

Greensboro Selectboard

September 13, 2023 – Minutes

[This was a hybrid meeting held at the Greensboro Free Library, with some participants joining remotely]

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ellen Celnik, Gary Circosta, David Kelley, Peter Romans, Eric Hanson

SELECTBOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Greaves, Brett Stanciu, Josh Karp, Chris Roy, Christine Armstrong, Arleace Green, Chuck Hill, Rick Walsh, John Moffatt, Galen Fisher, Beth Meachem, Chad Sims, Jim Tousant, Dan Tanner, Lenwood Perron, Tom Camarra, Elissa Mackin, Della Hall, Matt McAllister, Brette McAllister, Walker McAllister, Megan McAllister, Ernest Machia

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None this evening.

MINUTES

1. 8/9/23 regular meeting – approved as written unanimously.
2. 9/5/23 special meeting – approved as written unanimously.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

None this evening.

GREENSBORO FIRE DEPT.

No report was available.

ORLEANS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

August OCSD report reviewed.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION – Arleace Green

Arleace Green with the SBA explained that the deadline to apply for assistance has been extended to 10/12, for businesses and non-profits physically affected by the flooding.

A separate program for economic-only damages also exists. Through this program, businesses and non-profits that weren't physically damaged, yet were economically affected by flooding in the region, can apply for assistance. The deadline for this program is 4/15/24, which gives businesses time to assess possible economic losses.

GREENSBORO FIRE DISTRICT #2 – Ernie Machia

Ernie said the Fire District #2 (in Greensboro Bend) had to spend \$5,900 cleaning their well casing, due to the heavy clay soils around the well. He asked whether the town could help pay this bill, given that the district's income is only \$800/month and there are other expenses coming up.

Discussion of the town taking some responsibility for the fire districts.

Discussion of using ARPA funds to reimburse the district for the cleaning costs. Brett said there's \$80k left in the town ARPA fund. Dave made the following motion:

The town approves using \$5900 from the ARPA fund to reimburse the Greensboro Fire District #2 for well cleaning costs.

Gary seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Peter said there's been communication issues with the Fire District #2, and requested that Ernie work to improve his communications with the town.

TREASURER – Brett Stanciu

The Board reviewed the treasurer's monthly report, the FY24 budget report, and the August check warrant reports.

TOWN CLERK – Kim Greaves

Assessor's Errors & Omissions Certificate. Gary made the following motion:

The Board approves the Errors & Omissions Certificate for the 2023 Grand List, as presented.

Eric seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ROADS

1. Road Supervisor's Report.

- Grant work on Lakeview Rd. is almost complete (stone-lining ditches and graveling).
- Tom said the crew is making progress on roads around town, but there are a lot of flood repairs left to complete. Josh noted that FEMA gives the town 18 months from the flooding event to complete repairs, so work can continue throughout next construction season. A number of contractors have been hired to work on flood repairs around town, and bids will soon be solicited for the temporary bridge on Shadow Lake Rd., which will be installed later this fall.
- Peter asked how road work such as grading gets prioritized. Tom said it's usually based on the amount of use a road gets.

2. Road Crew Conversation. Discussion of communication issues between the road crew and Board Chair Peter Romans. Tom was on sick leave during and just after the July floods, and Peter was managing the disaster response.

David said everyone has been stressed and stretched thin since the flood, a situation that lends itself to people being short with each other. He asked everyone to be forgiving of one another.

Ellen said that the misunderstandings brought up between Tom and Peter could have been worked out with better communication. She suggested having a meeting about ways to improve communication between the Board and road crew, and to discuss the roles of the road crew and Board.

Brett agreed to organize a meeting between the road crew, a Selectboard member or members, and herself.

Matt McAllister, who did significant flood repairs around town, said he's appreciated working with both the road crew and Selectboard, and that he's seen everyone work hard during a very stressful situation. He agreed with Ellen that good communication is crucial to avoiding misunderstandings.

John Moffatt said he appreciated everyone's hard work during the last few months.

3. Curb Cut. Gary made the following motion:

The Board approves a curb cut for Carol Fairbank at 604 Cemetery Ridge Rd.

Eric seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. New Town Garage. No update.

ONGOING BUSINESS

1. Trapping Ordinance. The Board reviewed the final version of the trapping ordinance for town properties. David made the following motion:

The Board approves the trapping ordinance for town properties, as presented.

Eric seconded the motion which carried. (P.R., E.C., D.K., E.H. in favor; G.C. opposed)

2. Library Driveway. No update.

3. Community Wastewater Project. Ellen reported that a property appraiser has been lined up and is planning to complete the assessment of the Fontaine Property by the end of the month.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Hazen School Board. Mike Metcalf resigned from the Board, as he's now substitute teaching at Hazen. Dave offered to fill the position. Peter made the following motion:

The Board recommends that David Kelley be appointed to the Hazen Union School Board as Greensboro's representative.

Gary seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

2. Lakeview School. David said the Board should have a discussion about the ramifications of Lakeview Elementary School possibly closing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Peter made the following motion:

The Board will enter executive session at 8:09 PM to discuss personnel issues.

Gary seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 8:40 PM. Gary made the following motion:

The Board approves paying Josh Karp \$25/hr. for flood-related data and organizational work, to be paid retroactively since the job originated.

Dave seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was unanimously adjourned 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk

AMENDED 10/16/23 J.K.