

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, July 21, 2020**

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

Members Absent: Cindy Kudlik

Others Present: Gretchen Renee, Kenneth Sherwood

The meeting was called to order at 9am.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Jennie motioned to accept the minutes of July 7, 2020. Steve second. Motion passed.

Selectmen Announcements:

Steve announced that the Highway Department is currently working on two major road projects; Hardy Hill Rd reclamation and Prescott Hill Rd reclamation in front of the recreation field.

Steve spoke with the Fire Chief about the upcoming elections and is aware of the letter regarding cleaning up the Fire Station.

Cindy Kudlik is away on vacation and will be returning at the end of the week.

Ex-Officio Reports:

Jennie stated that the Budget Committee met on July 8th and reviewed all department budgets; all the budgets are in range of where they need to be.

Steve attended the Library Trustee meeting on July 16th. Steve reported that the Friends of Grafton Library and the Library Trustees discussed next steps for a "barn project" in which they are planning to build a new library around beams from an old barn. When questioned by attending citizens as to the validity of their planning without the approval of the Selectman or the Town, Chairman of Library Trustees pointed to a vote taken by the Library Trustees last November of 2019. The Chairman of the Library Trustees gave approval for the Friends of Grafton Library to continue to spearhead the project as discussed.

Steve questioned the role that the Friends of Grafton Library are playing as he does not think that Friend's activities should include more than supporting library building and/or improvement of existing building.

He also noted that the Library Trustees had no discussion about the Selectmen letter notifying them that they did not have the Selectmen approval; it appears to be ignored and have had no impact on planning.

Selectmen discussed further steps and it was decided to seek legal counsel.

Public Comment:

Gretchen Renee commented about the underpass on Height of Land Rd. She would like to see the grade of the road put back as it appears to be 6 to 7 inches below grade.

Gretchen also commented about the Library Trustee meeting and stated that Friends of Grafton Library and the chairman of the Library Trustees continue planning for the barn project as though the plan is a “done deal”.

Appointments: None

New Business: None

Other Business/Correspondence:

Town Hall Project – Steve met with Steve Kuligoski to look at the decking material that is currently being stored in the barn. The selectmen are going to stay with the current design for the deck and stairs but to use different material for the railings. Steve Kuligoski will submit pricing for the project and the selectmen will make a decision during the August 4th meeting. The drainage issues will be looked at on both sides of the Town Hall building and a plan will be made for repairs.

Follow-up on Junkyard Letter for 23 Beard Lane – The property owner did not show up for today’s meeting. Ken Sherwood informed the selectmen that the property owner has blocked the view of his front yard but has not cleaned up anything. The selectmen will be contacting the Police Chief to solicit help in this matter prior to contacting the Town’s attorney.

Abatement Application – PSNH d/b/a Eversource – The selectmen denied the application per the assessor’s recommendation.

Building Notification – Daigle (Map 7 Lot 289-1) – approved and signed.

The selectmen reviewed and discussed the following correspondence:

- July newsletter from Grafton County Conservation District
- Letter from NHDES re: Slab City Motorsports granting an after-the-fact Alteration of Terrain permit

Public Comment:

Gretchen Renee inquired if NHDES was aware of the property across from Northwood Estates Drive. Jennie stated that she was at a meeting with NHDES on that property and there was no violation.

Gretchen also commented about the current tax maps and how they are not accurate in showing where properties should be. There was a brief discussion about the tax maps and the selectmen would like to have potential assessors include these maps in their bids.

Final Comments from the Selectmen: None

Jennie motioned to adjourn. Steve second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:55am.

Respectfully submitted,