

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, January 2, 2018**

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

Others Present: Art Edmiston, Molly Gould, John Babiarz, Tina Pope, Bonnie Haubrich, Maureen O'Reilly, Catherine Mulholland

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Jennie motioned to accept the minutes of December 19, 2017. Merle seconded. Leon abstained. Motion passed.

Selectmen Announcements: None

Ex-Officio Reports:

Merle informed the Board that the Library Trustees Sub-Committee received a grant from Mascoma Bank that will be used for the Grafton Oral History project.

Appointments:

Leon motioned to go into non-public session with Arthur Edmiston in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(c) regarding property taxes at 6:07pm. Jennie second. Motion passed.

Jennie motioned to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes. Leon second. Motion passed.

Public session resumed at 6:17pm.

Merle announced that no decisions were made.

Ed Grinley came before the Board to discuss a couple of items. The first item was regarding large rocks that were placed near the entrance of the basketball court. Jennie stated that Bob spoke with her last year about vehicles driving through the recreation field from the horse ring to Prescott Hill Rd. The Board will talk with Bob about removing the rocks and placing them elsewhere on the recreation field and have asked Ed to speak with those who drive across the field that they will be held responsible if there is damage (deep tire tracks) to the field. Merle brought up the issue of waivers of liability not being submitted to the town prior to the horse ring being used. Ed stated that he will speak to the person in charge of the horse events regarding the waivers. The second item was regarding non-resident volunteers being allowed on the ambulance and fire departments and/or hiring a non-resident to be on the police department. Ed inquired if there was anything in the charters that would prohibit this practice. The selectmen were not aware of any non-resident volunteers being on the mentioned departments, but that there have been part-time officers that worked for the police department in the past, for example Norman Daignault who lived in Canaan. John Babiarz stated that there are two

volunteers living in Danbury that are part of the Volunteer Ambulance Department. The Board stated that they will look into the charters of the mentioned departments to see if it is allowed for non-residents to be volunteers and/or paid police officers.

New Business:

2018 Default Budget – The Board reviewed and discussed the 2018 Default Budget. There were increases to the executive and highway budgets due to the required retirement for full-time employees. There was a decrease in the insurance due lower costs of coverage. With these adjustments, the 2018 Default Budget is \$1,067,204, an increase of \$14,146 from the 2017 Operating Budget.

2018 Warrant Articles – The Board reviewed and discussed the following money warrant articles:

- \$30,000 to the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund
- \$35,000 to the Highway Capital Reserve Fund
- \$40,000 for paving roads
- \$25,000 for ledge pack
- \$15,000 to the Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund
- \$20,000 to the Roll-Off Truck Capital Reserve Fund
- \$10,000 to the Town Hall Repairs Capital Reserve Fund
- \$9,000 to the New Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund
- \$3,000 to the Storage Vault Capital Reserve Fund
- \$3,000 for Town’s historical records

The Library Trustees submitted a request for \$25,000 to be placed into the Library Capital Reserve Fund. After a brief discussion, Merle motioned to accept the request of \$25,000 to be placed into the Library Capital Reserve Fund. Leon second. Motion passed.

Clara Isely submitted a request to increase the income and asset limits for the Elderly Exemption. Currently the income amount is \$20,000 for single and \$27,000 for married. The requested increase is \$25,000 for single and \$36,000 for married. After a brief discussion, Jennie motioned to raise the single income amount to \$25,000 and married amount to \$36,000. Leon second. Motion passed.

The total amount of recommended money warrant articles from the selectmen is 12.

Catherine Mulholland submitted a warrant article requesting to have the elected Road Agent position become an appointed position and should the article pass, the appointed position would take place in 2019. The Board briefly discussed the warrant article and informed Catherine that the article should be a petition warrant article.

Maureen O’Reilly submitted a warrant article request to change the 2nd meeting (voting day) to the second Tuesday in April. The Board briefly discussed the warrant article and informed Maureen that the article should be a petition warrant article.

Other Business/Correspondence:

The Board reviewed and discussed the action item list. They will be working on the end of year report and dedication for the 2017 Annual Report.

The Board reviewed and discussed the following correspondence:

- Letter from State Senator Bob Giuda
- Letter from Saraha and Travis Coulter re: the stopping of dismantling vehicles on 140 Kinsman Rd.
- Letter from NHDOT re: November 17, 2017 letter on bridge compliance

Final Comments from the Selectmen:

Jennie informed the Board that Alan Gove is interested in purchasing the old Fire Truck. The Board discussed the possibility of having sealed bids or auction of the Fire Truck this year. No decisions were made.

Leon motioned to go into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(e) regarding a legal matter at 7:26pm. Jennie second. Motion passed.

Jennie motioned to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes. Leon second. Motion passed.

Public session resumed at 7:43pm.

Merle announced that the Board will have the attorney draft a letter.

Leon motioned to adjourn. Jennie second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith, Administrative Assistant