

Greensboro Selectboard

January 11, 2012 – Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Marsha Gadoury, Peggy Lipscomb, Jefferson Tolman, Anne Stevens, Warren Hill, Jr., Valdine Hall, Josh Karp, Erwin Salls, Jr., Sgt. Aaron Cochran, June Cook, Jon Jewett, David Smith

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:04 PM

MINUTES: Minutes from December 14, 2011 approved as amended.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

David Smith – Vice Chair of Lakeview Union School Board. David told the Selectboard that the Lakeview Union School budget may increase as much as \$123,000 next year, increasing the school tax rate from \$1.322 – \$1.51. This would mean a tax increase for residents of \$189 per \$100,000 of assessed value. David added that a smaller increase, accompanied by many budget cuts, would be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

When asked by the Board about the dramatic increase, David attributed it to special education costs. He concluded his presentation by asking the Board to waive the school's \$5000 rent for the three town hall rooms it currently uses. Jefferson noted that Stannard wouldn't be paying it's fair share if that was done.

ROADS

The Board reviewed the draft 'Winter Parking Policy', which would be posted around town and published in the Hardwick Gazette. Discussion about a number of residents who routinely park in the town R.O.W. Peggy will send the draft policy to Jefferson, for him to work on.

POLICE

- Sgt. Cochran reported that Greensboro patrol hours are back to typical levels.
- The H.P.D. applied for a \$14k grant for a repeater, and were told that they are likely to get the grant.
- *H.P.D. Contract.* The Board discussed the proposed police contract with Hardwick town manager Jon Jewett, and acting chief Cochran.
 - Warren said he would not be signing this contract, unless a legally binding indemnification clause for Greensboro Selectboard members is added.
 - Discussion of the cap on annual increases contained in the proposed contract. Jefferson explained that the cap, as written, could result in higher percentage increases than what appears in the contract, due to the compounding of increases over the three-year life of the contract.
 - Peggy would like a two-year contract.
 - Peggy will research an indemnification clause.

- Jon Jewett will ask the Hardwick Selectboard to change the percent-increase-per-year formula, with the third year of the contract containing no actual number, just a maximum percent increase.

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.

- Jr. Salls told the Board that the G.F.D. voted to keep the current slate of officers unchanged:

Chief: *Erwin Salls, Jr.*

1st Asst. Chief: *Rod Kerr*

2nd Asst. Chief: *Dave Brochu, Jr.*

Captains: *Art Brochu, Doug Casavant*

Lieutenants: *John Kerr, Mellisa Moffatt*

Jefferson made the following motion:

The Selectboard approves G.F.D. 's recommendation for it's slate of officers.

Anne seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Jr. Salls told the Board that if passed by the voters, the increased property tax exemption for veterans would cost the town a total of \$1057, or .00035 on the tax rate.
- The Certificate of Highway Mileage (from VTrans) was reviewed and signed by the Board.
- The plowing contract with Wheelock was signed by the Board (Greensboro plows Sparhawk Rd. approx. ½ mile into Wheelock).
- Willey's liquor license was approved and signed by the Board.
- Two auditing firms have submitted proposals to the town; these will be reviewed at the next Board meeting and a decision will be made.
- The Board reviewed the current year's budget.
- The Board reviewed the draft FY 2013 budget.
- The Board reviewed and amended the Selectboard write-up for the town report, as drafted by Peggy. The Board unanimously approved the amended report.
- *Willey Beach.*
 - Anne made the following motion:

The Willey Beach property will henceforth be known as the 'Willey Beach Park'.

Warren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
 - The Selectboard unanimously agreed to ask Valdine to look into possible V.Y.C.C (VT Youth Conservation Corps) work on the park.
 - The State has informed the town that the park needs to have public access. The Board unanimously agreed that the Recreation Committee should be tasked with improvements to the Willey Beach Park.

- The Highway Equipment Reserve Fund (HERF) will be revised by Jefferson and Warren.
- *Lakeview Union School.*
 - Review of a draft letter to the school, asking it to begin paying for the cleaning of areas they are using in the town hall (cleaning supplies and janitorial services). The town is currently paying these costs. The Board amended and approved the letter.
 - Peggy made the following motion:

The town will not charge the Lakeview Union School rent on the three town hall rooms next year.

Anne seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- The Selectboard will hold a special meeting on January 24, at 7 PM, to approve the town meeting warning.

OLD BUSINESS

- *G.F.D. Contract with Stannard.* Stannard has not replied to the latest letter from the Greensboro Selectboard regarding the fire protection contract; the Board agreed unanimously to send Stannard a bill as laid out in the contract.
- *David Kelly's petition to amend the Zoning Bylaw.* Planning Commission Chair Josh Karp told the Board that they must hold a public hearing on the petition. The Selectboard decided to hold it's hearing on Wednesday, February 1, at 7 PM in the Collier Room at the Town Hall.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR LEGAL MATTERS

Jefferson moved that the Board enter executive session at 9:54 PM to discuss two legal matters. Warren seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 11:00 PM.

Jefferson made the following motion:

The Board will release the Opinion Letter written for the town by Glenn Howland on the matter of Perrin Road, to the public.

Warren seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Anne made the following motion:

We authorize the hiring of a law firm which specializes in such cases to represent past and present Selectboard members in the matter of the lawsuit brought by Ray Shatney and Janet Steward.

Jefferson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADJOURNED: 11:05 PM

Respectfully submitted, Josh Karp, Selectboard clerk

AMENDED 2/12/12 J.K.