

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, January 2, 2024**

Members Present: Leif Hogue, Chair, Jennie Joyce, Steve Darrow, Sara Hogue (Recorder)

Others Present: Dianne Burrington, Deb Clough, Donna Homen, Gerald Whritenour, Gretchen Renee, Carol Colburn, Karen Johnson, Catherine Mulholland, Maureen O'Reilly

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

Acceptance of Minutes

Leif motioned to accept the December 19, 2023, public minutes. Steve seconded. Motion passed.

Ex-Officio Reports

Steve announced that the Budget committee will meet on January 12th at 7 pm for the Budget Hearing.

Appointments

- Deb Clough, Library Grant Revisited - 6:00 pm - Deb brought the Grant Application Binder for the Selectmen to see. FOGL voted not to allow copies to be made and they will keep the binder at the library. Steve commented that he is disappointed because it shows that FOGL is hiding it, and won't even let the board make a copy. It also shows that they do not want to cooperate. Deb commented that they had a meeting with a municipal lawyer and will have a petition warrant article. Feels that they are being discriminated against and do not understand why the board will not support them. Jennie asked if Grafton is not in the first round for the grant, what makes them think they will be in the second round. Deb replied that the grant wasn't ready for the first round. Steve commented that in 2020 FOGL was given details by the town council for steps that needed to be taken but FOGL ridiculed it and has not taken any of those steps.
- Gretchen Renee – Town Hall Sill Work – 6:10 pm – Gretchen received two bids for the Town Hall Work. One from Adam Cushing and the other from JR Graton. After some discussion, Leif motioned to go with JR Graton. Jennie seconded. Steve agreed. Motion passed.

Other Business

- Land Use Change Tax - Follansbee/Edwards – the Selectmen signed
- Warrant Articles – revisited - CRF agents to expend -
 - Leif has decided not to submit a Warrant article for the discontinuance of Farnham Rd.
 - To see if the town will vote to donate the Vacant lot at 2 Library Road (Map 16d lot 274) also known as the Grey Lot to The Friends of Grafton Library (FOGL) for a Library/Community center whereas the town shall not be responsible for any financial support as in Support/upkeep/maintenance or operating costs of said property/Building. Steve motioned to get legal counsel. Jennie seconded. Motion passed.
 - To see if the town will vote that if the previous article fails, then the property at 2 Library Rd will go back to the Chester Gray Trust. Steve motioned to send it to legal counsel, and Leif seconded. Motion passed.

- Jennie talked about the East Grafton Parsonage and Andrew's petition - Andrew will procure land from the abutter and then do a survey and petition to have the boundary lines changed so that the parsonage will end up on his property.
- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the previously established Historical Records Restoration Capital Reserve Fund. Steve motioned to accept. Jennie seconded. Leif agreed. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the previously established Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund. Steve motioned to accept. Jennie seconded. Leif agreed. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be placed in the previously established Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund. Steve motioned to accept. Jennie seconded. Leif agreed. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the previously established Bridge Capital Reserve Fund, this sum to come from the unreserved fund balance. No amount is to be raised from additional taxation. Steve motioned to accept. Jennie seconded. Leif agreed. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) for the purpose of paving town roads. Steve motioned to accept. Jennie seconded. Leif agreed. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the previously established Recycling Capital Reserve Fund. Steve motioned to accept. Jennie seconded. Leif agreed. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be placed in the previously established Town Hall Repairs Capital Reserve Fund. Steve motioned to accept. Jennie seconded. Leif agreed. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be placed in the previously established Property Tax Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. Steve motioned to accept. Jennie seconded. Leif agreed. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the previously established Veterans Park Capital Reserve Fund. Steve motioned to accept. Jennie seconded. Leif agreed. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to name the Selectmen as agents to expend the Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund in order to purchase, repair, and maintain equipment. Steve motioned to accept. Leif seconded. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to name the Selectmen as agents to expend the Bridge Fund Capital Reserve Fund in order to Repair and replace bridges. Steve motioned to accept. Leif seconded. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to name the Selectmen as agents to expend the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund in order to Purchase Ambulances. Steve motioned to accept. Leif seconded. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to name the Selectmen as agents to expend the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund in order to purchase police cruisers. Steve motioned to accept. Leif seconded. Motion passed.
- To see if the Town will vote to name the Selectmen as agents to expend the Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund in order to purchase fire apparatus. Steve motioned to accept. Leif seconded. Motion passed.

- To see if the Town will vote to name the Selectmen as agents to expend the Roll-Off Truck Capital Reserve Fund in order to replace truck for recycle center. Steve motioned to accept. Leif seconded. Motion passed.

Correspondence

Avitar - Sale ratio for DRA. Selectmen signed.

Requests to roll over unused vacation time - Leif motion to approve. Jennie seconded. Steve approved.

Public Comment

Deb Clough announced that the trustees want to hold public meeting regarding plan, and will be picking a date this week.

Jake Vogel inquired if the Capital Improvement Plan had been approved at the last meeting. Leif answered it was.

Gretchen Renee inquired about road work being done. Leif let her know the Road crew was fixing roads from the last rain we had.

Jake inquired if the library lot wasn't gifted, would the town be able to put it up for auction as a third option? Leif said it was possible

Leif motioned to adjourn. Steve seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Hogue, Administrative Assistant