

**GRAND ISLE SELECTBOARD  
MINUTES  
Monday October 21, 2019 - 7:00 PM  
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, Eric Godin – Vice Chair, Jeff Parizo, and Rachael Griggs. Diane Cota arrived at 7:40

**Community Members Present:** Ron Bushway, Donna LeClair, Denise Abbott Douglass, Jean Prouty, Lucille Campbell, Sue Lawrence, John LaBarge, Jim Hoag, Jerry Hebda, Emily Clark and Brad Sheridan

AnnaMarie asked for a moment of silence for the family that suffered the terrible loss in North Hero. Eric said there is a GoFundMe on Facebook if anyone would like to help out.

**Amend Agenda For Matters Not Listed:** Missing Traffic Light – New Business  
Two permits for laying of pipes and wires – Highway Department Update  
Emily Clark – Cell Tower Update – Old business

**GUESTS:**

- **John LaBarge – Assessment report for Hyde Log Cabin and Block Schoolhouse:**

John reported the assessment is in and with the money from the Town and Historical Society they were able to get a grant to pay for half of this assessment. He mentioned the report said these buildings are in pretty good shape. John listed the repairs mention that need to be done and gave a 15-year plan suggesting what needs to be done. Some of the repairs have all ready been completed. Because we had this assessment the VT Preservation Trust has grants for building preservation and we could be able to get grants to help pay for the repairs.

Jeff asked if they are going to do some of the repairs on the smaller projects.

Jean Prouty said some of the vegetation has already been trimmed back to help with the removal of moss on the roof of the Log Cabin. Also the Schoolhouse roof has been replaced. There are other small repairs that need to be done and Jim Hoag said they would do some of them.

Jeff said the Planning Commission is working on updating the Capital Budget Plan. If there are some things can be grouped together it is possible to put it on the Capital Budget Plan Jeff believes it would need to be over five thousand dollars.

AnnaMarie thanks the Historical Commission members for doing this.

- **Sue Lawrence, Lister – Two Errors and Omissions Approvals:**

Sue reported they have two properties that they inadvertently did not take the land that they sold off their (tax) cards.

Jeff Parizo motions that we accept the Errors Omissions Certificate from Sue Lawrence, Lister of Grand Isle for Picard Building, LLC changed from \$423,800 changed to \$350,500, difference of \$73,300, did subtract the land and water from this record. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion, four members present in favor and the motion passes.

Jeff Parizo motions that we accept the Errors Omissions Certificate from Sue Lawrence, Lister of Grand Isle for Daren Delaro, changed from \$339,600 changed to \$304,400, difference of \$35,200, did reduce the land acreage after sale. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion, AnnaMarie DeMars, Eric Godin, Jeff Parizo and Rachael Griggs in favor and the motion passes.

The Selectboard members present will sign and give them to Melissa Boutin, Town Clerk. Sue said this will need to go on the grand list.

- **Cemetery Fence Damage Insurance – Sue Lawrence and Lucille Campbell:**  
Sue Lawrence explained that back in the spring after the cemetery was opened they noticed the fence at the cemetery was damaged. A claim was submitted to the Town insurance. They were then asked to submit other information. After receiving the information they were told that the claim was denied.

After a discussion AnnaMarie will call PACIF go through the Town buildings to get an itemized list of what is covered and try to find out why this was not covered. In the meantime the Cemetery will fix the fence and hopefully the insurance money will be paid.

## **II. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES: October 7 and October 18, 2019:**

Jeff Parizo motions to approve the October 7, 2019 minutes. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion. AnnaMarie DeMars, Eric Godin, Jeff Parizo and Rachael Griggs and the motion passes.

Eric Godin motions to accept the minutes of October 18, 2019. AnnaMarie DeMars seconds the motion. No further discussion. AnnaMarie DeMars, Eric Godin and Rachael Griggs are in favor, Jeff Parizo abstains as he wasn't at the meeting and the motion passes.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Cost of Living Increase:**

After a discussion a motion is made.

Jeff Parizo motions we make the cost of living increase 3% for FY 2021. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion, AnnaMarie DeMars, Eric Godin, Jeff Parizo and Rachael Griggs vote in favor and the motion passes.

- **Budgets:**

AnnaMarie said a letter will go out to all Departments and Committees so they can start putting their budgets together. Jeff said if said anyone wants to do their budgets early we would appreciate receiving them.

- **Approve and Authorize SPF to conduct delinquent tax collection proceedings:**

Eric Godin motions that we approve and authorize Stitzel, Page and Fletcher to conduct delinquent tax collection proceedings. Jeff Parizo seconds the motion. No further discussion. AnnaMarie DeMars, Eric Godin, Jeff Parizo and Rachael Griggs vote in favor and the motion passes.

- **Town's Website:**

Rachael reports that the Towns website is down. She has contacted Adam White who set it up through the Snelling Center. There was a grant from the Snelling Center and the website was set up through the Snelling Center, using Word Press and posted on GoDaddy. The website is still on line and it can be look at it but no one is able to access it to do any postings.

Eric has tried to find out what the problem is and he couldn't get any answers. He is still working on it.

- **Missing Traffic Light at Rt. 2, Hyde Rd. and E. Shore North Road:**

The light was hit and taken down. The State had been notified and AnnaMarie will call to see where that stands.

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Town Solar Project:**

Melissa Boutin reported she has information from DC Energy and she will make copies for the Board to review and bring back questions. She said it's getting toward the end of the year and there is a significant credit the Town can receive indirectly. Because we are a municipality we don't file an income tax return or that nature. We need to go through another company that would give back to the Town, almost like a lease agreement. There is substantial room on the fire station roof. It was designed and built to hold solar panels. It could generate enough solar or electric to house all the Town's municipal buildings. Jeff said not the school.

Jeff explained the company gets the tax rebate for five years but we (Town) get the energy rebate of the power/electricity part of it. We get credit right off and after five years we could purchase it for about half the price. We save about \$10,000 in electrical cost first five years that would in turn buy it after the five years because we are saving that money and not having to pay electric cost.

This will be put on the agenda for our next meeting.

- **Flag Removal:**

Rachael asked when the flags might be removed. Jeff said the flags usually stay until Veterans Day, which is November 11. He will work with Brad and Ron to get them down.

- **Cell Tower Update:**

Emily Clark said they wondered if there is any update the Board could give. Eric said there is nothing new since the last meeting and we are just waiting.

#### **V. Highway Department Update:**

- **14 Adams Landing Road Draft 1111 Permit:**

There are a couple minor changes made to the original draft 1111 Permit.

Jeff Parizo motions to approve the Town of Grand Isle Section Eleven Eleven permit. Permit holder George and Lara Gentchos for 14 Adams Landing Road, Grand Isle. This is dated October 21, 2019. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

- **Permit for laying pipes and wires:**

Jeff Parizo makes a motion to approve the Town of Grand Isle VT's application for a permit for laying pipes and wires. The applicant, Chad Willard's address 71B Venus Avenue, Burlington, VT 05408. The undersigned request permit for laying pipes and wires will allow Dale Pidgion to cross the road of Donaldson. To be located at 20 Kayak and Donaldson Road for water pipe to be done ASAP. Chad Willard signed it September 13, 2019. The recommendations on the back are the waterline and right of way to be dug in suitable material to be put back and properly tamped. There will be no digging of roadway. Applicant will be responsible for settlement in right of way for one year.

10-21-19

(Motion made with our Roads Foreman, Brad Sheridan's recommendations above). Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

Jeff Parizo makes a motion for Town of Grand Isle highway right of way access permit application for Brian McNeil and Judy Wesley, 25 Lovers Lane. Location is 25 Lovers Lane, Lot number 2. Drive to be put in B71 standards. Drive to be located same spot as DRB final plot approval. No culvert needed at this time. If needed applicant will be responsible for instillation. Drive to be pitched away from Town Road, brush to be cut north and south for site distance per Town Road Foreman, Brad Foreman. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

Ron Bushway, Road Commissioner reported:

- Brad is hauling winter sand and South Hero is helping
- Damage from last weeks wind storm has been cleaned up
- Culvert on State Road 314 by the Annex overflowed and flowed into the basement and the sump pump. Brad cleaned out the culvert fixed the sump pump.
- There is an issue with this culvert on 314 and the header is damaged. Brad notified the State and the State is going to contact Brad
- The State patched the culvert by Tom Racine's. It's not a great job but better than it was.

**Buildings Facilities Manager Update:**

- Scales at the Transfer Station have been inspected and are legal. This is done yearly.
- Howard DeMars has been notified to clean the buildings furnaces and filters

**VI. REVIEW AND SIGN WARRANTS:** Jeff Parizo motions to allow AnnaMarie DeMars to review and sign warrants. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

Denise Abbott Douglass wanted to make a short statement adding to AnnaMarie's moment of silence about the fire to thank all the first responders and Red Cross. At a hard time like this it speaks of the hard work they do at a time that is extremely difficult for all of us and we are very grateful.

Sue Lawrence added Grand Isle Rescue coverage is being supplemented by Colchester/Milton. There are a couple of members from Grand Isle who didn't respond to the fire and are covering for a while. On Monday they hope to be back to full coverage but this gives them time off.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- **Highway Department Position inviting Ron Bushway and Brad Sheridan:**

Jeff Parizo makes a motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter citing 1V.S.A. § 313(a)(2) that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Inviting in (Melissa Boutin) Ron Bushway and Brad Sheridan. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

Jeff Parizo motions to come out of executive session at 8:18PM with a motion to pay Cagney Hamblett his accrued sick time and vacation time once Melissa Boutin, Town Clerk and Brad Sheridan, Road Foreman get together and decide what the vacation time should be. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

- **Two Personnel Matters inviting Melissa Boutin:**

Jeff Parizo motions to go into executive session at 8:19PM to discuss a personnel matter citing 1V.S.A. § 313(a)(2) that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Inviting Melissa Boutin, Town Clerk in. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

Jeff Parizo motions to come out of executive at 8:38 with no decision. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

- **Contract Pending:**

Jeff Parizo motions to go into executive session at 8:39 to discuss contract pending citing 1V.S.A. § 313(a)(2) that premature general public knowledge would clearly places the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Diane Cota seconds the motion. Rachael Griggs recuses herself and leaves the room. No further discussion. Four in favor and the motion passes.

Jeff Parizo motions to come out of executive session at 8:50PM with the motion to grant our attorney, Joe McLean to sign the MOU. Eric Godin seconds the motion. No further discussion. AnnaMarie DeMars, Eric Godin, Jeff Parizo and Diane Cota in favor and the motion passes.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:** Jeff Parizo motions to adjourn at 8:50PM. Eric Godin 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: \_\_\_\_\_