

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, May 8, 2018**

Members Present: Jennie Joyce, Chairman, Steve Darrow, Sue Smith (recorder)

Members Absent: Leon Dugan

Others Present: Gretchen Renee, Sandra Griffin, Catherine Mulholland, Tom McGinty, Lynn Paul, Maureen O'Reilly, John Babiarz

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Steve motioned to accept the public and non-public minutes of April 17, 2018. Jennie seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Selectmen Announcements: None

Ex-Officio Reports:

Steve, on behalf of the Planning Board stated that there is no new business to report.

Public Comment:

Sandra Griffin gave the following update on the painting project at the Town Hall:

- 2 coats of paint are on the top wall and the bead board is completed.
- Window frames have been painted
- Hallway to the furnace room is almost completed
- The entry hallway, kitchen cupboards and bathroom are now being worked on.

Appointments:

Gretchen Renee came before the board to discuss the following: town road maintenance, vegetation and plants. First, Gretchen inquired if a flower garden could be planted at the Town Common as well as other locations in Town. The selectmen discussed this with Gretchen, but no decisions were made. Second, Gretchen stated that she would like to see some kind of set schedule made for road side mowing. She stated that it is sporadic and it takes a lot of the vegetation away which helps keep the dust down. Third, Gretchen inquired as to how far over the road side is the mowing going. After a brief discussion, the selectmen stated that the Road Agent should be part of the discussion about the road side mowing. Gretchen will meet with the selectmen and the road agent on May 15th to continue the road side mowing discussion.

New Business:

Grafton Junkyard Ordinance and Enforcement Policy – tabled until May 15th meeting.

Mowing Bids for Town Common – Two bids were received from Brewster Gove. The first bid: Mowing of the Town Common \$1278; the second bid: Repairs/Landscaping of Town Common \$850. After a brief discussion, Steve motioned to accept both bids from Brewster Gove for the Town Common Mowing and Repairs/Landscaping for a grand total of \$2128. Jennie seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Waiver of Liability – The Board reviewed a draft of a waiver of liability that will be signed by Grafton residents who ask for dumping of road side ditching and grubbing to be placed on their properties. After a brief discussion, Steve motioned to accept the waiver of liability for the Highway Department. Jennie seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Lease Agreement re: East Grafton Christian Church – The Board reviewed the current lease agreement of East Grafton Christian Church between the Town of Grafton and the Grafton Historical Society. Upon review of the agreement, the Board realized that the parsonage is part of the lease. The parsonage is currently off limits to the public due to the recommendation from the Town's liability insurance. The Board will discuss the future of the parsonage during the May 15th meeting.

Other Business/Correspondence:

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

- Properties with violations of the junkyard ordinance. Letters will be mailed to property owners that are in violation.

Abatement Application – PSNH d/b/a Eversource (Map UTL Lot 3) – The Board agreed with the assessor's recommendation and denied the abatement.

Building Notification – Sanville (Map 6 Lot 110) – The Board approved and signed the building notification.

Timber Tax Warrant – Barney (Map 1 Lot 697) – The Board signed the Timber Tax Warrant

Religious Exemption – Millbrook Christian Fellowship – The Board agreed with the assessor's recommendation and approved the religious exemption.

The Board reviewed and discussed the following correspondence:

- Email from Jennie regarding 2 wood stoves that were removed from the E. Grafton parsonage. Bruce Sunnerberg was interested to purchasing one of the stoves for \$25 and the other stove could either be placed in the pole barn or taken to the recycle center. After a brief discussion, the Board will inform Bruce that he may purchase the wood stove for \$25 and that the remaining wood stove is to be taken to the recycle center.
- Letter from Gardner, Fulton & Waugh regarding rate increases.
- Letter from NHDRA re: Total Equalized Valuation including utility valuation.

Public Comment:

Sandra Griffin inquired if the parsonage is deconstructed, would the flooring be salvageable to be used in the Town Hall. The selectmen stated that they could not make a decision as they are not sure what condition the parsonage flooring is in.

Sandra also voiced some concerns of upkeep should a garden be planted on the Town Common.

Tom McGinty inquired about the junkyard policy. He stated that it was to be signed a couple of meetings ago. The selectmen stated that they plan to sign it at the next meeting when a full quorum is present. Tom also inquired as to who is to be contacted when a violation is occurring. The selectmen stated that they are the ones who should be contacted.

Final Comments from the Selectmen:

Jennie had list of items that need attention and are as follows:

- Ed is asking for an extra \$100 to clean up the dirt on the town office complex lawn that was left from plowing the parking lot. After a brief discussion, the selectmen approved the extra \$100 for Ed.
- Rocks at the Recreation Field need to be moved for the horse trailers to get through. Jennie stated that this was mentioned last Fall but was not followed up. After a brief discussion, the selectmen will be in contact with Ed or Bob about moving the rocks.
- Advertising for Highway Personnel. Besides Valley News, an ad will be placed at local stores, newspapers in surrounding towns, etc.

Steve commented that he would like some sort of action to take place this summer with regards to the Peaceful Assembly Church building.

Steve motioned to adjourn. Jennie seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith, Administrative Assistant