

**Town of Grafton  
Board of Selectmen  
Tuesday, May 17, 2022**

**Members Present:** Tom McGinty, Chairman, Cindy Kudlik, Leif Hogue, Sue smith (recorder)

**Others Present:** Gary Whitney, Kathy Lund, Leeway Pasek, Ryan Huff, Maureen O'Reilly, Deb Clough, Heather Hunter

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

Cindy motioned to approve the minutes of May 3, 2022 and the non-public minutes of May 10, 2022. Leif second. Motion passed.

**Ex-Officio Reports:**

Cindy reported the following from the Cemetery Trustees – The May meeting was held at Pine Grove Cemetery. The Trustees started a plan to straighten the east side of the cemetery. Three volunteers helped with the May 5<sup>th</sup> stone cleaning. The next stone cleaning will be May 21<sup>st</sup>, 10am at the Grafton Center Cemetery.

Tom reported the following from the Fire Department and Highway Department:

- Fire Department – Tom did not attend the meeting but was informed that the inverter was replaced on Engine #2. The ISO re-certification will take place on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 5pm at the Fire Station.
- Highway Department – The highway crew is cleaning up from the recent storm. The pump is down on the calcium chloride truck and the oil cooler on the Loader needs to be repaired. The selectmen will be meeting with the Road Agent to review the Highway budget and the road side mower issue.

**Public Comment:**

Maureen O'Reilly inquired what the non-public meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup> was about. Cindy commented that the meeting was for a tax payment agreement.

Deb Clough inquired if FoGL could use the folding chairs from the Town Hall for the Town Wide Yard Sale. The chairs would be returned to the Town Hall the same day. Leif stated that he did not have a problem with FoGL using the chairs. Both Tom and Cindy concurred with Leif. Deb also mentioned that the field will be cleaned up by the Wednesday after the yard sale. Cindy stated that she would like all unsightly items to be removed from the field after the yard sale. Deb commented that she will make sure this happens.

Deb, asked for clarification regarding the monies for the culvert project being used from the Bridge CRF. The culvert is deemed a bridge due to its size. This project has been ongoing since 2019 as a hazard mitigation project and involves engineering studies, DES permits, etc. The project is getting close to be put out to bid.

## **Appointments:**

Kathy Lund, Captain and Heather Hunter, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, met with the selectmen to review and discuss proposals for a new ambulance. The following four proposals were presented to the selectmen:

1. Braun - \$263,059 (includes \$7,500 trade in value)
2. Horton - \$267,019 (estimate and includes \$5,000 trade in value)
3. Osage - \$257,364
4. Wheeled Coach - \$249,704 (not final price but does include \$5,000 trade in value)

All of the above ambulances are Type III, which is the same as Grafton's current ambulance.

Over the last couple of months representatives from Braun, Horton and Osage brought their ambulances to Grafton for the Grafton Volunteer Ambulance Department to view. Cindy stated that she viewed all three ambulances and was most impressed with Braun.

Kathy mentioned that there is \$162,460 in the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund to help purchase a new ambulance. Heather stated that there is a possibility to apply for a USDA Rural Grant to help with the costs.

After further discussion and review of the proposals, Leif motioned to accept the Braun proposal. Tom second. Cindy agreed. Motion passed.

The selectmen would like to meet with Kyle Daigle, representative for the Braun Ambulance, during their next meeting to discuss financing options and to answer any questions they may have. Heather will be in contact with Kyle and will let the selectmen office know if he is able to attend the meeting.

## **New Business:**

Pole Barn – The selectmen discussed the condition of the interior of the Pole Barn. Tom suggested that all non-municipal items be removed and to have each town department clean up their perspective areas. The selectmen discussed a time-frame to have the Pole Barn cleaned out. Leif motioned to have the Pole Barn cleaned out by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Cindy second. Tom agreed. Motion passed.

Tax Deeding for 2019 Tax Levy - The selectmen reviewed and discussed 14 properties that are up for tax deed for the 2019 tax levy. Prior to today's meeting, six (6) of the fourteen properties were able to pay the 2019 tax levy. During a non-public session, the selectmen made one (1) tax payment agreement and waived that property from being tax deeded. Two (2) more properties were waived from being tax deeded for various reasons. After further review Cindy motioned to instruct the tax collector to tax deed the remaining five (5) properties. Tom second. Leif agreed. Motion passed.

Internet at the Town Shed – tabled and will be discussed with the Road Agent at a later date.

## **Other Business/Correspondence:**

TAN – Revisited – The selectmen briefly reviewed correspondence from Mascoma Savings Bank. The correspondence will be forwarded to the Town Atty for his review. The attorney will be instructed to communicate with Mascoma Savings Bank to discuss the TAN.

Building Notification Violation Letter – revisited – A few minor revisions were made to the letter. After a brief discussion, Tom motioned to remove the Sugarbush Lane property from the list of violators. Cindy second. Leif agreed. Motion passed.

Current Use Applications – Lakotah Trust (Map 21 Lot 151) – Cindy motioned to approve the application per the assessors recommendation. Leif second. Tom agreed. Motion passed. Carpio (Map 14 Lot 824-1) – Cindy motioned to approve the application per the assessors recommendation. Leif second. Tom agreed. Motion passed.

Intent to Cut – McGonagle (Map 2 Lot 920; Map 3 Lots 488 & 551) approved and signed.

Intent to Excavate – Green Oak Realty (Map 12 Lot 938) approved and signed.

The selectmen reviewed and discussed the following correspondence:

- Approvals for Operation – Map 7 Lot 39 and Map 6R Lot 195
- Approval for Construction – Map 17 Lot 782
- Letter from WISE thanking the Town for the \$300 allocation.
- Grafton County Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget
- Audit findings from Plodzik & Sanderson

**Public Comment:**

Ryan Huff, referring to the discussion about a new ambulance, inquired about the expense of having a special town meeting. Cindy stated that the costs would be advertising of the meeting, stipends for the ballot clerks, supervisors of the checklist and moderator, and materials for the meeting.

Ryan also inquired as to what will happen to unclaimed items in the Pole Barn. The selectmen stated that those items would be taken to the recycle center.

Maureen O'Reilly commented that if the special town meeting is about a single issue, the meeting will be simple. Should the town need to raise and appropriate monies, permission will be needed from the State.

**Final Comments from Selectmen:**

Cindy commented that the Halford property issue is still outstanding. After a brief discussion, Tom will be in contact with the Town Attorney for an update on this issue.

Cindy reminded the Board that the warrant for unpaid dog licenses is coming up. She suggested that the Board sit down with Russell to discuss his plans should the warrant be signed.

Leif motioned to adjourn. Cindy second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith, Administrative Assistant