

**TOWN OF GRAND ISLE
SELECTBOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
October 5, 2015**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Adam White called the meeting to order at 7:05PM

Board Members Present: Adam White-Chair, Mark Cobb-Vice Chair, AnnaMarie DeMars, John Lawrence and Bill Baron

Board Members Not Present: None

II. GUEST: Andrew Thomas from Bullrock Deutsche Eco regarding Solar Project Grand Isle was here but it was the wrong day. He was here for the Planning Commission, which is on Tuesday, not Monday. He will return for that meeting.

Community Members Present: Ron Bushway

Amend Agenda for Matters Not Listed:

III. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES: Bill makes a motion to approve the August 17, 2015 minutes with corrections. AnnaMarie seconds. All in favor, Motion passes.

AnnaMarie makes a motion to approve the August 24, 2015 minutes with corrections. Mark seconds. All in favor. Motion Passes.

Bill makes a motion to approve the September 14, 2015 minutes. Mark seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Mark makes a motion to accept the minutes of September 21, 2015 minutes with corrections. John seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

IV. FIRE STATION UPDATE: Mark reported he and Grand Isle Volunteer Fire Department Chief Todd Boutin met with Lee Dore and Rani Phillips from Dore and Whittier on September 28. Mark was on the phone. They discussed changes they approved earlier this year which include.

1. Increase in the roof pitch.
2. Third apparatus bay with the two and three bay dividing wall section will be taken out.
3. Copula is an add-on benefit.
4. Insulation will be installed on the roof to be more energy efficient.
5. Increasing the pavement in the parking area and in front of the truck bays.
6. Turnout lockers and personal lockers near the showers are added back in.
7. Toilet accessories were added back in.
8. Air compressor will be provided by owner and installed by contractor. This is in here as just a conformation.
9. Cabinetry is back in but will not be custom cabinets.
10. Lee will provide imagery as well.

Mark explained to Lee we (Selectboard) are looking for numbers (costs) fairly quickly and Lee is working with Al Frye to get us the figures before November 7th.

- V. **PORATTI PROPERTY UPDATE:** The next election will be on November 17.
1. On the ballot will be two questions.
 - a. Purchase the Poratti property.
 - b. Fire Station funding.
 2. The next (Selectboard) meeting will be on Monday, October 12 at 7:00PM.
 3. Adam will let Melissa Boutin, Town Clerk; know about the two public meetings scheduled for Saturday, November 7th at 1:00PM and again on Tuesday, November 10th at 7:00PM at the Grand Isle School cafeteria.
 4. Bill will put together a power point presentation.
 5. A mailing will be sent out informing the public of the upcoming meetings.

Mark said this property would involve reopening Act 250 hearing re-subdivide because we are changing the use to commercial.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Fire Station Furnace: Mark spoke with Chief Todd Boutin, regarding a crack in the firebox of the fire station furnace.

1. Mark will contact Alton James, A.H. James Heating regarding furnace options.
2. After the Town election the Selectboard will start looking at a new furnace for the Town Garage, as it is only good until next December.
3. Mark said the Town Garage furnace is fine. The problem is it's located in the building. It needs to be in another building and suggested one of the sheds be cleaned out and use to house the furnace.
4. The heat low in the Fire Station is kept at 40 to 50 degrees most of the time. When meetings or trainings are it gets cranked up, which is at night when the low should be less at the Town Garage. It might be a way to get one furnace to work for both.

Budgets: Discussions regarding the budgets:

1. Library has submitted their budget.
2. No other budgets came were received.
3. Adam will talk with Melissa to start looking at the budgets we have received.
4. Ron Bushway, Road Commissioner said the Highway Department's budget is almost done.
5. A previous question about the chloride budget was brought up. Ron was asked if we use \$4,000 worth of chloride on 2 miles of (dirt) roads. Ron explained we are helping some other people in Town that use chloride. Merritt Vantine buys it, Island Excavation uses it and Mike Santor has in the past. Mark asked where it (the money) comes back into the budget. Ron said under miscellaneous sales for the Highway Department and it should have a code. Mark said this is something they (Selectboard) will clarify.

Culverts: Purchasing Culverts:

1. Mark said it looks like we will be buying some culverts.
2. Exploring vendors was discussed.

3. A culvert on Reynolds that needs replacing. Ron will look at it because the person who contacted him wants this area ditched to Moccasin Avenue.
4. Adam asked Mark and Bill to report to him the information they received from the residents.

Adam said it looks like we will start getting some budgets in and some departments were asking questions and that Melissa has been working hard pulling up information and answering their questions.

Pipe Permit for 16 Reynolds Road: Applicant, Cory Leduc.

Brad Sheridan, Road Foreman, added the following conditions:

1. All pipes and water under road way will be put into a sleeve.
2. Must be 18 inches below and any water main.
3. Applicant will be responsible for settlement in road.
4. (Applicant) will be responsible for (shoulders and all blacktop) for one year.
5. Applicant must consult water department before work begins to determine depth of water line.
6. Mark asked that Brad inspect this when completed.
7. Ron will check with Brad.
8. Mark discussed the instillation where any place Consolidated Water crossed the road and has done work the road sags down.

AnnaMarie makes a motion to approve, with Brads conditions the laying of pipe for 16 Reynolds Road. Mark seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Montreal Waste Sewage Dump: Adam and Mark received an e-mail by CBC Canada asking them to appear on their radio show tomorrow.

1. Montreal plans to release into the St. Lawrence River, 8 billion leaders of raw sewage.
2. The reason given for doing this is because the city estimates it will cost a billion dollars to build a temporary diversion or storage area for wastewater
3. The Mayor of Montreal initially wanted to put the brakes on the plan after widespread public criticism but decided to go ahead. Quebec's Environmental Minister has approved the decision but Environment Canada has said the plan is prohibited under the Fishers Act.
4. Adam will keep everyone updated and monitor the issues to see if any of it does come in here (Lake Champlain).

Adam mentions that North West Regional Planning is meeting with Agency of Natural Resources and will summarize big issues on storm water issue and what the cost will be. The act started in July and we should know in a month or two what the breakdown would be for municipalities or road department will be.

Comcast: Adam gives the information he received that Comcast is going for its renewal of its Certificate of Public Goods to provide cable television services in the State of Vermont.

School: Mark has been contacted by Teri Geney, from Grand Isle School asking if the Highway Department could use the excavator to ditch to get the sheet drainage out onto the lawn. This would drain the big hole in the school parking lot. Mark will contact Brad to see if he has time to do this as he also has to deal with the project here (grading around the bulk head at the Town Office) before it freezes.

Boy Scout Community Service: Bill reports that a group of Boys Scouts went out west to a camp and they are working to receive a 50 Miler Award.

1. The Scouts need to precipitate in 10 hours of a conservation project.
2. They have completed 3 of those hours while in New Mexico. The other 7 hours need to be done in their community.
3. Bill suggested mulching the town trees.
4. Scouts are willing to put some funds towards this to buy mulch. He ask if.
 - a) The Selectboard would approve this.
 - b) If there is a small amount of funding that could supplement what the Scouts could bring to it.
 - c) Mark will have Levy talk with his grandfather about mulch.
 - d) Bill hasn't checked with the Scout Master but thinks they will need about a truckload of mulch.

AnnaMarie makes a motion to allow the Boys Scouts community service project to be mulching on town property around the trees. Mark seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

One Percent Sales Tax: Discussion regarding a 1% sales tax in Grand Isle.

1. Bill said a taxpayer in town asked if we are going to pursue the 1% local sales tax approached him.
2. It was specific to the (Grand Isle) Ferry. Apparently there is a sales tax applied to each ferry ticket.
3. This person thought this would be a good way to generate some revenue and not impact, to any large degree, the Towns people.
4. Adam said the 1% sales tax was one question on the 2005-2006 Town Survey. It would be a good to include this on our upcoming survey.
5. We can't choose locations so it would be anything in the Town of Grand Isle.
6. The tax is on whatever sales tax is paid on now.
7. Going off the information provided by the VT Department of Taxes they provided the quarter one numbers but going of that the Town would make between \$500,000 to \$700,000.
8. Seven towns in the state charging this tax and they are large metropolitan areas.
9. Adam will talk with the Dept. of Taxes now that we are further along and re-look at the sheets and see how it is.
10. Adam said it does need to be very clear what the money is going toward.
11. The 1% sales tax does have to go to the voters.
12. John asked if this tax is on fuel oil and Adam will check when he talks to the tax department and keep everyone updated.

VII. OLD BUSINESS: Shared Services:

1. Bill said South Hero doesn't have dog issues at Whites Beach

2. There was discussion about the Recreation Department taking over Marycrest Beach.
3. Facilities Management is handled the same in both towns.
4. The Shared Services Grant could not be obtained for this year and explained what is involved in doing the grant.
5. Adam suggested checking with VT League of Cities and Towns for grants.
6. South Hero is anxious to keep moving forward.
7. Bill plans to develop an action plan and present it to the Selectboard

VIII. REVIEW ORDERS and PAY BILLS: AnnaMarie made a motion to review orders and pay bills.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mark makes a motion at 8:35 to go into Executive Session concerning personnel matters regarding Town Office Staff. John Seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Mark makes a motion to come out of Executive Session concerning personal matters at 9:27PM, no action taken. John seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

X. ADJOURNMENT: AnnaMarie makes a motion to adjourn at 9:28PM. Bill seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachael Griggs, Selectboard Secretary

Adam White, Selectboard Chair

Date: _____

Date: _____