

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, August 17, 2021**

Members Present: Cindy Kudlik, Chairman, Jennie Joyce, Tom McGinty, Sue Smith (recorder)

Others Present: Denise Smith, Paul Vogt, Rich Angel, Gary Whitney, Jean Mitchell, Senator Bob Guida, Catherine Mulholland, Joshua Adjutant, Anson Smith

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Jennie motioned to accept the non-public minutes and public minutes of August 3, 2021 as amended. Tom second. Motion passed.

Ex-Officio Reports:

Tom reported the following from the Fire Department – Russell Poitras issued the burn permit for the bon fire that took place on July 10th. People were present at that site overseeing the burn pile, including the morning after. A fire pump was recently repaired at a cost of over \$7,000. The Fire Department budget is almost spent for the year. The trucks are ready for inspections, which will take place within the next month. Quotes for the bay doors, air filtration system and floor will be forthcoming.

Jennie informed the selectmen that the Ladies Auxiliary purchased a hose washer for the Fire Department.

Cindy reported the following from the Ambulance Department – The department has hit its 100th run this month; an average year is around 120 runs. Grafton Ambulance is doing more mutual aid for Canaan than usual. Cindy stated that she is waiting for numbers from Kathy and John for re-boxing the ambulance. This is a project that the ARPA funds could be used for.

Cindy reminded the Board that they received an email from the Health Officer regarding the junkyard violation on Slab City Road. The Health Officer was waiting for a response from the selectmen regarding the extension he gave the property owner to clean up the property. After a brief discussion, the selectmen agreed with the Health Officer to grant the extension to September 6, 2021 to have the property cleaned up.

Public Comment:

Rich Angel commented that he would like to see the previously mentioned junkyard issue resolved in a good way and not by the courts. The selectmen agreed with Rich.

Appointments:

Senator Bob Guida met with the selectmen to give a legislative update. He gave a brief overview of what took place during the last session. Senator Guida also shared that he is working on two issues that he felt were important: voter integrity and a special session regarding mask mandates in schools.

Joshua Adjutant, State Representative met with the selectmen and shared his plans for the next legislative session: housing, pro-union legislation and support for a constitutional amendment for ballot measures.

New Business:

MS-535 Financial Report of the Budget for Year Ending 2020 - The selectmen reviewed and signed the report.

Road Agent Search – Finalize Job Description – The selectmen reviewed, discussed and finalized the road agent job description. The posting of the road agent position will take place within the next few weeks.

Other Business/Correspondence:

Intents to Cut – Twombly (Map 13 Lot 774) and Kovacs (Map 7 Lot 721) both were approved and signed by the selectmen

The selectmen reviewed and discussed the following correspondence:

- Privy Permit Approval – Map 15C Lot 1096
- Approval for Construction – Map 6 Lot 642-2
- Letter from HealthTrust regarding FY2021 Return of Surplus
- Post Card from Drummond Woodsum and Grafton County Broadband Committee regarding informational meetings on September 7th, 8th, and 9th.

Public Comment:

Rich Angel commented that the Health Officer visited the property where he is staying due to a complaint of septic smells. The conclusion of the visit was that there were no findings of any septic issues on the property. Rich stated that the owner of the property did not appreciate the false accusation but thanked the Health Officer for handling the complaint professionally.

Paul Vogt voiced his concerns about the police department and would like to see the police chief come to a future selectmen meeting to discuss his concerns. Cindy stated that she will speak with the Police Chief and will invite him to the next meeting.

Final Comments from the Selectmen:

Cindy informed the board that the ARPA application was submitted.

The selectmen will be doing the budgets differently this year. A budget workshop is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 14th from 1pm to 4:30pm to review all the budget requests for 2022.

Cindy was contacted by the Budget Committee chairman asking if the selectmen would be willing to pay for the budget workshop coming up in September as a budget committee member would like to attend. After a brief discussion, Tom motioned to pay for the workshop. Jennie second. Cindy agreed. Motion passed.

Jennie inquired if we found out from the insurance company about the CDL requirement for Fire Department Volunteers. Sue stated that Fire Departments are exempt from the CDL requirement.

Jennie commented that she doesn't see a lot of construction work going on at the Meeting House. Tom mentioned that he noticed a few times that people were working on the building.

The oil tank has been replaced in the basement of the Town Office. Inov8v informed the Town that the heating oil for the 2021/2022 heating season is \$2.69. The selectmen made the decision to continue with Inov8v for the heating season.

Jennie motioned to adjourn. Tom second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith, Administrative Assistant