

(draft only – unapproved by Selectboard)

# Greensboro Selectboard

## Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2011

**PRESENT:** Warren Hill, Anne Stevens, Marsha Gadoury, Peggy Lipscomb, Jefferson Tolman, Josh Karp, Valdine Hall, June Cook, Willie Smith, Nan Perron, Victoria Von Hessert, Kristen Leahy, Ernest Machia, Joanna Von Culin, Nancy Hill, Clive Gray, H.P.D. Chief Joe Laporte, Jenny Stoner, Dan Tanner, Brian Titus, Frances Recchia, Lee Wright, Ashley Lucht, Helm Nottermann

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 7:00 PM

### Minutes

Minutes from 3/9/11 approved as amended.

### Establish Greensboro Bend Fire District

Ernest Machia (manager of the Greensboro Bend Water Cooperative) and Ashley Lucht (a state employee who works on public water supply issues) explained that the creation of a “Fire District” in Greensboro Bend would make the new entity eligible for loans (at -3% interest) which could be used to upgrade the existing system to meet state mandates.

In order for a fire district to be created, the Selectboard must first hold a public hearing and approve the creation of the District; after that, a Selectboard member moderates the first meeting of the new district. Once these initial steps are completed, the town’s involvement ceases and the district becomes completely managed by it’s members.

It was unclear to the Board whether this very meeting was the required initial ‘hearing’; Valdine noted that the hearing was in fact occurring and that it had been properly warned.

The Four Seasons of Early Learning center would very much like to hook in to the Bend’s public water system, as it’s well is not yielding potable water and they believe that drilling a new well is not feasible. Ernie noted that the Bend’s water system has enough capacity to handle the addition of the school, and that the school would pay for an extension of the water line to their building.

Warren was concerned that folks in the Bend might not be aware of the project; Ernie replied that a letter was sent to all current water users warning an informational meeting, and two people showed up. Ernie added that a large percentage of those who live within the proposed district boundary signed the petition calling for the creation of the district.

He added that the overall cost to improve the existing water system – which would benefit all users – is thought to be comparable to the cost of the Four Seasons drilling a new well for themselves (which would also require additional treatment equipment).

Anne made the following motion:

*The Selectboard approves the creation of the Greensboro Fire District #2.*

Marsha seconded the motion, which was carried (A.S., M.G., W.H., P.L. in favor; J.T. abstained)

Ernie told the Board that the new District is aiming to complete it’s improvements prior to this coming winter.

Anne will moderate the District's first meeting; Ernie will be the liaison between the District and the town.

### **Farmer's Market**

*Saturday morning 'informal' market on Willey's Green.* Valdine wondered if this market should continue, now that there is a weekly farmer's market in town. If so, it's rules need to be tightened up, she thought. This question was tabled until next meeting.

*Greensboro Farmer's Market.* Brian Titus (Farmer's Market liaison with the Selectboard) asked the Board for permission to move the market from the Town Hall green to Willey's green on a trial basis; he said the market would be more visible downtown, and likely see more business. The market had wanted to do this move last year but their request was turned down by the Board.

Discussion of parking issues. Brian said that vendors would park away from the Green. He felt that the volume of cars in town wouldn't increase due to the market, as most folks who come to the market are coming into town anyway. He noted that Willey's Store has no problem with a market on the Green.

Valdine was against the move, feeling that the center of town is already congested and dangerous in the summer, and there simply wouldn't be enough safe parking spaces. Warren agreed, adding that if more cars are parked along the roadside, the large trucks and farm equipment that pass through town will cause major safety issues.

When pressed, the police chief admitted that the town hall green is a safer location for the market.

Jefferson was in favor of the move, on a trial basis: give the market a chance – if there are any problems, it would have to move back.

Valdine thought that the vendors would get more business at the Town Hall Green if the market had a consistent day, time, and good signage. Brian replied that the market is now better organized and will be consistent.

Warren made the following motion:

*The Farmer's Market will stay at the Town Hall Green.*

The motion was carried (W.H, M.G., P.L. in favor, A.S., J.T. opposed).

The market will run from June 9 to September 8, on Thursdays from 3-6 PM

### **Police**

- Chief Laporte reported that the H.P.D.'s full time positions are filled; the Dept. is still looking to fill a few part-time positions.
- The Police Advisory Committee met, with Greensboro representatives Marsha Gadoury and Earl Casper.
- Chief Laporte reviewed 'Stat Trax' with the Board - a year by year comparison of H.P.D. statistics. Laporte said he plans to review these stats with the Board every six months.

### **Greensboro Historical Society – Perrin Rd.**

Jenny Stoner of the G.H.S. presented a petition with 35 signatures to the Board, asking that the Selectboard designate the old Perrin Rd. as a Class IV public road. The G.H.S. would like to be

able to use the portion of the road adjacent to their building, but the R.O.W. status of the road is currently in dispute and they are unable to use the road.

Jenny observed that this designation by the town won't step on anyone rights, and that the Town would have no maintenance obligations.

Warren said that he was concerned that this could lead the town into a lawsuit.

The petition requires the Selectboard to hold a public inspection and hearing only. After that, it is up to the Board whether or not to proceed with the petitioners' request.

Peggy made the following motion:

*The public inspection of the old Perrin Rd. will take place Saturday, May 21 at 1 PM.*

*The public hearing to discuss the petitioners' request will be held on Wednesday, May 25 at 7 PM.*

The motion was carried (A.S., P.L., M.G., J.T. in favor; W.H. abstained). Discussion weather to ask Tim Nisbet to moderate the public hearing. Clive Gray will be the G.H.S. liaison with the Town for this matter.

### **Greensboro Fire Dept – New Fire Station**

Valdine told the Board that the Town can't obtain a bond this year even if approved by voters, as a town audit must be complete before the bonding deadline; this won't be possible. One option could be to obtain a bridge loan for this year and bond next year.

Discussion of bonding & auditing scheduling. The town must be audited within the calendar year of the bond's issuance – which would be 2012 at this point. However, since a town audit needs to be completed this year (as approved at the 2011 town meeting), the Board thought that the initial, lengthy audit should be completed as soon as possible this year, followed by a smaller, follow-up audit next year. One firm could be hired, and scheduled now, to perform both audits. Valdine has been creating a list of auditing firms that will be sent R.F.P.s for the town audits.

It was unclear whether the town needs an audit prior to applying for a bridge loan, or whether the town can proceed with a bond vote prior to the completion of an audit.

Discussion of forming a 'New Fire Station Construction Committee', made up of members of the fire dept., a Selectboard member, and other interested members of the community. This committee would be charged with working out the design of the new fire station, and then present it to the community for discussion. It was thought that this would be a more effective process than having the G.F.D. present a design to the public that no one else has seen or worked on. The Board took no action to create such a committee.

Jefferson noted that the Selectboard and town clerk need to sit down with members of the G.F.D and talk through the project timeline, so everyone involved will be on the same page. Peggy will talk to Jr. Salls about this.

Discussion of having the first informational meeting about the new fire station this summer.

At this point, it looks like the earliest construction start date would be mid 2012.

### **Roads**

- *Road & Bridge Standards.* The Board approved and signed the new Road & Bridge Standards.
- *Financial Plan for Town Highways.* The Board approved and signed the Annual Financial Plan for Town Highways.

- **Crushing:** McCulloughs has offered to crush two years worth of gravel and not bill the town for the second year's allotment until the next fiscal year. No decision was made by the Board.
- **Paving.** A quote has been received from Pike; Dan will ask Gray's for an estimate.
- **New Town Truck.** Discussion about whether the truck should be a six or ten wheeler. Jefferson noted that the H.E.R.F. specs a six wheeler: a ten wheeler will throw the numbers off considerably.  
Sealed bids will be requested from area Freightliner, International, and Mack dealers; bids will be for six and ten wheeler cab & chassis; with and without a trade in. Bids must be received by May 9; Peggy will draft the R.F.P.
- **Snow Machine / A.T.V. use in public R.O.W.s.** Tabled until next month.

### **Other Business**

- The Board unanimously approved Kristen Leahy to serve as the town representative at the N.V.D.A.'s monthly meeting.
- The Board unanimously appointed Martha Rose as Deputy Health Officer.
- The Board unanimously appointed Marsha Gadoury as Town Service Officer.
- Anne and Peggy will work together to draft a letter to landowners re: driveway plowing.
- Stannard hasn't gotten back to the town about it's use of the G.F.D. for fire fighting services. Discussion of how to bill Stannard for this service; Warren suggested that having the fire dept. come up with an average cost per fire would give the Board a good starting point; he felt that this cost should not include infrastructure costs. The discussion was tabled at this point.
- The Board unanimously approved Warren Hill to sign road order sheets, with Marsha Gadoury as back up.
- The Board unanimously approved Marsha Gadoury to sign administration order sheets, with Peggy Lipscomb as back up.
- The Board unanimously gave Peggy Lipscomb authority to communicate with the town's attorney on legal issues, with Valdine Hall as back up.

### **Zoning Administrator (Kristen Leahy)**

- **Zoning Fee Schedule.** Z.A. Kristen Leahy presented a Zoning Fee Schedule to the Board for their approval. This included a 'zoning violation fee' of \$25 per day; Kristen explained that statute allows towns to set this fee between \$25 and \$100. After discussion, Peggy made the following motion:

*The Board approves the Zoning Fee Schedule minus the violation fee.*

The motion was carried unanimously (Note: Anne Stevens no longer present).

- **Zoning Enforcement Policy.** Kristen presented a Zoning Enforcement Policy to the Board for their approval. After discussion, the Board decided to table this until next meeting.

### **Executive Session #1**

Peggy made the following motion:

*The Board will enter executive session at 10:50 PM to discuss a potential civil action*

*where premature general public knowledge would place the Town or a person involved at a disadvantage. Valdine Hall and Kristen Leahy are invited to be present.*

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 11:05 PM, and took no action.

**Executive Session #2**

Peggy made the following motion:

*The Board will enter executive session at 11:05 PM to discuss a personnel matter, with Valdine Hall present.*

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 11:25 PM; Jefferson made the following motion:

*The Selectboard will follow the advice of the town's attorney, invoking client/attorney privilege as instructed.*

The motion was carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNED: 11:30 PM**

*Respectfully submitted* , Josh Karp, Selectboard clerk