

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, March 5, 2024**

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

Others Present: Pete Giconda, Ryan Huff, Lee Way Pasek, Jake Vogel

The Meeting was called to order at 6 pm

Acceptance of Minutes

Leif motioned to accept the February 20, 2024, public minutes. Steve seconded. Motion passed.

Ex-Officio Reports

Steve reported that the Planning Board Met. Registry of Deeds sent back the filing for the Land merger, they couldn't read the name of the owner so the Board corrected it and sent it back in.

Steve added Fire Chief Roger Prentice had someone from Autotronics come over to talk about a new tanker. Roger gave him a wish list and is planning to get a grant with Heather Hunter's help.

New Business

Right to Know Ombudsman Request - Police Chief Briggs, Town Clerk, Bonnie Haubrich, and the Selectboard received a request from the Right To Know Ombudsman regarding a complaint that Chief Briggs denied a request for Body Cam footage. After some discussion, Jennie motioned to have the Town Lawyer answer the request. Leif seconded. Motion passed.

Johnson Lane Turnaround - The highway is no longer plowing up to the house on 77 Johnson Lane, they are turning around at the log landing. After reviewing the survey, the Selectboard agreed that they needed to come up with a solution. This has been added to the Action Items list.

Other Business

Action Items

- Museum Drainage - Projected to start May 1, 2024 and finish July 1, 2024
- Pole Barn - Projected to start May 1, 2024 and finish in 2025
- Parsonage - On hold. Need to wait for the results of Article #22
- Maintenance Man - started February 20, 2024. Sara has started to update the Job description and plans to finish by March 19, 2024.
- Avitar Property Assessment - Started March 5, 2024 Need to start looking at contracts and exploring other options. Plan to finish by June 1, 2025.
- Johnson Lane Turnaround - Started March 5, 2024. Need to come up with a solution for a turnaround at the end of Johnson Lane. Plan to finish by September 1, 2024.

Building Notification - Desmarais - Map11 Lot 134, - Leif motioned to approve. Steve seconded. Jennie agreed. Motion Passed.

Timber Tax Warrant - Exciglow, LLC M5L633,803,805 & M10L630,806 - signed

Wild Meadow Culvert FEMA Grant - Match amount is \$52,884.80. The Board does not have access to the money to meet the match. Leif motioned to notify Chris that we couldn't commit. Steve Seconded. Motion passed.

Correspondence

Email from Gunstock - Veterans' free ski day on March 18, 2024, for Veterans

Public Comment

Pete Gicona commented that Kilton Pond Rd is a mess. Over the years sand and clay were used, so the stone the crew is now putting down is sinking right in. He wondered if the road could come down 16-18 inches to get all the junk out and lay some better stuff down. Steve will take a ride by to check it out.

Pete inquired if residents pay the same taxes based on whether they live on town or state rd. Steve stated that they are rated for each category, but not sure how big the difference is. State roads have a higher rating than town roads.

Jake commented that in his opinion it would be beneficial for the town for elected and not elected departments to release information when requested.

Ryan Huff had questions about the Parsonage Warrant Article and why the Board wouldn't want to offload it. Leif stated that the well and septic are on the parsonage side. Steve commented that they are opposed because the Board is going to incur legal fees. The Board needs to wait to see what happens at the ballot before they can make any suggestions on what to do with the building. If the article passes the ballot, Steve will be surprised if it is approved by the DRA.

Ryan also commented that if the Town has properties that are not used, we should get them off the books.

Leif thanked Jennie for coming back for the year. This was her last meeting and she is not running again.

Leif motioned to adjourn. Jennie seconded. Steve agreed. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Sara Hogue, Administrative Assistant