

Greensboro Selectboard

Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2011

PRESENT: Warren Hill, Anne Stevens, Marsha Gadoury, Peggy Lipscomb, Jefferson Tolman, Josh Karp, Erwin Salls, Jr., Valdine Hall, Alan Wilson, Tim Short, Deborah Holmes, Angel Drown, David Drown, Nancy Riege, Jim Cook, Dan Tanner

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

Minutes

Minutes from 12/16/10, 12/28/10, 1/3/11, 1/7/11 approved; 1/12/11 approved with changes.

Public Concerns

Jim Cook, Tim Short, Alan Wilson, Deborah Holmes, Nancy Riege – Drainage Concerns. Jim told the Board that years ago, the field between his house and Tim Short's was a dry, usable hayfield; it is now more or less a bog. Tim Short said that his back yard (adjacent to Jim's field) is continually wet. Alan Wilson thinks that runoff from roads and properties in that area of town used to be captured in a storm drain system, which ran downtown and into Greensboro Brook. At some point he thinks, possibly due to increases in road height, the upper series of storm drains were disconnected and replaced by culverts, which diverted runoff into Jim's field. The field gradually got wetter and wetter.

Alan believes the town is responsible for this problem.

Jefferson noted that in his experience, that field was wet thirty years ago.

Tim said that the village water system is going to be replaced this year, which will mean digging up the road. He suggested that this could be the perfect time to reconnect the old storm drains in the hopes that this will improve their water problems. Tim said he's discussed this with John Mackin (of the Fire District) and VTrans district engineer Dale Perron.

The Selectboard authorized the formation of a committee to look into this issue; Tim Short will represent residents and Marsha will represent the Selectboard. Members of the Committee will contact John Mackin.

David Drown noted that the Breezy Ave. storm drains need major improvements and suggested that they be looked at as part of this project.

Jefferson told this group of residents, who all own property near downtown Greensboro, that the owners of the Miller's Thumb would like to put in a coffee shop and are looking for land on which to site a mound system.

Greensboro Fire Dept. - New Fire Station Update

Although the Selectboard approved putting the question of borrowing funds for a new fire station on this year's town meeting warning, Valdine told the Board that 1) this approval was done improperly, and 2) there was not enough time to work out the myriad financial details before the warning had to be mailed out; therefore, the question was not included on the warning.

After talking to local banks, she determined that a Bond will likely be cheaper than a conventional loan. She also discussed Bonding with V.L.C.T., who said that Bond votes have very specific rules, and recommended an attorney in Montpelier experienced with Bonding.

It was brought up that the voters haven't approved the existing fire station design; shouldn't a specific design be approved by the voters prior to financing being worked out? There is a good possibility that the voters will ask for a smaller, cheaper building. Jr. Salls said that the fire department made the new building as small as possible. Warren felt that there should be a backup plan in case the current design is voted down.

Discussion continued:

- Peggy noted that Glover and Putney recently built fire stations, and that both towns Bonded.
- Valdine will talk to banks about rolling a loan into a Bond after one year.
- In terms of federal funding, Jr. Salls noted that if any federal money is used, the project falls under the Davis Bacon Act (prevailing union wages must be paid to all workers).
- Jr. told the Board that a building permit is needed from the state, and a zoning permit is needed from the town. Josh Karp noted that the town will require a conditional use permit, which will require a hearing and thus will take some time to obtain.
- At town meeting, the G.F.D. will present their design for a new fire station; the Board decided there would be no questions from the floor, but that written comments would be accepted. Anne will ask moderator Tim Nesbit about procedural issues for the presentation.
- Jr. Salls will ask the G.F.D.'s architect about her experience with Bonding.
- Hardwick Electric Dept. went through the Bonding process; Warren will see what he can learn from the H.E.D.'s Bonding experience, and will report back to Valdine.
- After more is known, Valdine will draft a timeline for the fire station project, which will include permitting, voter approval of a Bond, and voter approval of the fire station design itself.

Roads

1. Road crew member Ed Keene has received an award from the VT Local Roads Management Academy. Ed recently graduated from the Academy after completing a year-long course. Anne Stevens noted that the town appreciates Ed for his years of service.
2. Acting Road Supervisor Dan Tanner told the Board that new 'temporary road crew member' Donald Beers, Jr. is working out well.
3. *Driving sign posts – discussion.* Is there a safer method than using the loader? David Drown said that he looked around and it seems that everyone uses loaders and/or excavators. Dan commented that even state workers do this.

Discussion of purchasing a post pounder (approx. \$2k), and the possibility of sharing it with neighboring towns. The Board decided to see if a pounder could be obtained through the PACIF grant program, and go from there. Chainsaw chaps will also be requested through the PACIF grant.

4. The Board approved the purchase of a wheel dolly for the road crew (makes moving heavy truck wheels safer & easier).
5. Dan and Warren looked at the town garage's ancient oil furnace. Warren told the Board that replacing the furnace with a new, more efficient model should be considered.

The Board authorized Dan to obtain quotes for the purchase and installation of a new furnace; the Board recommended that he ask a few local installers, as well as a larger outfit (i.e. Fred's).

6. *New town truck – specs and bids.* No update; tabled.

Executive Session

Warren moved that the Board enter executive session at 7:50 PM to discuss personnel issues, with Valdine Hall, Angel Drown, and David Drown also present. Anne seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 8:40 PM, and took no action.

Other Business & Projects in Progress

- *Liquor/Tobacco Licenses.* Jefferson made the following motion:

The Board approves a liquor and tobacco license for Willey's Store, and a liquor license for the Hill Farmstead Brewery.

Anne seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNED: 9:45 PM

Respectfully submitted , Josh Karp, Selectboard clerk

AMENDED 3/12/11 J.K.