

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, April 3, 2018**

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

Others Present: John Babiarz, Sandra Griffin, Bonnie Haubrich, Catherine Mulholland, Maureen O'Reilly, Russell and Tina Gover, Tom McGinty, Joel Adeney, Kirk Phelps

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Steve motioned to accept the public and non-public minutes of March 20, 2018. Jennie seconded both sets of minutes. Motion passed.

Selectmen Announcements: None

Ex-Officio Reports:

Steve gave the following report from Planning Board: Angus Gorman is the chairman and Brian Fellers is the secretary. Angus has also volunteered to do the minutes. The Planning Board approved a 3 lot merger for Frank and Nancy White (Map 11 Lots 958, 530 and 505).

Steve stated that he attended the Library Trustees meeting that was held on Friday, March 30, 2018 regarding the handicap ramp. There were 2 questions raised: Who are the agents to expend from the Library Capital Reserve Fund? And Does the expenditure of a handicap ramp fall under the purpose of the capital reserve fund? Steve found out that the Library Trustees are agents to expend and that the expenditure of the handicap ramp does fall under the purpose of the capital reserve fund.

*****PUBLIC HEARING*****

The public hearing to amend the Town of Grafton Junk Yard Enforcement Policy opened at 6:05pm by Jennie Joyce. Jennie asked Steve to read the purpose of the Ordinance and then opened the floor for public comment.

Russell Gover inquired if this ordinance will make people get a junkyard license in order to be regulated. Jennie stated that this will allow the selectmen to be able to hold property owners, who do not have a junkyard license, accountable and will give the Police Chief the ability to enforce the ordinance.

John Babiarz inquired as to how many licensed junkyards are operating in the Town of Grafton. The selectmen stated that McGinty's Auto Parts is the only one.

Tom McGinty stated that only property owners are able to get licensing, not renters.

Sandra Griffin commended the selectmen for putting forth the effort to address this issue.

Jennie informed the public that the selectmen will not be making any decisions on the amendment once the public hearing is closed. After no further discussion, Jennie closed the public hearing at 6:20pm.

Appointments:

Joel Adeney, Pastor Millbrook Church and Kirk Phelps came before the board to give an update on the plans for the Religious Exemption for Millbrook Church. Joel informed the Board that the charitable exemption will change to a religious exemption as the house is being used as the parsonage. The Warner's house will be exempt as well due to Tom Warner becoming the caretaker of the Millbrook Church property. Joel stated that he and Tom Warner will be working on the religious exemption application and will have it in the selectmen office by April 15, 2018.

Sandra Griffin came before the board with two proposals. The first proposal: Sandra and a group of volunteers would like to paint the ceiling, repair and paint the walls, and address the floor. The selectmen spoke with John Babiarz regarding the Safety Committee's plan to look at the wiring of the Town Hall to determine if it needs to be replaced. Jennie asked John if he could take a look at the wiring to determine if an electrician needs to be contacted prior to any painting in the Town Hall. The selectmen will be in contact with Sandra upon receiving feedback from John. The second proposal: Sandra would like to look into placing a "Welcome to Grafton" sign on the Town Common. Sandra stated that she will check into the costs of placing the sign and would like to come back to the board with a recommendation as well as pictures of potential signs.

The non-public meeting with Carl and Jennifer Barton did not take place.

New Business:

The Board reviewed and signed the following:

- 2018 MS-232 Report of Appropriations Actually Voted
- Annual agreement for Engineering Services for Groundwater Management at the Recycle Center

The Board reviewed and discussed the following:

- Agreement for use of the Town Hall. This agreement will be implemented starting April 4, 2018. At this time, there are no fees to use the Town Hall.
- Seasonal Mowing of Municipal Properties bid posting. The vacant property located at 2 Library Road was added to the municipal properties to be mowed during the 2018 season.

There are currently five tax deeded properties that can be auctioned. The Board decided to schedule the auction for mid-September. An actual date will be announced at a future selectmen meeting.

Other Business/Correspondence:

The Board reviewed and discussed the following from the action item list:

- Sue informed the Board that there are currently 37 out of 1,494 properties that have not been visited by the assessor. This is due to those properties being posted 'No Trespassing' and the property owner not wanting to have the assessor visit the property by appointment.

Abatement Application – New Hampshire Optical System – revisited (Map UTL Lot 5). Per additional information from the assessor, Leon motioned to go with the recommendation from the assessor to approve the abatement. Steve second. Jennie agreed. Motion passed.

Elderly Exemption Application – The Board approved and signed the application.

Cemetery Deed – The Board signed the cemetery deed with John Babiarz notarizing the signatures. There was some discussion as to who actually does the notary. The Town Clerk will speak to the Cemetery Trustees to get clarification.

The Board reviewed and discussed the following correspondence:

- Letter from Grafton County Senior Citizens Council regarding requested appropriation for 2018.
- Red List Bridges Report from NHDOT

Public Comment:

Catherine Mulholland inquired if the Selectmen will look into purchasing microphones for their meetings. There are a couple of people that are having a difficult time hearing.

Maureen O'Reilly inquired if the Town Attorney had been contacted regarding Quigg Property. Jennie stated that yes, the attorney has been contacted but anything discussed about Quigg Property will be held in non-public sessions.

Russell Gover inquired the status of the Peaceful Assembly Church building. Jennie stated that this will be a long process to resolve as it will be going through the court system.

Final Comments from the Selectmen: None

Leon motioned to go into non-public session with Bonnie Haubrich, Tax Collector in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(c) regarding a property tax issue with possible communication with Town Counsel at 7:15pm. Steve second. Motion passed.

Steve motioned to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes. Leon second. Motion passed.

Public session resumed at 7:35pm.

Jennie announced that the board gave Bonnie Haubrich, Tax Collector to contact Town Counsel.

Bonnie asked the Board to think about having the Town send out a newsletter to inform the people of what is going on with boards, committees and other activities happening in Grafton. The Board stated they will give it some thought and will get back to Bonnie.

Leon motioned to adjourn. Steve second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith, Administrative Assistant