

**Town of Grafton  
Board of Selectmen  
Tuesday, January 7, 2020**

**Members Present:** Leon Dugan, Chairman, Steve Darrow, Jennie Joyce, Sue Smith (recorder)

**Others Present:** Cindy Kudlik, Catherine Mulholland, Maureen O'Reilly, John Babiarz, Russell Poitras, Ed Grinley, Dotti Ernst, Kathy Lund, Mike Samson, Pam Curran, Sue Jukosky, Melissa Allen

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm.

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

Steve motioned to accept the public and non-public minutes of December 17, 2019. Jennie seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Selectmen Announcements:** None

**Ex-Officio Reports:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Appointments:**

Members from the Budget Committee, Grafton Volunteer Ambulance, and Mike Samson, Canaan Town Administrator, met with the Selectmen to discuss the current contract with the Town of Canaan. The current contract for call coverage will expire June 30, 2020. Ed Grinley, Budget Committee Chairman inquired if the contract is not renewed, will Canaan provide coverage. Mike Samson stated that Canaan will still provide coverage with a cost of \$815.51 per run. If the contract is extended until the end of December 2020, the cost will be \$8,000. Mike did state that he was not planning on doing another contract as he was under the impression that Grafton did not want to renew. Another question was raised about mutual aid and if any charges would occur. Mike stated that if mutual aid is needed for a major incident, no charges will occur. Steve commented that Grafton Volunteer Ambulance is working on being self-sustaining. Come July, if coverage is still needed from Canaan, the \$815.51 seems fair to pay. Dotti Ernst, referring to the current contract, stated that changes would occur if calls are canceled and she also stated that she would like to keep the current contract as is. John Babiarz stated that after July, the calls to Canaan will be a request for coverage, not required as first tone. After a lengthy discussion, the Selectmen, Grafton Volunteer Ambulance and Mike Samson agreed that the following will commence once the current contract expires on June 30, 2020:

*Canaan Ambulance will no longer be called on first tone, they will be toned as needed. If Canaan is toned for assistance, the cost per call is \$815.51. If the call to Canaan is canceled and their equipment has left the station, the charge per call still stands. Canaan will continue to bill through CAG for the calls they transport for Grafton and send all insurance proceeds received to Grafton. Canaan does not keep any billing money received on calls transported for Grafton.*

Ed, referring to the two mailers that went out in 2019, asked Mike if any monies were received from Grafton residents and if so, did any of it return to Grafton. Mike stated that the numbers are being worked on and once completed a list will be provided to Grafton to show the amounts received and returned.

On behalf of the Budget Committee, Ed thanked everyone for coming together to make a decision regarding the call coverage for Grafton Volunteer Ambulance.

Sue Jukosky and Melissa Allen, representatives from MVP, met with the selectmen to discuss the Meetinghouse project. A letter was presented to the selectmen with a request for their consideration to forgive \$3,000 of the \$9,000 (total amount owed to the Town) due to the requirements that were met per the agreement that was made August 8, 2019. Steve stated that he doesn't see a problem with forgiving the \$3,000 and would like a tour of the interior of the building. Leon also expressed interest to tour the interior. Sue will have Elaina Bergamini contact the selectmen office to set up a time for the tour. The selectmen did not make a decision to forgive the \$3,000. This will take place at a future selectmen meeting.

### **New Business:**

The 2020 Default Budget, in the amount of \$1,164,430 (a decrease of \$28,264 from the 2019 budget), was reviewed and signed by the selectmen.

2020 Warrant Articles – The selectmen reviewed and discussed 16 warrant articles that will be placed on the 2020 Town Warrant. The selectmen will finalize the warrant articles, including any petition warrant articles, during a meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 9am at the Town Office.

Property Inventory Forms – Steve motioned to discontinue using the annual property tax inventory forms. Leon second. Jennie agreed. NH DRA will be informed by a letter that the Town of Grafton will no longer be using the Property Tax Inventory forms starting 2021.

### **Other Business/Correspondence:**

The Selectmen reviewed and signed the following:

- Abatement application – Tucci/Lochte (Map 11 Lot 425). Steve motioned to accept the assessor's recommendation to approve the abatement. Jennie second. Motion passed. The selectmen signed the application.
- Timber Tax Warrant – Mulholland (Map 7 Lots 664 & 1078 and Map 12 Lot 707). The selectmen signed the warrant.

The selectmen reviewed and discussed the following correspondence:

- Public Hearing Notice for a two-lot subdivision for owners of Map 6 Lot 154. The public hearing will take place January 23, 2020, 7pm at the Grafton Town Office.

### **Public Comment:**

John Babiarz presented a floor plan of a possible expansion to the Fire Station for a new selectmen office with a cost estimate of \$85,000. John stated that this is not for the 2020 Warrant.

Ed Grinley informed the selectmen that he contacted a Modular Home company to inquire what could be done to have an office building built. Ed stated that a representative from the company is willing to talk to the selectmen about a future office building.

Steve commented that the information John and Ed shared should be a continuous conversation throughout the year.

**Final Comments from Selectmen:** None

Steve motioned to adjourn. Jennie second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith, Administrative Assistant