

# APPROVED

**Town of Grantham**  
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes  
October 27, 2021

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:03 PM on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, by Chairman Garland. The Board met in the Grantham Town Building, Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room, 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Present: Chairman Peter Garland; Selectman Constance Jones; Selectman Warren Kimball; Town Administrator Melissa White; Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper; Police Chief John Parsons; Fire Chief Justin Hastings; Andy Deegan and Debbie Stanley, of Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust; Donna Stamper; Katie Stamper; David Wood, Chair of the Conservation Commission; Diana Conine; Erin Zagadailov; C. Peter James; and Joan Rachlin

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Selectman Jones to approve the regular meeting minutes of 10/13/2021; seconded by Chairman Garland. *Approved by majority vote.*

## CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Payroll #636
2. Accounts Payable #791
3. Reclamation Fund Reimbursement to General Fund - \$1,413.00
4. Planning Technical Assistance Service Agreement UVLSRPC
5. Pole License and Petition
6. Timber Harvest Stumpage Agreement
7. Application for Veteran's Tax Credit:
  - a. M/L 238-016-000; 32 Jericho Road
  - b. M/L 238-016-000; 32 Jericho Road
8. Shoreline Protection Cutting Plan: M/L 222-037-000; 6 Azure Brae
9. Building Permits:
  - a. M/L 222-227-000; 35 Deer Run – Minisplit System
  - b. M/L 220-023-000; 307 Walker Road – Replace Siding
  - c. M/L 215-116-000; 31 Granite Way – Addition and Garage
  - d. M/L 221-017-000; 187 New Aldrich Road – Complete Interior of Second Floor
  - e. M/L 222-156-000; 47 Black Duck Spur – Remodel and Upgrades
  - f. M/L 225-220-000; 47 Walton Heath Drive – Convert 3 Season Room to 4 Season Room
  - g. M/L 236-009-000; 571 Route 114 – Demolition/Section of Home
  - h. M/L 234-002-000; 75 Longwood Drive – Replace Hot Tub; Update Electrical
10. Correspondence:
  - a. Comcast: Notice was received from Comcast regarding changes to Xfinity TV service. Impacted customers were notified of the changes through a bill message.
  - b. NH Department of Environmental Services: A copy of a letter from NHDES to Horizons Engineering, Inc. was received. The letter notified that NHDES has reviewed for Administrative Completeness the preliminary community well siting and large groundwater withdrawal permit application titled “Large Community

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Production Well Preliminary Well Siting Report and Pumping Test Proposal” prepared by Horizons Engineering, Inc. on behalf of the Village District of Eastman.

- c. Public Health Council of the Upper Valley: A letter was received from the Public Health Council of the Upper Valley requesting Town of Grantham Budget Allocation for fiscal year 2022 in the amount of \$2,553.00.
- d. Sullivan County Commissioner’s Office: The Sullivan County Apportionment for 2021 was received from the Sullivan County Commissioner’s Office. The total amount to be raised by property taxes is \$14,132,423. Grantham’s portion is \$1,459,610.
- e. UVLSRPC: A letter was received from UVLSRPC informing that the Town of Grantham membership dues for the fiscal year 2023 will be \$4,888.14. This letter is for budgetary planning purposes, and an invoice will be sent in July 2022.

A motion to approve the Consent Calendar was made by Selectman Kimball; seconded by Selectman Jones. *Unanimously approved.*

## PUBLIC HEARING

In compliance with RSA 41:14-a, the Grantham Board of Selectmen will hold Public Hearings on October 13, 2021, and October 27, 2021, to solicit comments regarding the proposed acceptance of a gift of a 5.65-acre parcel, identified as Tax Map 227, Lot 17 (“Stamper Parcel”), which directly abuts the previously conserved 386-acre Sawyer Brook Headwaters property. A vote shall take place no sooner than 7 days nor later than 14 days after the second public hearing is held.

At 5:05 PM, Chairman Garland opened this Public Hearing for comments.

Dave Wood, Chair of the Conservation Commission, encouraged the Select Board to accept the gift of this property. He thought it would be a significant addition to the Sawyer Brook Headwaters property and protect the investment that the Town has already made. Chairman Garland confirmed that the Conservation Commission has already voted in favor of this, as has the Planning Board, which is required prior to the Town holding a vote to accept this gift.

Chairman Garland said it should be noted that the following residents have written the Town in support of accepting this land: Tod Lloyd, Janice Vien, Sean Lyons, Suzanne Harvey, Mary and John Kronenwetter, Sandy and Don Noordsy, David Mark, Susan Terwilliger, Michael Mulcahy, Donna and Jim Stamper, and Rita Friedman.

Nothing was received expressing opposition to accepting this land.

Erin Zagadailov questioned the Conservation Commission Minutes of October 4, 2021, regarding the creation of a parking area at the “Stamper Parcel” and asked for clarification of who would be installing it. Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper stated that question was answered at the October 13, 2021 Public Hearing that the Board of Selectmen would be in charge of creating a parking area.

Chairman Garland explained that according to RSA 41:14-a, at the conclusion of this hearing, a vote shall take place no sooner than 7 days nor later than 14 days on whether or not to accept the gift of

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this property. If and when the Selectmen do accept it, then there would be a separate discussion as to what to do with the property.

Zagadailov thanked the Board for clarifying and answering the question and for the record stated that she is in favor of the Town accepting the parcel.

Resident, Joan Rachlin, arrived late to the meeting but wished to express her support for the acceptance of this property.

There being no more questions, Chairman Garland closed the Public Hearing at 5:11 PM.

Donna Stamper asked if residents could still submit input to the Board in writing. Chairman Garland said they can submit something but it won't be part of the record now that the second public hearing is closed.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Resident, C. Peter James, expressed his concerns about dual utility poles in town, owned by Consolidated Communications, that he opined are dangerous and unsightly. He thought the town should do something about them. There was discussion about which utility owned the poles and Chairman Garland asked Town Administrator White to look into this.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Plowing of the Private Portion of Smith Hastings Road: Shannon Hastings, who lives on the private portion of Smith Hastings Road, previously inquired about the Town plowing the private portion of Smith Hastings Road through a contract and fee. Hastings could not be present at this meeting. Town Administrator White consulted Town Counsel, Primex, the Town's insurer, and the New Hampshire Municipal Association regarding this matter. She provided a memorandum for the Board with a summary of their recommendations. Based on this information and the risk to the Town, White recommended that the Board deny the request. After a brief discussion, a motion to deny the request to plow the private portion of Smith Hastings Road was made by Selectman Kimball; seconded by Selectman Jones. *Unanimously approved.*

MPR Safety and Drainage Improvements: White reported that copies of the proposed easements were sent to the abutters in the project area and she has not heard anything. She reached out to Engineer, Peter Blakeman, to finalize the plans so that the easements can be signed and recorded in the Registry of Deeds.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Police Department – September Report: The Police Department September Report was reviewed.

Police Chief Parsons reported that the two outstanding dog license issues should be taken care of by the end of next month.

Chief Parsons added that the new car has arrived and the other one should arrive in the State of NH in one to two months.

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Fire Chief Hastings gave an update on the new Fire Truck and Hose.

Transfer Station – July and August Reports: The July and August Transfer Station Reports were reviewed.

Town Administrator: White informed that much of her time has been spent working on the budget.

There are five 2020 tax year appeals to the NH Board of Tax and Land Appeals. The Town is required to schedule mediation with the property owners by February 25, 2022. White asked KRT Appraisal, the Town's Assessors, to schedule the mediations as soon as possible. Chairman Garland asked White to keep them up to date on this.

White reminded the Selectmen that they are meeting with the School Board on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 6:30 at the Grantham Village School.

## NON-PUBLIC SESSION

In accordance with RSA 91-A:3 section II-c, a motion was made by Selectman Kimball and seconded by Selectman Jones to enter into a Non-Public session at 5:26 PM. Present: Chairman Peter Garland; Selectman Constance Jones; Selectman Warren Kimball; Town Administrator Melissa White; and Administrative Assistant Ann Jasper

Roll Call vote to enter non-public session: Chairman Peter Garland - Yes; Selectman Warren Kimball - Yes; Selectman Constance Jones – Yes

A motion was made by Selectman Kimball to leave the Non-Public session and return to Public Session at 5:45 PM; seconded by Selectman Jones. *Unanimously approved.*

A motion was made by Selectman Jones to seal the minutes of the Non-Public session; seconded by Selectman Kimball. *Unanimously approved.*

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Jones moved to adjourn, seconded by Chairman Garland; by unanimous vote, the Board adjourned at 5:45 PM.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on **Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at 5:00 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Ann Jasper  
Administrative Assistant