

(draft only – unapproved by Selectboard)

Greensboro Selectboard

Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2011

PRESENT: Warren Hill, Anne Stevens, Marsha Gadoury, Peggy Lipscomb, Jefferson Tolman, Josh Karp, Valdine Hall, Aaron Cochrane, June Cook, Kristen Leahy, Erwin Salls, Jr.

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:05 PM

Minutes

Minutes from May 11, 2011 approved as amended; minutes from May 18, 2011 approved.

Public Concerns

Lou Lertola. Lou told the Board that for last three or four years, he's been the self-appointed spokesman for disabled veterans in Vermont. He asked that the disabled veterans' property tax exemption be increased from \$20k to \$40k (veterans' grand list values would be reduced by that amount). In Orleans county, Greensboro and Orleans are the only towns where the exemption is less than \$40k. Lou said that currently, three veterans in Greensboro would qualify for the exemption (a veteran must be at least 50% disabled to qualify).

Lou said he was just asking for residents have the opportunity to vote on this increase. The Board discussed if a petition would be required, or whether an article in the town meeting warning would suffice; the Board thought a petition would not be necessary. Lou will send town a sample petition, as well as a sample article for the town meeting warning.

Police

- The Selectboard reviewed the police report from April, 2011.
- Sgt. Aaron Cochrane told the Board that the H.P.D.'s radar cart will be used around town in the near future; discussion of the radar cart and it's potential uses. The cart is supposed to be able to log data, but currently does not; this will hopefully be fixed soon which will make the cart even more useful (could be used to perform a speed study in areas of concern, etc.).

Roads

- *New Town Truck.* A ten-wheeler was ruled out due to cost. Warren said he just learned that a truck with New York state specs is available, which appears to be cheaper than the truck bids received by the town. The NY state specs are slightly different than the town's, but the truck would likely be acceptable. All bids would have to be rejected in order to consider this truck.

After discussion, Jefferson made the following motion:

The Board will reject all town truck bids.

Warren seconded the motion, which was carried (J.T., W.H., M.G., P.L. in favor; A.S. opposed). Warren noted that he is not specifically recommending the NY spec. truck, but that the only way to look into it further is to reject all bids.

Warren suggested that the town should order it's new truck this week, otherwise it might not arrive in time for early winter use (except the NY spec. truck, which would be available much sooner).

Peggy made the following motion:

Warren will look into the NY spec. truck, and possibly discuss prices further with the companies that submitted truck bids to the town. The Board will hold an emergency meeting Thursday 6/9 to decide which truck to purchase.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The emergency meeting will be held Thursday June 9 at 8 PM, at the town hall.

Warren made the following motion:

The town will use Tenco for truck body and plow equipment.

The motion was carried (W.H., J.T., P.L., M.G. in favor; A.S. not present for vote).

- *Culvert Policy.* Peggy wondered: if a driveway culvert is blocked, who's responsibility is it to clean it out – the landowner's, or the town's?
Jefferson and Anne both have the understanding that it is the town's responsibility to clean out, and repair storm damage to, culverts on private drives that were installed to town specs. The town's current culvert policy does not specify this. Discussion; no decision was made by the Board.
- *Stone wall damage at York's.* According to Ed York, eight feet of his stone wall was damaged by the town bucket loader when the road crew was cleaning up a tree that fell in the area. After discussion, it was decided that Peggy will write a letter to Ed York stating that the stone wall is in the town R.O.W. and as such, the town is not liable for damages.
Peggy thought perhaps the road crew should write up an incident report when things like this happen. Discussion: in exactly what kind of situation would such a report have to be written up? No decision was made by the Board.

New Fire Station

- *Informational Meeting.* Jr. Salls proposed two informational meetings about the new fire station project: one in the summer, one in the fall. The G.F.D. would organize and run the meetings.
The Board gave Jr. approval to organize and hold the meetings.
- *Town meeting survey.* Jr. went through the town meeting survey results (on the new fire station): 51 total responses; 30 yes; 20 no; 1 unsure. He said that most of the 'no' votes were due to the building's size. Discussion.
- *New Fire Station – water supply.* Discussion of drilling a well on-site vs. extending the town water line up to the new building. Jr. reported that according to John Mackin, there may be federal grant money available for extending the town water line up to the new fire station. Jr. will continue looking into this.

Kristen Leahy (Zoning Administrator)

- *Enforcement policy.* The Board unanimously approved the Zoning Enforcement Policy as presented by zoning administrator Kristen Leahy.
- *Zoning Fees.*
 - The Board unanimously approved a ‘Zoning Violation Fee’ of \$25/day.
 - The Board unanimously approved an ‘Extension of Permit Fee’ of \$25.
 - The Board unanimously approved the doubling of fees if a project was started prior to receiving town approval.

Other Business

- *Clarence Judkins – Barking Dogs.* Jefferson reported the dogs are getting loud again. No action was taken by the Board.
- *Stannard / Greensboro Fire Protection Services Contract.* The Stannard Selectboard is planning to discuss this at their next meeting. Discussion. Warren thought the simplest approach would be for the two towns to agree upon Stannard’s share (%) of the total G.F.D. budget; that way, as the budget changes each year it would be easy to calculate Stannard’s share.
- The Board signed a tax anticipation note.
- The Board reviewed the F.Y. 2011 budget, Y.T.D.
- *Curb cut request (Jon Ramsay):* discussed and approved by the Board.
- The Board unanimously delegated Marsha to be the town representative at the tax sale.
- Warren told the Board that he has decided to recuse himself from the Perrin Rd. proceedings, from this date forward.

ADJOURNED: 9:55 PM

Respectfully submitted , Josh Karp, Selectboard clerk