

Granville Selectboard Meeting Minutes

November 11, 2024

APPROVED

In attendance: Bruce Hyde, Chair (telephone), Kenneth Beattie and Michael Eramo, Selectboard; Nancy Needham, Treasurer; Mark Belisle, Constable; Marilyn Dougherty, Website Administrator and Cheryl L. Sargeant, Town Clerk

Public: Shawn Dougherty; Jordan Champney and Jacques Veilleux, Hancock Volunteer Fire Department

Call to Order: 5:30 p.m. (Recorded)

Public Communication:

- Shawn inquired about several Profit & Loss Report Highway Line Items (520120 Roadside Mowing/Tree Removal and 51030 Winter Sand). Bruce indicated that 520120 was the Hazardous Tree Removal and we would see a reduction once the grant reimbursement was received. Ken indicated that the Winter Sand was left up to the winter plowing contractor as they know what type they want and how much is needed. Account 52000 Summer Roads Nancy said is now correct with the help of Robin. Shawn then asked if the Highway Surplus amount was still \$19,640.00; Bruce indicated that it should end up higher.

Amend/Approve Agenda:

- Nothing was brought up.

Financial Reports:

- Orders – Nancy indicated that the Town has the second installment of School taxes to be paid and enough tax revenue has come in to cover it. Ken indicated that he was on the order for a tax refund due to an over payment. Bruce inquired about the negative numbers and Nancy indicated that QuickBooks does that for some odd reason when you have money in the accounts (Budget – Expenses = Balance). Nancy indicated that she added invoices from Brookfield Service & CV Oil to another Order rather than holding for another month. Ken moved to pay all Orders and Mike seconded. All in favor.
- Grants – Ken indicated that the new Better Back Roads Grant was due by December 16th and that he would speak with Rita about a project he has in mind on Puddle Dock.
- Grading Bids – Received 1 bid from Shane Elwell for a Lump Sum Bid of \$27,000.00; no costs for gravel, hauling or chloride are included. Bruce made the motion to have this item tabled and that he would speak with Shane. Ken indicated that it should be an hourly rate and include the possibility of winter grading if we have another year like last year.
- Assessor – After a brief discussion about the 2 contracts submitted by Richard Favor and the need for a reappraisal; Bruce made the motion to approve both contracts with the reappraisal being completed in 2025 with Cheryl signing on behalf of the Selectboard and Mike seconded. All in favor.
- Sale of F550 Fire Truck – An offer was received from the Hancock Volunteer Fire Department for \$15,000.00. Bruce indicated the funds would be deposited into the fire station reserve fund. After a brief discussion with Jordan and Jacques about some of the mechanical work needed for them to put it back in service in time for the winter Ken made the motion to sell the truck to the HVFD knowing that they will assist with mutual aid and Mike seconded. All in favor.

Financial Reports (continued):

- Budget Development – Cheryl handed out a DRAFT budget and Bruce indicated that in December the Selectboard would begin working on changes to line items and amounts as necessary.

Minutes:

- October 7, 2024 - Ken made the motion to accept the minutes as edited per WRVA **“suggested to Dan to have all Valley Rescue members affiliate with WRVA, which would assist VRS with background checks, training and record keeping. If members of VRS are interested in being able to drive WRVA’s vehicles they can take an EVOC course at WRVA. Dan and the Valley Rescue Board decided to hold off on affiliation with WRVA for now”**; Tabor **“invoice was received too late for October pay orders”** and Dan **“resigning from WRVA Board when a replacement is found”** and Mike seconded. All in favor.

New Business:

- TRORC Update – Nothing presented.
- LHM Grant – Bruce indicated that the DRAFT Plan was posted to the website for comments and there was a meeting on November 13th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss it.
- Town Report Preparations – Cheryl will be sending out notices for Annual Reports and Budget Requests.
- Generator Maintenance – Cheryl indicated that the repair work has been performed and the invoice is on tonight’s Order for payment.

Old Business:

- Constable Report – Nothing presented.
- Noise Issues – Bruce had received a few complaints and Mark went down and spoke with the individual.
- Phone/Alarm – Cheryl indicated that the new AT&T wireless communicator has been installed with an internet backup and everything is working well.
- GVFD – Nothing presented.
- Hazardous Trees – Bruce indicated that Whitney Tree Service did an excellent job and cleaned up so well you could not tell a tree was there. Bruce instructed Cheryl to send in the reimbursement request.
- Buildings & Grounds – Mark asked if the Selectboard would be willing to pay a minimum of 1 hour shoveling time to keep the current person. Bruce indicated that it would be fair, and he does good work. Mark to contact him to see if he would agree to that.
- Planning Commission – Working on the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan update meeting on November 13th at 6:00 p.m. Tammi Beattie has resigned effective November 14th so the Selectboard will need to appoint a replacement so they can continue their work.
- Cell Tower – Bruce thinks they should receive the Certificate of Public Good soon.

Old Business (continued):

- Website – Marilyn indicated that it was very cumbersome to upload the videos for the Selectboard meetings and asked if the Town would look into having a Zoom Account. Bruce to put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Roads:

- Road Commissioner/Road Foreman – Ken indicated that he is done grading for the winter, and he blew leaves out of the ditches. He has not billed the Town yet but would do so once he was finished. Bruce indicated that Ken left berms on the edge of the roads in some places, and he needed to go back and clean those up.
- East Granville Plowing Contract – Mike made the motion to have Cheryl sign the contract on behalf of the Selectboard and Ken seconded. All in favor.
- Butz Road - Bruce indicated that the Butz Road project and the new project will be advertised in December or January once Ken speaks with Rita.
- Work Schedule – Nothing presented.
- Gravel – Cheryl would continue to send monthly invoices to Granville Manufacturing until the balance is paid in full with accrued interest.
- Sabin Homestead/Sawtooth Permit – Ken indicated that David Wright submitted a permit for improvements to Sabin Homestead so that they could do a logging operation on the east side of the mountain. This would involve installing culverts and ditching where needed for drainage and the improvements would remain once finished. Bruce made the motion to accept the permit request and Mike seconded. All in favor.

Public Communication:

- Nancy indicated that she would like to get rid of the Geek Squad subscription for the 2 new computers. Ken, Mike and Bruce said that would be fine.

Items for next meeting:

- Budget Preparation
- Warning Articles
- Annual Reports from Officers

Ken made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m. And Bruce seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl L. Sargeant
Town Clerk