**Town of Grafton**

**Board of Selectmen**

**Tuesday, November 15, 2022**

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

**Others Present:** Paul Vogt, Denise Smith, LeeWhay Pasek, Ryan Huff, Jaron Downes, Maureen O’Reilly, Ed Grinley, Jake Vogel, Glenn Rodgers, Heather Hunter

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Leif motioned to approve November 1, 2022 and November 10, 2022 Minutes. Cindy seconded, motion passed.

**Ex-Officio Reports:** Tom reported that the third bay door on the fire station was damaged when a fire Department volunteer was pulling the tanker out to respond to a call. It has been reported to the insurance company and the Police Chief is working on an accident report.

**Documents Notarized:**

Deed with No Covenants

**Appointments**

Jaron Downes from Avitar 6:15pm - Jaron explained the Preliminary DRA Sales Ratio and what they measure to come up with the sales ratio which is 65.5%. This is a DRA requirement for Avitar to report median sales amounts as compared to assessed values and has no impact on current tax bills.

Ed Grinley – Pole Barn 6:30pm – the Recreation Committee is requesting permission to store kitchen equipment they were given from Hypertherm for the Cook shack in the Pole Barn until they can get it placed into the shack. Tom motioned to allow them to store it for the winter only, Leif seconded. Motion passed.

**New Business**

* Tree Lighting Ceremony - Laurie Sullivan wrote an email to the Selectmen requesting permission to have up to 2 fire pits for the tree lighting ceremony. Landowner permission is needed to obtain a permit from the Fire Warden. A letter will be drafted up giving both Laurie and Ed said permission and the Selectmen will sign on Monday, November 21, 2022.
* Heath Insurance renewal Options – Cindy proposed that the Town offer more options through HealthTrust. Option 1 – would be the current plan for Employee coverage only. Option 2 which has a deductible, would cover a 2 person plan, and option 3 which has a slightly higher deductible but would cover the family. Cindy also Proposed that the Town offer Dental where the Town would pay for the employee, and if the employee could add the two person plan or family plan at cost. Leif motioned to accept all four options, Tom seconded. Motion passed.
* Email from LeeWhay Pasek – LBS has started a Welcome Wagon committee – they would like to see if the Selectmen would donate 20 Isinglass, Timber and Wool books. Cindy motioned to approve a $15 off coupon for the books. Leif seconded. Motion passed.
* Timber Tax Warrant – Selectmen Signed DC Timberlands Map 7 Lots 427&428 for $11480.38

**Other Business**

* Town Hall Drainage – Revisited – Is tabled until the spring.
* Fritz Building Notification Map 15 Lot 100 – Revisited – A letter of violation will be sent.
* Town Hall Agreement – Revisited – additional edits will be made to the agreement and the rules.

**Correspondence**

* Avitar Software Agreement for Internet Kiosk Online Data Hosting – this is in addition to current software. The Selectmen were not interested in purchasing additional software.
* Email from Senator Bob Giuda regarding grants for renewable energy
* Email from Chris Fornier regarding Wild Meadow Project – Chris will be at the December 3, 2022 BOS meeting to discuss
* DES – Approval for Construction of Map 17 Lot 233
* DrummondWoodsum email regarding Department of Labor Changes to the Independent Contractor Rule
* Motion to dismiss from Avitar regarding Millbrook church appeal
* Resignation letter from Scott Smith resigning from IT position – Sara will contact Twin Bridge to see if they could take over and what they’d charge
* Executive Councilor District 1 meeting Wrap up 11/2/2022
* Grafton County Senior Citizens Council – Appropriation request for 2023 of $4000.00
* MVRSD – Reminder of Deliberative Session on February 4, 2023 at 9:00am
* Public Health Council – Appropriation request for 2023 of $1039.00

**Public Comment**

* Gary Whitney wanted clarification that there is nothing that the town is going to change in response to Avitar’s ratio assessment. Tom confirmed that is correct.
* Ryan Huff has further questions for Avitar regarding the ratio assessment and will reach out to them through Sara. He was also concerned that it may be a conflict of interest if a Board member who is also a family member of an employee is making decisions regarding the town’s health insurance they might be covered by.
* Paul Vogt commented that he noticed the mildew smell at the Town Office is very strong this year. He is also wondering if ARPA funds could be used to fix the pole barn. Tom responded that it is to damaged to repair.
* Jake Vogel would like to know who manages the towns Consolidated Communications accounts for phone and internet. This is managed through the Selectmen office.
* Gary inquired if email is the preferred method of communication to the Selectmen if someone has questions. Tom said it helps for the Selectmen to be better prepared to address the question.
* Maureen O’Reilly following up on Ambulance fuel gauge. Tom confirmed that it is getting filled every two runs and he is pushing to have the gauge fixed.
* LeeWhay Pasek wondered if she could get copies of the town reports for the welcome baskets and where.

**Final Comments**

* Cindy NH Homeowners Assistance Fund program that can help folks in danger of losing their home due to outstanding taxes, etc and will get information on the town website about it.
* Budget workshop is November 22, 2022 from 3:30pm – 7:30pm. Cindy suggested a gavel and timer to help stay on schedule. Ed confirmed that the budget committee will be at the meeting as well.

Leif Motioned to adjourn. Tom second. Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm