

Town of Greenville

Select Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 15th, 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 ___ 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: John Contreni (Chair, Planning Board), Margarita Contreni (Moosehead Lake Economic Development Corporation), Mike Wilson (Northern Forest Center), Roxanne Lizotte (Clerk Emeritus), Kathy Bishop (Library Director)

Via Zoom: Sheila Grant (Piscataquis Observer), Esther Ireland

6:30 pm Meeting opened by Chair, Geno Murray

1. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

2. Introductions. Each person introduced themselves.

3. 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. Vice-chair Newton Pierce indicated that he has potential conflict with Item 7 – Municipal Reimbursement from the Office of Cannabis Policy. Mike Roy explained that this informational only and should not present any sort of conflict. Duly noted by the Clerk.

4. Minutes for 11-01-2023

A motion was made by Burt and seconded by Richard to accept the minutes as written for 11-01-2023. Motion passed 5-0.

5. Addition or Deletions to the Agenda

Mike requested the following additions to the agenda:

- 5a. Roxanne Lizotte – Abatement and supplemental requests
- 5b. Kathy Bishop – Library report
- 6a. Recreation Committee Board Member consideration
- 7a. John Contreni – Planning Board request for Special Town Meeting

A motion was made by Richard and seconded by Newt to add the above items as requested. Motion passed 5-0.

5a. Roxanne Lizotte – Abatements and Supplementals

A list (attached) was provided to board members with the requested abatements and reasons for the request. Geno asked each Selectman to review and then vote as a block unless there were any questions or concerns. Decided by consensus to vote as a block.

A motion was made by Richard and seconded by Newt to approve the abatements as requested. Motion passed 5-0. All Selectmen signed the request which was returned to Roxanne Lizotte for processing.

Roxanne also explained a bit of history for the supplemental request. A 70-acre parcel previously owned by Leanna and Greg Aucoin was in Tree Growth but was subsequently subdivided into 7 lots and sold. One of the purchasers has requested to take one acre out of Tree Growth in order that he build a home on the property. He already has his driveway in place but has not started building. Once he has a permit, he has two years to build. A property must contain at least ten acres to be considered for Tree Growth. This gentleman's property is sufficient for him to remove one acre out of Tree Growth. A motion was made by Richard and seconded by Newt to approve the removal of one acre from Tree Growth which will create a supplemental tax bill. The motion passed 5-0. This document was signed by all Selectmen and given to Roxanne for processing.

5b. Kathy Bishop, Library Director – Library Report

Kathy extended her thanks to everyone for their help in cleaning out the Library's basement. She declared it the "8th wonder of the world". She is very pleased and shared that nothing will be stored down there going forward. She especially wished to thank Mike Roy, Ron Sarol and Tommy Gravelle for their assistance with the basement cleaning and purging. She also expressed special appreciation to John Contreni for his assistance in writing a grant from Libraries Transforming Communities. If approved, these funds will go to provide a handicapped entrance at the Shaw Annex and a chair lift. The grant is due by December 15th but she expects to have it ready by December 1st. She anticipates that the next phase will include a request to create a space for programs upstairs.

AE Robinson has been in to clean the Library's furnace.

The library is experiencing problems with their website. The website designer has passed away and they are having difficulty obtaining passwords to make changes. Kathy is taking a WordPress class so that she will be able to manage the website herself. She is also taking a programming class.

Ben Nye has been teaching people to sew through a program hosted by the Library. His classes fill up and have been well-received. She hopes to do more programs such as this in the future as this is a trend for libraries.

On behalf of the Selectmen, Geno extended thanks to Kathy for her hard work and initiative.

6. Tammy Firman, Town Clerk – Liquor License application request from Kelly's Landing

Tammy presented a request from Kelly's for a renewal of their liquor license. She previously spoke with Police Chief Jimmy Carr who indicated no issues with this request. A motion was made by Richard and seconded by Newt to approve the liquor license. Motion passed 5-0.

6a. Recreation Committee Member nominee

Geno shared that Kathleen Perkins from Beaver Cove has made application to join the Recreation Committee. Following discussion, a motion was made by Newt and seconded by Burt to accept Kathleen Perkins' application for Recreation Committee. Motion passed 5-0.

7. Municipal Reimbursement from the Office of Cannabis Policy

Mike shared that the State was offering a reimbursement for those who opted in for adult use of cannabis. Specific costs can be considered for reimbursement. John Contreni worked on this project gathering extensive information in a short period of time. Requests had to be submitted within three years of the passage of the ordinance. Our ordinance was passed on 11-03-2020. Working with Beth Young, Town Office Manager and Marc Roy, Town Accountant, John submitted a request for \$17,080.00. We have been approved for \$14,138.99 and expect to receive this check soon. Special thanks to John Contreni for his hard work on this.

7a. John Conteni – Request from Planning Board

John shared that the Planning Board had a Public Hearing today at 5 pm to hear comments and concerns about their request for a multi-generational overlay at the Spruce Street location. More than sixty letters were sent by Code Enforcement Officer, Ron Sarol to property abutters. Notices were posted around town and an ad was placed in the Piscataquis Observer. There was discussion from 5:00 pm – 5:26 pm. Two citizens were in attendance. The next step will be to have a public vote at a Special Town Meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 6th at 6:00 pm. At that meeting, we will ask the voters to consider approval of a multi-generational overlay as well as an amendment to the town ordinance for the number of planning board members needed to constitute a quorum.

A motion was made by Richard and seconded by Burt to move the two requests from the planning board to a Special Town Meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 6th at 6:00 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

8. Manager's Report

Mike shared that the Library basement has been cleaned and two truckloads of materials removed.

Official results of the referendum election held on Tuesday, November 7th, 2023 were shared with Selectmen. A copy is attached.

We have received the rate increase for health insurance from Maine Municipal for 2024. We budgeted a sufficient amount to cover this increase.

We are in receipt of the first grant check from Rural Development in the amount \$310,834 which was applied directly to the BAN. More funds will be coming in over the next few months.

Mike along with Fire Chief, Sawyer Murray and Police Chief, Jimmy Carr will meet with Sheridan to finalize a punch list on Monday morning. The building is very close to completion.

Mike created an RFP for an environmental assessment for the Spruce Street infrastructure. This was sent to three contractors and were requested to be returned by 12-01-2023. He has spoken with one of the contractors who plans to submit a bid.

Mike is working with Public Safety, County and State officials to plan for the Eclipse which will occur in April, 2024. He sent out 31 email invitations for a meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 28th at 10:00 am.

Two people from the Planning Board (John Contreni and Brent Ireland) have volunteered to work on the town's Comprehensive Plan. We still need one person from the EDC. Work will begin as soon as the committee is fully formed.

Public Works will be removing the flags and hanging the Christmas wreaths and banners. Tony Loconte donated the use of his lift. The Deck the Halls Committee members will place the wreaths at the poles where they are to be hung.

10. Public Comment

Margarita Contreni has not heard anything from anyone regarding the CA Dean Hospital's Christmas tree which they would like to place at Crafts Park. Mike told her that someone from CA Dean is supposed to reach out to her. Margarita will be going out of town for vacation so Woodie Bartley will be the point person in her absence regarding this matter.

Margarita also extended special thanks to Geno Murray for moving the benches from Crafts Park for winter storage.

Esther Ireland extended her thanks to everyone for their work and extended holiday greetings to everyone.

Geno expressed his thanks to Brent Ireland for stepping up to join the Comprehensive Plan committee.

11. What's on Your Mind?

Richard Peat asked the status of readiness of our snow removal equipment. Mike shared that a chain has been added to the oldest truck and it's ready for the winter. Public Works has everything ready to go for snow removal.

Burt Whitman wished everyone happy holidays.

There being no further business, it was motioned by Bonnie and seconded by Burt to adjourn at 7:12 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Tammy Firman
Town Clerk