

**GRAND ISLE SELECTBOARD
AGENDA
Monday August 3, 2020 - 6:00 PM
Via Zoom**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Diane Cota, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00PM

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

Community Members Present: Melissa Boutin-Town Clerk/Treasurer, Amy Thompson-Recreation Department Chair and Ron Bushway-Road Commissioner/Building Facilities Manager

Amend Agenda for Matters Not Listed:

Melissa Boutin-Garage Construction Resolution and Solar Project Resolution, AnnaMarie-Transfer Station Question about Composting Fox Issue on East Shore South, Diane-State Police Letter & Zoom Meeting on 8-17

II. GUESTS:

Melissa Boutin

- **Garage Construction BAN Resolution for Checking Account:** Melissa Boutin said in order to write checks for the garage project we need to have a resolution signed by the Selectboard Chair in order to have Melissa and Jeff as signers on the account.

Adam White makes a motion for the chair of the Selectboard, Diane Cota to be able to sign a resolution in order for Melissa (Boutin), Town Clerk and Jeff Parizo as Grand Isle Selectboard to disperse checks from the Bond Anticipation Note in relation to the Town Garage project. AnnaMarie DeMars seconds the motion. No further discussion. Jeff Parizo recuses himself, four vote in favor and the motion passes.

- **Solar Project Resolution:** Melissa explains about another resolution from a year ago to be signed by Diane as chair. Because we laid out cash to fund the project and replenish it with expenditure lines that are approved every year by the voters it didn't make sense to borrowing \$116,000 over 6 years with interests. Funds will be reimbursed to town owned buildings and receive credits off the solar electric.

Jeff Parizo motions that have Diane (Cota) the chair (of the Selectboard) to sign the resolution of the solar project to allow the Town to replenish its general funds. Rachael Griggs seconds the motion. No further discussion. Adam abstains, four vote in favor and the motion passes.

Amy Thompson – Recreation Department Chair

- **Marycrest Beach:** Amy reported on the spacing requirements of the buoys and will order them as well as supplies needed to put the buoys in the water at Marycrest beach as soon as they know where they will be placed and how many are needed. As for the steps this will wait until next year as it wasn't included in

this year's budget. Traffic has increased and Ron said he has been checking the beach about twice a week and said there isn't any evidence of a lot of trash.

- **Donaldson Park:** Amy said there are still problems at Donaldson Park with an assault on a Rec. Dept. member, vandalism and increase in drug use and sales. The sheriff is aware of these issues. More brush needs to be cleared out. Also, a Rec. Dept. member is writing a grant for Wi-Fi at the park to be able to set up security cameras. There is space in the park that may be cleaned up to be able to add more pickle-ball and bocce courts.
No new update on Port-a-Potties.
Adam asked if they have looked into the extra space to see if it could be mowed. Amy said they plan to have the park be assessable to all and multi-functional turning it into a park for everybody.
North Hero passes to State Parks in Grand Isle County was discussed.
Amy was thanked for coming.

III. Highway Department Update:

Composting: AnnaMarie asked where the compost collected at the Transfer Station goes. Ron said it is hauled to the east side of the property and covered with bark chips. AnnaMarie said she heard that since there is a charge for taking the compost to the Transfer Station people are dumping their compost in ditches. Ron said they are charging 25 cents per pound to cover the extra cost of handling the compost.

Foxes: AnnaMarie reported on fox problems on East Shore South Road saying people are scared because there are at least 3 sick foxes that are aggressive. She had talked with someone from VT Fish and Game Warden who said it sounds like the foxes have mange and not rabies. Todd Boutin, Animal Control Officer came on to say he was contacted about the foxes. He will check it out to see what he could do. He agrees they are probably not rabid. He said no one should shoot them as it is illegal to do so unless it is endangering them directly, their pet or livestock. He will try to get a couple have-a-heart traps and try to trap them. AnnaMarie thanked Todd for weighing in.

Ron gave a brief highway department update saying all the metal from free metal day has been hauled away. All cans that needed to be moved for free metal day have been put back.

Second round of roadside mowing has begun.

Buildings Facilities Manager Update:

- **Old Fire Station Building Demolition:** Diane, Rachael and Ron met at the old building last Thursday. Ron explained that the building needs to stay until the Highway Department building is finished to continue to store some equipment. Jeff said he feels the best time to advertise for bids to remove the old fire station is December/January when contractors are less busy.

Ron reported Pest-Pro hadn't sprayed for snakes because they use something to keep them away and there were eight snakes already in the hatchway of the Town office. He removed the snakes. On the 24th Pest-Pro did spray for wasps and sprayed to keep snakes away.

Letter from State Police: Diane asked if the Board members have read the letter. Jeff said he feels we need more police presence because of the issues at the park and other places. He is willing to put it before the town to have more police presence. Diane said she will write a response letter with these suggestions.

August 17 Selectboard Meeting: Diane wanted Melissa to know we are planning to meet in person for the August 17 Selectboard meeting at the Town office. Everyone will bring their phones and Diane will bring her laptop. Diane and Rachael will need to meet ahead of time to measure out places for Board members to sit. The meeting will be via Zoom for anyone else to attend the meeting. We will all be wearing masks.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES: July 20, 2020 Jeff Parizo motions to approve the minutes of July 20, 2020. Adam White seconds the motion. No further discussion. All vote in favor and the motion passes.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion: Subdivision off Hanson Lane (road to Transfer Station): Mr. and Mrs. Gordon are looking to do a six lot sub-division down Hanson Lane. Jeff said he would like permission to talk with Paula Jackson who is the agent for her parents. He believes there is a 33-foot right of way the Town owns. He would like to see if we could get, and not pay for a right of way of the difference to 49-1/2 feet to make it a three-rod road. This way, if we wanted, we will have room to widen it to allow emergency access down through there so fire trucks could pass each other. Another thing he would like to ask her is if they are running a 4-inch watermain running all the way down to the end almost to the Transfer Station. In the future we may want to hook onto that water line for the Transfer Station, and want to know if they will forgo the frontage reimbursement fee for the waterline. Jeff wants Brad and Ron to look at the curb cuts. It looks like only four may be needed and most of the houses will be way off the road. Ron said with all the traffic to the Transfer Station he hopes whoever buys these houses understand there will be a lot of traffic on Thursday afternoons and Saturdays. All Board members agree it is a good idea for Jeff to speak with the Gordons and their agent. The DRB meeting for this will be held via Zoom on August 19.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

Burn Permit Warning Letter: Rachael had spoken with Ron about the burn pile on the corner of Route 2 and Faywood. Ron said he had sent a warning letter via certified mail and finally was able to speak with them last week. They now have removed the furniture on the burn pile and have received a burn permit.

Flags: Rachael said some of the flags on Route 2 are shredded. Jeff said he had replaced some brackets. Two flags and poles are missing and he doesn't know where they have gone. Diane will talk with the South Hero Town Clerk to see what size their flags are and where they got them. Rachael suggested smaller flags, not have as many flags and buy better quality flags. Jeff said suggested placing flags from north of A&B to the school. This topic will be continued at the meeting on August 17.

Continue Personnel Policy Update: Diane started the continued discussion to update the personnel policy. We finished the review but have some question for Melissa. Hopefully we will have the final review at the next meeting.

VII. **REVIEW AND SIGN WARRANTS:** Jeff Parizo motions to allow the Selectboard chair to review and sign the warrants via email. AnnaMarie DeMars seconds the motion. No further discussion. All vote in favor and the motion passes.

VIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: Personnel Discussion:** Jeff Parizo makes a motion to go into executive session to discuss a personal matter citing 1 V.S.A. state statute 313(a)(2) that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discuss. All vote in favor and the motion passes.

Jeff Parizo motions to come out of executive session at 7:42PM with no decision. Diane Cota seconds the motion. No further discussion. All vote in favor and the motion passes.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** AnnaMarie DeMars motions to adjourn the meeting at 7:40PM. Jeff Parizo seconds the motion. No further discussion. All vote in favor and the motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachael Griggs, Selectboard Clerk

Diane Cota, Selectboard Chair

Date: _____

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