

**GRAND ISLE SELECTBOARD  
MINUTES  
Monday April 15, 2019  
Town Office Community Room  
9 Hyde Road, Grand Isle, VT**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** AnnaMarie DeMars opened the meeting at 7:00PM

**Board Members Present:** AnnaMarie DeMars - Chair, Jeff Parizo, Diane Cota and Rachael Griggs

**Board Members Not Present:** Eric Godin -Vice Chair

**Community Members Present:** Jean Prouty, Denise Abbott Douglass, Lucille Campbell, Glenda Leake, Tim Cota, Ronnie Bushway, Carolyn McCray, Colleen Bushway, Ben Ingalls, Karen Allen, Emily Clark, Howard DeMars, Barclay Morris, Joe Longo, Jim Hoag, Melissa Boutin, Chad Lussier, Jessica Treanor, Char Kennedy, Dylan Degree and Christine Bourque

**Amend Agenda For Matters Not Listed:** Move Will King-Solar Array to May 6, 2019.  
Additions under Old Business: Thank You for Pinwheels and Sign Fire Warden Paper

**I. GUESTS:**

**Tim Cota – Cota Propane:** Tim Cota from Cota’s Propane was asked to attend to see if his company would be interested in supplying Town buildings with propane. Tim said with the Library, Fire Department and Water Department (District 4) they will do the same pricing, will match the price the Town is paying today with the other (propane) company. Cota’s Propane will also supply the tanks to replace the tanks the other company owns. Jeff asked if it would be advantageous to switch any oil furnaces we have presently. Tim said it depends on the furnace and that some can be converted. Howard DeMars said with the cost and the ages of the other furnaces it wouldn’t be recommended. He said when it’s time to replace the old furnaces he would recommend changing to propane for a cost savings as it cuts down on maintenance as well.

Jeff Parizo motions to accept Tim Cota of Cota Propane as our primary propane supplier. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

Will King – Solar Array on Hanson Lane – Moved to May 6, 2019 Meeting

**Jim Hoag – Historical Society– Discuss New Shed:** Jim reported the Historical Society currently has a small shed and would like to build a bigger building, up to 20x20 to house and showcase Grand Isle’s agricultural history with some farm implements and farm equipment. The goal is to be able to store more things. The Town owns the building and we (Historical Society) will build the building. Jeff asked if they have talked to the Zoning Administrator regarding setbacks. Jim said they have but need to talk to them again.

Rachael Griggs motions to approve the Historical Society’s building of a new post and beam 20x20 foot building. Jeff Parizo seconds the motion. Discussion – Jim said they are going to try building it themselves. Rachael suggested they contact Champlain Housing about the wood from the old yellow barn at the Round Barn Apartments. Karen Allen gave Jim the contact information. No further discussion. Three in favor,

AnnaMarie DeMars recused as she is a member of the Historical Society, and the motion passes.

Jeff Parizo motions to waive the building permit fee for the Historical Society up to \$200.00. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, three in favor, AnnaMarie DeMars recuses and the motion passes.

#### **Ben Ingalls - EMD**

- **EMD - Local Emergency Management Plan:** Ben Ingalls passed out the new EMP he has revised. One change is the Emergency Operations Center will be held at the Sheriff's office. This will be for the entire county.

Jeff Parizo motions to approve the local Emergency Management Plan that Ben Ingalls our Emergency Management Director has put forth. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes. Ben was thanked for all the work he put into this.

- **EMD - Red Cross Shelter Update:** Ben reported there was a Red Cross training last week. Sheriff Ray Allen worked with the Red Cross to get a shelter trailer staged at his location (on Rt. 2 in G.I.). This will be the location for Grand Isle County. Ben said if there is an emergency we will be ready and won't have to wait for the Red Cross. We have people trained so we will be ready to go. The emergency shelter location for Grand Isle Town is the Grand Isle School. This is also the location for the entire county if it's a really big emergency.

Diane mentions the need of nonperishable items and to determine who is going to be paying for it. The Red Cross will purchase food once they are deployed activated. There are Red Cross Disaster Action Team Members in Grand Isle. Ben will bring this up at the next county meeting because the trailer will be for the whole county. He will come to a Selectboard meeting with the outcome.

- **AED Update:** Ben said six AED's would be delivered April 16. They will go in the following buildings: Fire Station, Town Office, Library, Transfer Station, Annex and the Hyde Log Cabin. We are going to hold off on the Town Garage. Jeff asked if the AED's needed to go into a box. Ben said he is going to get together with Ron Bushway to install the AED's in the buildings.

Jean Prouty said a box can't be installed on the wall in either the Log Cabin or the Old School House. She said it could go in the box on the floor. These buildings are only open a few days a week for only a few months. There will be further discussions on an AED at the Log Cabin and Block School House at a future Selectboard meeting.

#### **Barclay Morris and Howard DeMars – Northwest Regional Planning Commission:**

Barclay and Howard are here to give an update. Barclay reported on some of the projects for the town and county and what Regional Planning is working with.

- Most involved is Emergency Management.
- New County Local Emergency Planning committee
- Working with Sheriff Ray Allen on the operations center
- Transportation, making sure all available grants are applied for
- Ice rescue training with three of the department members

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- Missisquoi Bay bridge project had about four million dollars left over. The state said they wanted to take out another section of the causeway.
- Thanks to David Leslie they pushed against this. It's federal money, which has to be spent on highway projects. That money will go to trying to clean up the water that comes into Missisquoi bay.
- Assisting with Town Plan and Zoning Bylaws
- Would like to see more planning issues like the Emerald Ash Borer
- Worked on a grant application for a mitigation project on Hyde and Moccasin Avenue on replacing culverts
- Jeff said regarding mitigation Hyde Road and Moccasin Ave we have all permits ready so when we get some money we will be replacing those culverts

Howard DeMars said he has been on NRPC for about three months. He is learning and finds it interesting. One of the projects he is interested in is mass transit for the Islands.

Jeff asked a couple questions regarding transportation. Barclay said there are several projects coming up.

- Re-decking the Alburgh Bridge
- Redoing Exit 17
- Resurfacing or rebuilding Rt. 78.
- Two bridges, one over the swamp north of Lone Pine Camp Grounds and one over Bay Road in Colchester
- The intersection at Rt. 2 and 314 next to Kim's Snack Bar is about two years out.

Barclay said he feels part of his role is trying to get VTrans to tow the line a little.

AnnaMarie thanks Barclay and Howard.

**Chad Lussier – Lawn care Contract:** After discussion on a couple items on the contract Jeff said the easiest way to take this on is Chad work with Ron Bushway with any questions. Dylan Degree from YOGI discussed the times that would be good for mowing the YOGI fields.

Jeff Parizo makes a motion to rescind our original motion on April 1, 2019 to accept Platinum Property Management & Construction LLC, Chad Lussier, located at 238 West Shore Road with the two-year contract for \$7,680.00 per year. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

Jeff Parizo makes a motion to accept Platinum Property's bid for the first year for \$8,670 from April 1, 2019 to October 31, 2019. Then the second is \$7,680 from April 1, 2020 to October 31, 2020 so it's two years. This year will be more expensive and the price will go down the second year. Diane Cota seconds the motion. Discussion followed to note the starting month is April, not May. AnnaMarie asked if it would be an issue if the price of gas goes up and Chad said no. YOGI fields are to be mowed twice a month and YOGI will pay PPMC, LLC directly for the second mowing during the season. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

**Library Representatives:** Karen Allen, Library Board Chair mentioned there was a meeting held on April 8 with many members of the Friends of the Library attending. She said they are hoping to start a conversation about the next steps in the process toward the new library building. Karen said there is a bit of confusion about the plans that were done last fall, which shows the (rendering for) new G. I. Library building and in the letter in the Town Report from the Selectboard. It is kind of vague about the use of the building stating there are no concrete plans for this building as yet but are happy to repurpose it.

- The first step toward getting the library moving would be for the Selectboard to make a determination. Something along the lines that building (old fire station) is earmarked to become the new library so everyone would know.
- Putting a sign in front of the old fire station building such as Future Home of the Grand Isle Library
- Any fundraising, doing a capital campaign or grant writing can't be begin in earnest unless you have a location
- A preliminary cost estimate for the structure and the systems would help everybody moving forward to get an idea of what we need to be doing
- Karen said she seemed to recall that the Board approved a certain amount of money for the feasibility study for the structural integrity for the building, which was done at no cost. She asked if redirecting those funds toward a cost estimate is a possibility.

Jeff suggested Tyler Billingsley is one person to work with to get a cost estimate. Another person is Dave Pratt from Millbrook Construction who would like to do an estimate.

Jeff Parizo motions to earmark the old fire station for the new Town Library. Anna Marie seconds the motion. Discussion, Diane wants to be sure we don't need to ask the Town to use that building. Jeff said we don't. There is a breakdown for the cost of using metal. A waste water system will need to be addressed. It will be a shared waste water system with the Town Office building. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

Diane wanted to mention that the artist rendering is just that. Karen said she would put something on FPF that this is not a floor plan that was developed with input from the Library Board and Director. It's just an idea of what it could look like.

**Dylan Degree – MOU Between YOGI and Recreation Committee:**

Dylan passed a draft of the MOU for YOGI's use of the fields for the season to the Board. He spoke about the use of the fields and they will be maintaining them. YOGI will be responsible for the equipment.

After he read the MOU there was discussion about who would be responsible for the field after the YOGI season. He also explained what they would be taking care of. They will pay for the second mowing needed each month during little league to maintain the fields and will pay directly to the company contracted by the Town for mowing. Discussion continued about the responsibilities of YOGI and the Town.

Joe Longo said again he and his colleagues at the Transfer Station would like to donate a minimum of \$500 to YOGI.

Christine Bourque spoke of how YOGI has grown and looking for volunteers, especially umpires. All Grand Isle Towns are members

AnnaMarie thanks everyone for coming.

Dylan will be attending the May 6 Selectboard meeting to finalize the MOU.

**II. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES: March 27 and April 1, 2019**

Diane Cota motions to approve the minutes of March 27 and April 1. Jeff Parizo seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

### III. NEW BUSINESS:

#### **DRB Permit Fee - \$410.00 for new Town Garage:**

Jeff Parizo motions to waive the DRB Permit fee for the new Town Garage of \$410. AnnaMarie seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

**Wetlands Permit Fee - \$1672.50 for new Town Garage:** Jeff said this is one of the permits needed for the Town garage. The other one needed is the wastewater permit, which we are working on. There will be one for the fire marshal but we aren't at this point yet.

Jeff Parizo motions to approve the Wetlands Permit for the new Town garage for \$1672.50. This is for the potential new garage. We are getting the permits done first before going for a bond. These permits won't go to waste. They will be running with the land forever. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

**State Fire Warden Award:** Ron Bushway, Fire Warden, said every year the State of VT gives Service Awards, which are given out every five years.

- First is a Certificate of Appreciation to Ronnie in recognition of 40 years of service in the Town of Grand Isle, State of VT Fire Warden.
- Second is for 40 Years of Service as Town Forest Fire Warden, Town of Grand Isle April 3, 2019, for VT Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation Forest Research Protection Section.

AnnaMarie thanks Ron for all he has done for the Town.

### IV. OLD BUSINESS:

**Phone setup for absent SB members to phone into a meeting:** Rachael talked about setting up a system that may be needed to enable anyone who is unable to attend a meeting can join in via phone. One way may be to add an extension to the phone to bring it to the table. At some point it should be tested at a meeting. Diane said it's legal for a person to phone in to a meeting. AnnaMarie suggested having Eric look into what would work best.

**Cell Tower on Water Tower Letter to PUC:** Jeff said he believes at the last Planning Commission meeting Shawn Mercy is going to write a letter stating we want to be involved in the process from now on involving cell towers. We don't need to write two letters, we can piggyback one letter. Rachael will contact Shawn.

**Ad for Town Office Cleaning Service:** Melissa Boutin, Town Clerk has drafted an ad for a cleaning service to clean the Town Office. This is to be put in the Islander, on the Town website and posted at the three Town locations.

**Town Attorney – Private Road Ordinance:** Jeff asked if the Board received the email from Tyler Newton, NWRP regarding private roads. Private Road Standards are in the Town Bylaws. The Town is asking people to build private roads to the Town's private road standards. We are going to continue to be doing this because it's a safety issue for emergency responses. It doesn't mean we will be taking over private roads. We need to have something clear in the Bylaws that say we are, at this time not going to be taking over private roads. Maybe in the future but not at this time. Most of our roads are not inter-connected. They are dead ends. For now it doesn't make sense to take on a greater burden for the two-man road crew to try to take care of more roads than we have right now. Jeff said he is suggesting getting input from the Town Attorney to help write up a private road ordinance stating we won't be taking over private roads and it needs to have State Statutes stated. Diane and Rachael will check with the Attorney.

**Thank You for Pinwheels:** Governor Scott designated April as Prevent Child Abuse Month. The Town purchased 100 pinwheels to be placed around town. AnnaMarie thanks everyone for placing the pinwheels. Melisa Boutin said with more organizations getting involved maybe next year they could purchase their own to support the cause. Next year it should be announced in the Islander earlier enough to get the word out. The pinwheels will be collected at the end of the month and any in good shape will be saved to set out again next April.

**Sign Fire Warden Reappointment Paperwork:**

The Selectboard members are to sign the State paperwork for Fire Warden, which has already been approved.

**Highway Department Update:** Ron Bushway, Road Commissioner reported:

- With the weather conditions this winter there is such a demand for cold pack to repair blacktop roads we can't get it at this time. Ron is going to continue to check around to try to find some.
- Trimming of trees on Bell Hill Road is done and it looks nice
- Sanding and painting the plows and wings
- Numbers for the water at the Annex were done. Jeff said Tyler has received them and that permit can be finalized.

**Buildings Facilities Manager Update:**

- Jeff Thies, VLCT Insurance inspector has checked out the buildings
- Jeff Thies asked why the old Town garage hasn't been painted yet. Ron told him we are working on building a new garage.
- Ron said some of the sills in the current garage are rotting
- Jeff Thies said he would put in his report that (the old garage) needs to be replaced and that VLCT often will write a letter
- Alan Landry will be replacing the Block School House roof soon. He needs three days of good weather.
- Jean Prouty (Historical Society) said she would like Ron to take care of the downdraft in the fire place in the Hyde Log Cabin
- Alan also has the chimney and three windows on the list at the Annex for this year
- Jeff asked if there is anything else because we had designated the rent money for repairs and asked about insulating the attic

**V. REVIEW AND SIGN WARRANTS:** Jeff Parizo makes a motion to approve the warrants. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT:** AnnaMarie DeMars motions to adjourn at 8:52pm. Jeff Parizo seconds the motion. No further discussion, all in favor and the motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rachael Griggs, Selectboard Clerk

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AnnaMarie DeMars, Selectboard Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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