

# Greensboro Selectboard

July 13, 2022 – Minutes

[Meeting was held on video conference]

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Peter Romans, David Kelley, Ellen Celnik, Gary Circosta, Tracy Collier

**SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kim Greaves, Josh Karp, Tom Camarra, Brett Stanciu, Stearns Allen, Rep. Vicki Strong, Chief Dave Brochu, Jr., Lorelei Wheeler, Miriam Rodgers, Anne Altman, Ken Davis

**CALLED TO ORDER: 6:33 PM**

## ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Peter: Vicki Strong/Funky Fourth; Lorelei/recycle bottle box

## MINUTES

Minutes from June 8 meeting unanimously approved as written.

## PUBLIC CONCERNS

1. David Kelley thanked the road crew for quickly taking care of a tree that fell across Shatney Rd.
2. Lorelei Wheeler told the Board that cans full of returnable bottles are being taken from the bottle box at recycling almost every week. While theft has happened before, this is the worst it's ever been. Volunteers from Lakeview's PLUS group do try to pick the bottles up regularly but they're often too late.  
Discussion of installing a camera on the back of the Town Hall to keep an eye on the recycling center.  
Roundhill Security installed other cameras at the Town Hall; David will contact them to discuss options.

## GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT – Chief Dave Brochu, Jr.

The Board reviewed the May and June GFD reports.

1. The alarm issue at the Firehouse that began when new phone lines were installed has finally been resolved.
2. FD members who are to receive new turnout gear this year have been fitted; the new gear should arrive within 90 days. The FD will purchase a few sets of new gear each year until all are up to date.
3. The FD responded to a recent e-bike accident and Chief Brochu noted this seems to be a trend, with these bikes being heavier and faster than traditional bikes. Tracy asked whether the FD is equipped to deal with such accidents. Dave said there are EMTs on the GFD and the Dept. is well-equipped to stabilize someone until Hardwick Rescue arrives.

## ORLEANS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

The Board reviewed the OCSD June report.

## ROADS

1. **Road Foreman's report.** The Board reviewed the road foreman's report.
2. **Winter Sand.** Tom said the town should put up about 3000 yd. of sand for the winter.

BID FROM	BID DETAILS	NOTES
Ken Davis	\$6.50/yd. for 3000-4000 yd.	Ken said he's no longer able to screen sand at the town's Glover pit. For this bid, he would load town trucks at his pit.
Gravel Construction	\$8/yd. for screening 2500 yd. at the town's Glover pit	Three-year contract. The road crew would have to load at the pit.
JP Sicard	\$5.25/yd for screening 4000 yd at the town's Glover pit	\$675 mobilization charge. The road crew would have to load at the pit.

Tracy made the following motion:

*The Board accepts the Ken Davis bid for winter sand.*

David seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

3. **Sidewalk bids – update.** 2022 Sidewalk work was rebid but no bids were received. Brian Perry said they could do the job early next spring. The Board agreed to rebid sidewalks next spring.
4. **New town garage – update.** Peter received a proposal from architect James Coe today, meaning Board members were unable to review prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the job should be put out to bid; David Kelley will work with Peter to draft a RFP.
5. **Glover / Greensboro gravel pits – update.** Peter recently suggested to the Glover Selectboard that another meeting be scheduled for late July.

## TOWN CLERK – Kim Greaves

After reviewing prices and plans from a few different fuel oil suppliers, David made the following motion:

*The Board chooses the CAP plan from Blanchard Oil. This includes a 50¢/gal. insurance fee.*

Ellen seconded the motion which carried (E.C., G.C, T.C, D.K in favor; P.R. abstained).

## TREASURER – Brett Stanciu

1. The Board reviewed the treasurer's monthly report, the FY22 budget report, and the June check warrant reports.
2. **Tax Rate.** Brett will set the tax rate soon, and requested that the Board hold a special meeting to approve the tax rate.
3. **Tax sale.** The town now owns two properties due to non-payment of delinquent taxes.
  - Leo Shatney property. Leo paid the 2021 taxes after not paying the 2020 taxes; it is unclear whether Leo is aware that the town now owns his property. After discussion, David made the following motion:  
*The town attorney will send a letter to Leo Shatney, stating that if he reimburses the town for expenses and pays the delinquent 2020 taxes, the town will waive its ownership and allow him to retain title to the property.*  
Ellen seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
  - Lanphear/Robert Wood property. The structure on this lot in Greensboro Bend is falling down and the town will have to spend a substantial sum of money to have the structure properly removed.

David expressed concern that tearing down such a historic building may not be appropriate, and that perhaps the building could be preserved. Peter assured David that the building is well beyond repair. Discussion of how to pay for the building removal. Tracy wondered if the property could pay for itself by ultimately being sold to a small business owner interested in operating a rail trail-related business, such as a bike shop. Tracy made the following motion:

*Bids will be solicited for proper removal of the building on the Lanphear/Robert Wood property. All bids shall include a professional assessment of environmental hazards present.*

Ellen seconded the motion which carried (T.C., E.C., G.C., P.R. in favor; D.K. abstained).

## **ONGOING BUSINESS**

- 1. Wake boats – further discussion.** After talking with property owners at Lake Seymour, David became concerned that the wake boat petition signed by the Board last month may have unforeseen consequences. If the rule changes proposed in the petition were adopted, usage of wake boats may become impossible on many smaller bodies of water, pushing wake boat owners to larger lakes such as Seymour, Willoughby, and Caspian. David said he's convinced these boats should be limited to Memphremagog and Champlain. While David said he's not sure if the town has the authority to regulate public waters, if there's a way to prohibit wake boats on Caspian, the town should do it. David made the following motion:  
*David Kelly will draft a supplement to the previous wake boat petition, stating that these boats are not appropriate for use on Caspian Lake and their use on the lake should be prohibited.*  
Ellen seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- 2. Grange update.** The Grange has been cleaned out, with Peter calling it an incredible transformation. He noted a new water line had to be run. Caspian Arts will soon be installing an art exhibit in the space.
- 3. Bend Depot.** Vicki Strong said she's been working on the Bend Depot lease/land issue, and admitted that the process has been slow.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- 1. Reappraisal.** Town appraiser Stearns Allen told the Board that due to an increasingly unfavorable Common Level of Appraisal (CLA), a complete town-wide reappraisal is needed. The two firms in the area who can do this are booking two years out; Stearns said we need to get on one of their schedules right away. While he suggested working with the VT Appraisal Co. who has previous experience with Greensboro, the reappraisal will first need to be put out to bid. Tracy made the following motion:  
*The Board approves Stearns Allen drafting an RFP for reappraisal of town properties.*  
Peter seconded the motion which carried unanimously. The Board will review and sign the RFP before it goes out.
- 2. NEK Waste District – charter amendment.** The NEKWMD is asking member towns to approve a charter change whereby the District's budget gets approved by the Board of Supervisors, rather than by Australian Ballot votes in each member town. Peter made the following motion:  
*The Board approves the amendment to the NEKWMD's charter.*  
Tracy seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
- 3. Health Officer appointment.** David made the following motion:  
*The Board re-appoints Karl Stein as public health officer.*

Gary seconded the motion which carried unanimously. It was noted that Karl has been a huge asset to the town during the COVID pandemic.

- 4. Library paving.** The North entrance of the library was going to get paved, but a ROW issue arose with the Altman's and the paving didn't happen. Anne Altman said it would be fine if potholes at the bottom of the drive are repaired, but that a newly paved entrance will create a lot of runoff onto their property. Such runoff isn't a problem with the driveway in its current state.

Ellen asked, if the concern is runoff, can't paving be done in such a way that this issue is addressed? The driveway should be safe and in good repair for library patrons.

David reviewed the deeds and found the situation to be complicated; it is possible that over the years the library and the public may have acquired rights to the ROW. He was hopeful that a conflict could be avoided, but added that the town attorney may need to be involved. Anne said they've talked to an attorney and do not believe that the library or public has acquired rights to the ROW.

No action taken by the Board.

- 5. Funky Fourth recap.** Tracy said that this year's Funky Fourth was an incredible feat to pull off, with the Ukraine auction and free picnic lunch. She said the whole thing was great and she wondered about carrying on this new tradition next year.

David felt that a community picnic is a lot more valuable than setting off explosives, and that the auction, while successful, was likely a one-off event. Over \$14k was collected for Save the Children Ukraine. Rep. Vicki Strong thanked the town for the celebration and auction in support of Ukraine, adding that a Ukrainian family who attended the parade had a wonderful experience.

Ellen agreed that the event was great and suggested more games and activities next year. The Board agreed to do something similar next year, without the auction.

David thanked Ellen, Tracy thanked Kim, and Kim thanked Tracy and her daughter Chelsea.

Tracy said there was no traffic control or barricades, and suggested having traffic control next year, whether provided by the OCSD or local volunteers. A milk truck tried to get through during the parade – not an ideal situation.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:30 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk*