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Sargeant  
Town Clerk