

# Greensboro Selectboard

## January 10, 2024 – 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:** Brett Stanciu, Kim Greaves, Josh Karp, Fan Watkinson, MacNeil, Beth Meachem, Brenden Beer, Joseph Gresser, Karen Stackpole

**CALLED TO ORDER:** 6:40 PM

### ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- Eden Ice Cider special event permit
- Shelburne Vineyard special event permit

### MINUTES

1. 12/13/23 regular meeting: approved as amended unanimously.
2. 12/29/23 emergency meeting: approved as written (P.R., E.C., E.H., D.K. in favor; G.C. abstained).
3. 11/29/23 budget meeting: approved as amended unanimously.
4. 12/13/23 budget meeting: approved as amended unanimously.
5. 12/20/23 budget meeting: approved as amended unanimously.
6. 12/27/23 budget meeting: approved as amended unanimously.
7. 1/3/24 budget meeting: approved as amended unanimously.

### PUBLIC CONCERNS

None this evening.

### GREENSBORO FREE LIBRARY

**Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) update.** Beth Meachem updated the Board on the GFL's involvement with the state's MERP program. As part of program, the library will be working with Albany, Glover, Craftsbury, Stannard and Hardwick to offer energy efficiency information to residents of these communities. A weatherization workshop will be held on February 3, and an energy efficiency panel will be held on March 19. In the future the library will be applying for an MERP implementation grant to address energy needs at the GLF including a new boiler, basement insulation and window replacement.

### ORLEANS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT.

The Board reviewed the December OCSD report.

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

1. **GFD report.** No GFD report was available. Kim noted there was a large multi-dept. fire in Greensboro on Rt. 16, resulting in the complete loss of a house and barn.
2. **Stannard fire contract.** Stannard has paid a percentage of the GFD's operating expenses for many years, in exchange for GFD providing coverage. The cost to operate the GFD has increased significantly in recent years and Peter said the Board is proposing that Stannard start paying a portion of GFD capital expenses (not including costs related to the firehouse). The Board agreed to send the draft of the new contract to the Stannard Selectboard.

## **ROADS & DRIVEWAYS**

1. **Road Foreman's report – Tom Camarra.** Tom was not present this evening.
2. **July flood/road repairs update.** Josh reported that the town's main FEMA contact is going on leave and that Greensboro will soon be assigned a new contact. Hopefully this personnel change won't delay the FEMA reimbursement process.
3. **Storm drain clearing.** VT Emergency Management notified towns that a contractor is available to preemptively clear storm drain infrastructure, helping to ensure drains work properly during future storm events. No action taken by the Board.
4. **Certificate of Highway Mileage.** The Board reviewed the Certificate of Highway Mileage and agreed to sign the document.

## **TOWN CLERK – Kim Greaves**

1. **Liquor and tobacco licenses.** Gary made the following motion:  
*The Board approves a Second-Class liquor license, and tobacco license for Smith's Store.*  
Eric seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
2. **Special event permits.** Gary made the following motion:  
*The Board approves special event permits for Shelburne Vineyard LLC and Eden Ice Cider Company for an event on February 3 at the HCA.*  
Ellen seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

## **TREASURER – Brett Stanciu**

1. The Board reviewed the treasurer's monthly report, the FY24 budget report, and the December check warrant reports.
2. **Town auditor.** Brett has been communicating with town auditor Nathan Hawley about his future availability. While she's hoping he'll stay on with the town, he's indicated he may not be available to audit the town's financials in FY24 and beyond.
3. **Single audit.** The federal government requires that a 'single audit' be undertaken if the town receives greater than \$750k in federal funds within a fiscal year. If the FEMA reimbursement process goes as expected the town will receive significantly more than this amount, but the funds may be spread out over multiple fiscal years. Brett is looking into the single audit process, which could cost at least \$10k.
4. **Remaining ARPA funds transfer to General Fund.** Tabled; this will be addressed at the February meeting.

## **TOWN MEETING 2024**

Discussion and action on the FY25 budget and 2024 town meeting warning tabled. A special meeting will be held on Wednesday Jan. 17 for these and other items.

## **ONGOING BUSINESS**

1. **Wilson St. Drainage issues.** Dan has completed the grant application for the FEMA Advanced Assistance Program and put out an RFQ for engineering. Kim said one response has been received to date.
2. **Community Wastewater Project.** It appears both St. Michael's Church and Gerard Fontaine have decided against selling portions of their properties for the wastewater system disposal field. This means the project is unlikely to move forward.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **Kingdom Games – Swim meet at Caspian Lake.** Dave made the following motion:

*The Board supports the Kingdom Games swim meet to be held at Caspian Lake on Aug. 11.*

Eric seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

2. **Petition to close Lakeview School.** Dave said the Mountain View Elementary School District Board was presented with a petition to close Lakeview School. The Board decided the petition was non-binding and didn't act on it. Instead, the Board decided to warn a special ballot vote in March to advise the Board on the electorate's thoughts on closing Lakeview. Kim noted that since this will be an Australian Ballot vote it can't be discussed at town meeting.

Discussion about holding a pre-town meeting informational discussion, as was done during 2021 and 2022. Gary felt that if there's interest from the public to hold such a meeting, the Board should consider doing it.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

Eric made the following motion:

*The Board will enter executive session at 7:20 PM to discuss a legal issue, with Karen Stackpole present.*

Gary seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 8:10 PM.

Eric made the following motion:

*On advice of counsel, the Selectboard will accept the three-member petition by the road crew to join the IBEW union.*

Peter seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Eric made the following motion:

*The Board will enter executive session at 8:12 PM to discuss a personnel issue.*

Gary seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The Board left executive session at 8:20 PM and took no action.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:20 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted, Josh Karp, Selectboard Clerk*

*AMENDED 2/15/24 J.K.*