

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, August 1, 2017**

Members Present: Merle Kenyon, Chairman, Jennie Joyce, Leon Dugan, Sue Smith (recorder)

Others Present: Jim Dugan, Steve Darrow, Chris Fournier, Maureen O'Reilly, Catherine Mulholland

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Leon motioned to accept the minutes of July 11, 2017. Jennie second. Motion passed.

Leon motioned to accept the non-public minutes of July 11, 2017. Jennie second. Motion passed.

Selectmen Announcements:

Leon stated that the Highway Dept is continuing the work on Height of Land Road. Del'Etoile's corner and Powell Road have been completed.

Ex-Officio Reports: None

Appointments:

Chris Fournier, HEB Engineers, came before the Board to review Grafton's bridge status and potential funding opportunities. Chris stated that Grafton has 20 bridges and of those, 1 is red listed and 4 are pink listed. Funding opportunities for bridge repair/replacement are as follows: Town funded (100% town), NHDOT State -Aid Bridge (SAB – 80% state, 20% town), FEMA/NH-HSEM Hazard Mitigation (75% Federal funding, 25% town), and Habitat Restoration Grants (all three can be combined with best case scenario: 75% FEMA, 20% NHDOT, and 5% Town). The SAB is not currently available until 2025/2026. Chris recommended that the Board submit the application for State Bridge Aid Construction to get on the list for the Wild Meadow Rd bridge project. The other two funding opportunities (FEMA/NH-HSEM) and Habitat Restoration Grants) are only available upon federal approval of the hazard mitigation plan.

Jim Dugan came before the Board to discuss an incident that involved a Fire Dept. Volunteer. Jim stated that he was driving on Rt 4 westbound when he noticed the FD Volunteer (using personal vehicle) come up behind him with lights flashing and the siren on. Jim stated that he was driving on a blind turn and another vehicle was driving eastbound. The FD Volunteer was determined to pass Jim to get to the scene of fire. Jim had to quickly steer toward the guardrail and the other car had to quickly steer toward the ledge. There was barely enough room for the FD Volunteer to get through. Jim referred to RSA 265:8 which states that authorized emergency drivers can exceed the maximum speed limits so long as they do not endanger life or property. Jim also stated that if there was adequate room to pull over, he would have. Jim did inform the selectmen that he spoke with Russell about this incident and that he would like to see the FD Volunteer driver reprimanded. The Selectmen stated that they will have Russell talk with the Fire Chief about the incident and to encourage driver training as this would be a departmental issue.

Ken Cushing did not attend the meeting, but the Board was informed that the Historical Society will be hosting a concert at the East Grafton Christian Church on Sunday, August 14th. The Historical Society is asking permission for people to park in between the no parking signs on Turnpike Rd for the concert. After a brief discussion, the Board granted permission to the Historical Society on the condition that the Historical Society is responsible for making sure that traffic flow will not be hindered and that parking will be on one side of the road.

New Business: None

Other Business/Correspondence:

The Board reviewed and discussed the following from the action item list:

- Leon will be meeting with Linda Howes, Caretaker for Grafton Pond, on Wednesday, Aug 2nd to discuss the parking issue. The Board would like to convey to Linda that parking is to be on one side of the road (parking lot side); no parking signs on the opposite side of the road, and no parking on or near the bridge. The Board has been informed that a parking ordinance is being drafted.

The Board approved and signed a building notification for Grinley (Map 16 Lot 157-2B)

The Board reviewed and discussed the following correspondence:

- Approval for Construction – Map 17 Lot 318
- Letter from Consolidated Communications stating that the merger with FairPoint Communications has been completed.
- Flier from Eastern Propane regarding the heating season
- Email from Mitchell Municipal Group and letter from Avitar Associates re: NHEC Property Tax Appeals – NHEC is withdrawing the 2013, 2014 and 2015 appeals.
- Letter from Avitar re: Telephone Pole Assessment Law.
- Governance letter from Plodzick and Sanderson re: FY 2016 Audit
- Letter and results from NH Division of Public Health re: Kilton Pond Huff Beach Testing on 7/20/2017.
- Letter from NHDOT re: FY 2018 Highway Block Grant

Final Comments from Selectmen: None

Jennie motioned to adjourn. Leon second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith, Administrative Assistant