

Town of Greenville Select Board Meeting

Wednesday; January 18th, 2023, 6:30pm, Greenville Town Hall Meeting Room

Minutes for Meeting of the Select Board

Board members/Staff present at meeting:

 X Selectman Geno Murray (Chair) X Selectman Bonnie DuBien X Police Chief Jim Carr
 X Selectman Newton Pierce (Vice Chair) X Selectman Burt Whitman Fire Chief Sawyer Murray
 X Selectman Richard Peat X Town Manager Mike Roy X Town Clerk Tammy Firman

Others attending: David Slagger, Bump Morrison, Pete Johnson, Esther Ireland

Via Zoom: Stuart Hedstrom (Piscataquis Observer), Sheila Grant (Eastern Gazette), John and Margarita Contreni

6:30 pm Meeting opened by Chair, Geno Murray.

1. Pledge of Allegiance recited.
2. Opening of Meeting & Declaration of Conflicts of Interest: The Chair asked all members of the Select Board to review the meeting agenda and declare any potential conflicts of interest which members may have with any of the items listed. No conflicts declared nor noted.
3. Minutes: It was motioned by Burton Whitman and seconded by Richard Peat to accept minutes of 01/04/2023. Tammy Firman stated that one name change was made on the minutes as suggested by Burt Whitman. Motion carried 5-0.
4. There were no additions nor deletions to the agenda.
5. David Slagger – American Legion
David Slagger, along with Bump Morrison and Pete Johnson, representing the Veteran’s Memorial Committee presented their idea to the Select Board for an “update” of the town’s veteran’s memorial. The maple trees obscure the flag pole which is also in bad shape. They want to know if the public safety building will affect this property at all – Mike reports that it will not. Also, there is a concern that a possible bypass lane may affect the property. They will be working with Ethan at Lary Funeral Home to do the design. Lary also worked with Monson. The town of Monson provided some funding for their memorial and then raised all the remaining needed funds privately for their memorial. The Legion would like to have a new granite memorial and add the 900 plus names that are already on the memorial but virtually unreadable. They will also be reaching out to the families of those lost in the 9-11 tragedy to see if they want their names added. It will be at least two years before any plans for the memorial could be implemented. Richard Peat commented that townspeople from Greenville are very patriotic and felt that they would support this.
6. Community Resilience Partnership Resolution – Accept & Signatures

The resolution was read by Geno, accepted by the board and signed. Laurie Osher will work with Mike to do the necessary follow-up.

7. Maine DOT Village Partnership Initiative – Discussion

Mike explained that due to the reconstruction of streets and roads, Haley Ward was asked to do a proposal for sidewalks. There is a grant for which we can apply that will pay 60% while we pay 40% of the cost for sidewalks. They require an engineering statement in order to make application for the grant. Haley Ward will do this for \$20,700.00. If we are not approved for the grant, we will be responsible for the full cost of the engineering study. Early indications seem favorable that we would be a good candidate for this grant funding. This grant is ongoing and there is no deadline for applications. The cost of reworking sidewalks is about \$40,000 per mile. The study from Haley Ward will include Lily Bay Road to Foss Street and Pritham Avenue. It does not include Pleasant Street which we could add at a later time. The utility poles that are currently imbedded in the sidewalks on Lily Bay Road will need to be relocated by CMP. We would need to coordinate this with them. The major concern about the need to get this done is safety. This work would be done in 2024. We should include this with street improvement plans.

Everyone was reminded that the town's budget planning will need to begin soon so we need to consider this issue as well. Mike's recommendation is that we fund the study and pursue the grant. Richard made a motion to approve the cost of the engineering study and begin the grant application process. This motion was seconded by Newt and approved 5-0.

8. County tax – accept and signatures

Discussion regarding the request from Piscataquis for \$574,769. If we feel that we might want to challenge the amount that we are required to pay, then we need to understand the process. We have an obligation to our constituents to be concerned about the increasing amounts being requested. Greenville pays 11.4% of the total county budget and we feel that we need more education and exploration about the overall budget. Greenville's portion is due for payment on September 1st. The dates on the agreement are incorrect and should be corrected. Mike will contact the commissioner on Friday to make the necessary changes to the document. Once we receive the amended copy, we will contact the board members to come by to sign. Motion was made by Richard to approve the payment of \$574,769 to Piscataquis County once the agreement is corrected. Motion was seconded by Newt and approved 5-0.

9. Tax Acquired Property Bid – Opening of bids and award

Two bids were received by the closing date of 01/18/2023 at 4:00 pm. They were opened by Geno.

The first bid was from Zachary Thompson in the amount \$5,000.00.

The second bid was from Howard Eddy in the amount \$7,420.00.

A motion was made by Richard to accept the bid of \$7,420.00. It was seconded by Burt and approved 5-0. Tammy will notify Mr. Eddy of his successful bid and will share this information with Roxanne.

10. Manager's Report

Mike has spoken with someone in Kingfield about moving the four-car garage from downtown out to Public Works to be used for cold storage. Mike has sent photos to the mover who will get back to Mike

with a time to visit and an estimate. Since they are unable to go underneath the trestle, they will need to travel on Spruce Street through the Steam Plant.

Mike is awaiting the final bid on the Public Safety Building.

Mike received a call about a gentleman who is interested in purchasing the big doors from the old fire station building before it is demolished. Mike has contacted the MMA regarding the potential risk. He will report back on this at the next meeting.

Mike attended a meeting with Kelly McFadden (superintendent of schools), Jennifer Clarke (Childcare Advisory Committee) and Janet Chasse to discuss the new multi-use building. Committees will be formed for the actual building and sub-committees for the interiors of the building. Nine names were suggested for the committees. A meeting of the building committee will be held on January 25th. The town will be the landlord for the daycare which will be the town's tenant. We do not know if the funds earmarked for the building will cover the entire cost.

The cost of the MMA publication "Town and City Magazine" will be significantly increasing. It can be read online at no cost. Select Board members will now read it electronically.

Geno read a thank-you note from the LeClair's expressing appreciation for the Christmas gift from the town.

We need to have a round-table discussion with businesses regarding parking. Perhaps we should schedule this for the spring as there might be more interest. We should do this after the budget is established before Memorial Day. It should be done as a workshop not at the board meeting.

We need to start work on the town budget. John Contreni suggested that four to five people should be on the committee. There were four last year which worked well.

11. Public Comments

Esther Ireland is concerned that our part-time librarian wishes to become a full-time employee but isn't willing to work the desk. Esther feels that she must be willing to do this before considering her for fulltime employment. She has looked at the library in Dover which is open Tuesday through Saturday. Their librarians also work the desk.

Margarita Contreni reported on the Workforce Housing Project. Their biggest obstacle is the lack of infrastructure. Someone will be here February 1-3, 2023 to meet regarding a plan for Initial Phase I.

12. What's on your mind?

Richard Peat is concerned that our public works staff work hard to clean the sidewalks then the state comes behind them and "wings" it back onto the sidewalk from the street. Mike will speak with the DOT leader to coordinate so that we avoid such issues.

13. Other business

There being no other business, Bonnie motioned to adjourn, seconded by Burt. The motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Tammy Firman
Town Clerk