

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

**Members Present:** Leif Hogue, Chair, Ed Grinley, Steve Darrow, Sara Hogue (Recorder)

**Others Present:** Clara Isley, Maureen O'Reilly, Ryan Huff, Lee Way Pasek, Jake Vogel, David Rutkowski, Gail Rutkowski

The Meeting was called to order at 6 pm

**Acceptance of Minutes**

Leif motioned to accept the public/non-public minutes. Ed seconded. Steve agreed. Motion passed.

**Ex-Officio Reports**

Leif Reported that the Library Trustee meeting was cancelled

Steve reported the following from the Planning Board:

They had two sub-divisions. One was pretty basic. The second was a little more complex and the landowner is looking at a waiver to not have to add a road. The Planning Board will revisit this at the next meeting.

They also discussed Article 20 -Alice, Sabrina, and Paul want to be considered for that committee.

Leif is working on the invitation to sign up for the new committee and is wondering if it should be open to the general public. Steve thinks it should be at large and should have a limited number of members.

**Appointments**

Clara Isley - Geo Engineering - 6:10 pm – Clara talked about Geo Engineering and how it affects the environment and shared some information she had gathered. New Hampshire's Bill NH1700-fn, did not pass. So, she wants the Board's help. Clara asked if The Town might be interested in putting up a billboard with a reference on where to go to get information. She closed with a poem that was written. The Selectboard thanked Clara for her time.

**New Business**

Mowing and Trash Removal for 2024 - it was decided to put out to Bid again this year. The Board wants to add the Parsonage for the mowing.

**Other Business**

**Action Items**

Museum Drainage – Ed reported that he talked to Bob Senter who will look at it and come back with plans and prices. Steve added that Bob is looking at depinning the swale, adding a bridge and some vegetation to dress it up.

Pole Barn – Ed reported that if some of the plastic shields were replaced it would keep the weather out.

Maintenance – Sara reported that she posted the position and we have had one candidate whom Leif met with last week.

Avitar – no updates

Johnson Lane Turn Around – Leif reported that the Johnsons still own that piece of property. He needs to talk to the owner to get a waiver to create a turnaround at the end.

Recycle Center - Strong Built has offered to repair for \$25,000. Out of the 3 quotes they got for the insurance claim, Strong Built was the cheapest. Ed asked if he would take care of the material that was there. They will need to ask. Leif motioned to accept Strong Built's estimate. Steve seconded. Motion passed.

Ambitious Acres Abatement Request - Steve commented that there were a couple of questions on the card regarding the land valuation rate and what the codes mean. He called DRA and Avitar, who explained that it was for the development percentage of the land. Steve would be willing to go with an assessor to get accurate measurements and details if the landowner agreed. After some discussion, the land owner will consider it. He would also like to know what the metric is that is used for the percentage.

Maintenance Position - Leif met with Anton Bartoldus for the maintenance position. Ed motioned to offer the position to Anton. Leif seconded. Steve agreed. Motion passed.

### **Public Comment**

Jake Vogel inquired as to why the change in venue of the Selectmen's meeting – Leif responded that they will be starting to work on the Town Hall so there will be no access ramp. Steve added that it is also easier to go into non-public because we can hold the non-public in the office.

Jake inquired as to whether there was any reason the Board wouldn't want more than one Planning Board member on the Capital Improvement Plan committee. Steve commented It's just what the RSA states. Jake would like to nominate Gary Whitney for the committee.

Maureen O'Reilly inquired when the Recycle Center glass shed repair work went out to bid. Leif clarified that what they received were quotes, not bids.

Maureen stated that she had given the Planning Board all the information needed for a Capital Improvement Plan but she was told they didn't have enough time to work on it.

Ryan Huff asked for clarification on what "at large" meant. Steve responded that it is any member of the general public.

David Rutkowski commented that some of the roads are to the point that the Post Office can't deliver mail. He believes it is because the roads are not getting the attn they deserve throughout the year so it makes mud season worse. Steve commented as far as budget-wise, that the best thing to do is get on the budget committee or talk with the budget committee. Ed added that there was a lot of money left in the Highway budget at the end of 2023 that did not get spent.

Steve, there is a lot that can be done with the roads between now and next winter. Leif added that when everything dries out then they can start repairs.

Ryan agrees that there appears to be a lack of accountability for the road conditions. Ed responded that they are looking to fix that.

Maureen inquired if there was anyone on the Highway crew going to road school. Leif replied no. Leif will look it up to see if anything is coming up.

**Final Comments**

Ed suggested the Highway put out a list that shows what work is being scheduled.

Ed wanted to know why Rick had not gone to CDL class for Hauling. Leif replied that Rick might not have been aware.

Ed wanted to know if Steve had a chance to talk to Rick about how the furniture fees are being paid. Steve still needs to talk to him.

Leif announced that Sara is out for next week (April 8<sup>th</sup> – April 12<sup>th</sup>) if there is something urgent that is needed, they can call Leif.

Leif motioned to adjourn. Steve seconded. Ed agreed. The meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Hogue, Administrative Assistant