

**Town of Grafton
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, September 4, 2018**

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

Others Present: Bonnie Haubrich, John Babiarz, Gretchen Renee, Bob Bassett, Roseanne Kramer, Catherine Mulholland, Maureen O'Reilly, Deb Clough, Sandy Griffin, Deb Black, Tom McGinty, Dan Stewart, Celeste Parent

The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

Acceptance of Minutes:

Steve motioned to accept the public and non-public minutes of August 21, 2018. Leon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Selectmen Announcements:

Leon informed the Board that he attended a meeting on August 22, 2018 that was held between the Town of Canaan and Canaan F.A.S.T. Leon stated that it was informative and it was reiterated that Grafton's 3 year contract will not change. Both the Town of Canaan and Canaan F.A.S.T. are trying to come up with ways to bring in more donations. Leon also stated that the Town should think about increasing the Ambulance budget should things change in the next couple of years. Leon would like to continue to keep communication lines open with the Town of Canaan and Canaan F.A.S.T. The Board thanked Leon for attending the meeting and providing the above information.

Jennie announced that a meeting has been set up between NH DOT and NH DES on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 10am at 1258 Main Street. The property owner will be contacted by NH DOT regarding the meeting. The selectmen are welcome to attend.

Ex-Officio Reports:

Steve gave the following report from Planning Board: On August 23, 2018, the Planning Board approved a boundary line adjustment on Tunnel Road. The Planning Board also discussed their budget for 2019 and reduced it from \$375 to \$300. There will be a public hearing on Thursday, September 27, 2018 to review, discuss and approve a subdivision application.

Public Comment:

Gretchen Renee commented that signing the letter to support Ruggles Mine becoming a State Park was premature at this time. She felt the people of Grafton should vote on whether or not the Mine should be a State Park.

Deb Black raised a concern about potential noise and environmental pollution as well as future road conditions on Slab City Road regarding a mud bog/racetrack currently being built by Slab City Motor Sports, LLC. After a brief discussion, the selectmen stated they will be in contact with Slab City Motor Sports, LLC to inquire about plans with the property.

Appointments:

Leon motioned to go into non-public session with Dan Stewart in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(c) regarding property taxes at 6:20pm. Steve seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

Public session resumed at 6:46pm.

Jennie announced a tax payment agreement was made.

Deb Clough, Library Director met with the Board to discuss the following items:

- The library ramp project is completed. There are a couple of ramps that could be used for future use at the Town Office. They are being stored in the Pole Barn.
- Deb would like to have the front steps of the library modified for safety. There was a brief discussion, but no decisions were made.
- Deb inquired if the swing-set that is currently at the Town Hall property can be moved to the Library property. There was a brief discussion, but no decision was made.
- Deb reminded the Board of the Friends of Grafton Library Garlic festival that will be taking place on Saturday, October 6th. Deb asked if the Board could be judges for the apple pie contest that will be taking place that day. Jennie stated that she would not be able to attend.

New Business:

Prior to discussing the Highway Department, Jennie stated that she invited Gretchen Renee to the meeting to discuss the original drawings that were done for the Grafton History Book. Jennie stated that the drawings would need to be returned as they are the Town's property and copies could be made and given to Gretchen. Steve stated that he regrets making the decision of giving the drawings to Gretchen before further discussions could be made. Leon was in agreement with Steve. Gretchen spoke about the accountability of the Town when it comes to storing items and that she didn't expect to have the drawings given to her. Gretchen also stated that she does not want the drawings in her house, but does want the drawings to be protected. The drawings will be returned to the Town Office and the Town Clerk has offered to have Kofile Technologies (company that preserves the Town's records) give an estimate for preservation.

Highway Department – The Board and Bob discussed the lack of employees and the upcoming winter season. Bob stated he needs people who are qualified to run the grader and drive the plow trucks. The Board suggested contracting out to find people. Bob stated that he doesn't think he has enough money in his budget to cover those costs. Bob also stated that our wages are not comparable to other towns. Bob proposed an incentive program to hire potential employees by paying for truck driving school and in return have that employee give 2 years of employment to the Town. After a brief discussion, the job posting will be updated to include the benefits package and will be posted on indeed.com and Leon will be in contact with some people about contracting out.

Bob informed the Board that he will be grading Kinsman Road this week and needs permission to have vehicles towed if they are in the town right of way. The Board gave Bob permission per RSA 263:32, III.

Moffat Property – Map 9 Lot 1060 – In 2012, Douglas Moffat purchased Map 9 Lot 1060 through an absolute auction. After several years of searching for a deed, Doug hired a surveyor and the findings came back stating that the property does not exist. Doug supplied the selectmen with a copy of those findings. Doug is asking for a refund of \$3000 that he paid at the auction. After a brief discussion, Steve motioned to refund Douglas Moffat the \$3000 that was paid for Map 9 Lot 1060 which does not exist. Leon seconded the motion. Jennie agreed. Motion passed.

Grafton's Completed Hazard Mitigation Plan – John Babiarz presented the selectmen with the completed Hazard Mitigation Plan. John stated that the plan is open to the public to review. He also stated that the plan will be officially adopted at the next selectmen meeting. Once the plan has been adopted, it will be sent to FEMA for certification and then the plan can be implemented. Once implemented, the plan will have to have yearly certification.

Other Business/Correspondence:

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

- Steve presented a letter that he composed regarding the selectmen supporting the idea of having Ruggles Mine become a State Park. The Board was in agreement with the wording and signed the letter.
- Steve and/or Leon will be present at the Absolute Auction that will be taking place on Saturday, September 15, 2018 at the Town Hall.

The Board reviewed and discussed the following correspondence:

- A memorandum from Gardner, Fulton & Waugh introducing a new attorney.
- Consulting report from Inov8v Energy LLC regarding the heating system at the Fire Station. There was no evidence of active breakdown from the radiant tubing and the system is ready for a new boiler.
- Laboratory results of Huff Beach Testing from NH Division of Public Health Services
- Email from Senator Giuda stating that he will override SB 365.
- Letter from West Central Behavioral Health thanking the Town for the appropriation of \$1000.
- Email from Mascoma Valley Recreation Coordinator offering oil painting classes in Grafton. After a brief review, the selectmen gave the ok to have the instructor use the Town Hall if available.
- Letter from NH Division of Historical Resources asking for approval to add the East Grafton Union Church Parsonage to the NH State Register. After a brief discussion, the Board tabled a decision and will revisit at their next meeting.
- 2018 Sampling/Report for Landfill from Horizons Engineering.

Public Comment:

Deb Clough inquired if the Tardis that was removed from the Town Hall property could be returned but placed in a different location. Bob stated that placing the Tardis in front of the chimney would be a good place as it would be out of parking lot and near the entrance to the Town Hall.

Maureen O'Reilly commented that a tree branch is covering the yield sign located at Prescott Hill/Slab City Rd.

Final Comments from Selectmen: None

Steve motioned to go into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(3) regarding the Eversource Tax Appeals at 8:03pm. Leon seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

Public session resumed at 8:08pm.

Jennie announced that the Board will be going with a new appraiser recommended by Mitchell Municipal for the Eversource Tax Appeals.

Leon motioned to adjourn. Steve seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith, Administrative Assistant