

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

Members Present: Leif Hogue, Chair, Steve Darrow, Sara Hogue (Recorder)

Absent: Jennie Joyce

Others Present: Jake Vogel, Ryan Huff, Lee Way Pasek

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

Acceptance of Minutes

Leif motioned to accept the February 6, 2024, public minutes. Steve seconded. Motion passed.

Ex-Officio Reports

Leif reported that the library announced that they received the funding from the CDFA. Leif and Sara went to the CDFA and received a copy of the application that was submitted by FOGL.

Other Business

Steve wanted to circle back on the To Do/Action Item list:

Drainage at Museum - Steve will look into getting someone to take a look at it

Handyman - We need to work on an advertisement for this position. Sara will do.

Sara will create a project workbook to better track and manage the action items.

HEB Engineers Agreement Modification - This is for the Wild Meadow Culvert Project. Steve motioned to accept. Leif seconded. Motion passed. Leif signed the agreement.

Sansoucy Associates Agreement Contract - This is for the ongoing PSNH lawsuit. Steve motioned to accept. Leif seconded. Motion passed. Leif signed the agreement.

Timber Tax Warrant - Braley M10 L921 - Signed

Correspondence

Keith Boden - DOS fireworks updates to RSAs

FOGL - Insurance yearly update

Letter from Tom McGinty - Regarding his concerns for the New Library funding.

Public Comment

Ryan Huff commented in regards to Tom's letter, that he has a lot of the same questions that Tom has. There are a lot of questions and confusion among voters as well. He wanted to know what the conditions of the loan were. Leif read the conditions from the CDFA Website. Leif also read the letter from CDFA to FOGL for acceptance.

Steve added that he had heard that the language said "forgivable Loan" instead of "grant" but the Board did not get a copy of the application from the Library Trustees until the night before deliberative. The Lawyer also didn't get to see it before deliberative.

Ryan commented that he was also shocked and wanted to know if there was anything that BOS could do. Leif commented that right now there is not much that can be done. Steve added if the Warrant passes and DRA rules in its favor there will be little that the Board could do. Steve also stated that the Town Attorney spoke with the CDFA, and the CDFA told him that they are willing to do whatever is needed to help move this forward. The Board is doing its due diligence to alert the DRA what is coming.

Ryan inquired if DRA said they were ok with the Warrant. DRA won't say until after the results of the Town Voting. Leif noted that a bond hearing should have taken place before the funds were applied for, but that did not happen. Steve added that FOGL could still change the application from a loan to a grant. Leif commented that there is still a lot that is unknown, for example, the CDFA application shows that the 2026 op budget is \$90k, and the town would only be responsible for \$ 21k of that, but we don't know where is the remainder coming from.

Ryan commented that it needs to be called what it is, a forgivable Loan and not a grant.

Steve commented that if people do not support this project, the best thing to do is stop it at the ballot box.

Leif clarified that he supports the Grafton Library and will always support the library. He does not support the project.

Lee Way Pasek inquired if there was more clarity on who was responsible for the New Library. As the Warrant Article reads, it could be the Town.

Leif motioned to adjourn. Steve seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:41 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Hogue, Administrative Assistant