



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, March 01, 2021 – 6:30 p.m. – Virtual via Zoon

Members Present: Jamie Connelly, Rick Hussey, Jim Rolston, Steve Smith, Rich Winsor

Staff Present: Matthew Scruton - Town Administrator

Also Present: Karen Mason, Leonard Schwab – Greenland Historical Society (Remote); Barbara Fleming – Women’s Club (Remote)

Chair Smith opened the Board of Selectmen meeting at 6:30 p.m. It was announced a quorum was present and the meeting was being held virtually through Zoom and recorded by video. A checklist to ensure meetings are compliant with the Right-to-Know Law during the State of Emergency was read into the record by Chair Smith.

Attendance was taken by roll call: J. Connelly – present, R. Hussey – present, J. Rolston - present, R. Winsor – present, S. Smith - present.

I. APPOINTMENTS

1. Greenland Historical Society – Karen Mason

Karen Mason and Leonard Schwab, Greenland Historical Society, joined the meeting via Zoom. K. Mason thanked the Board for allowing them to bring the Lafayette Trail project to their attention. K. Mason was contacted by Julien Icher, a representative of the Lafayette Trail, Inc. He is in the process of mapping out the trail taken by General Lafayette in 1824 to say farewell to many people in the United States, including Greenland. K. Mason gave a brief background on General Lafayette. The Lafayette Trail project has received a grant from the William G. Pomeroy foundation for the sign. The sign will be made with the text written by the Town; it would be installed by the Town. The Greenland Historical Society requested it be installed near the Gazebo, which is possibly the route he took. This is another item that could be included in the 300th Anniversary activities; it would be Greenland pride.

J. Rolston felt it was a great idea. Chair Smith questioned how the sign would be installed. K. Mason responded it was similar to the sign at the Weeks Brick House. It will be mounted on a pole and installed in concrete in a hole.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to agree to the Town’s participation in The Lafayette Trail: Mapping the Farewell Tour project. Further, the Board of Selectmen approves the installation of a marker to be located at the Gazebo; final location to receive formal approval provided there is no cost to the Town and all local and State approvals are received. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly – yes, R. Hussey – yes, J. Rolston – yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith – yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

DRAFT: SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Following approval, K. Mason requested a letter from TA Scruton be written stating the Town has agreed to participate in The Lafayette Train: Mapping the Farewell Tour Project. She will send TA Scruton a sample letter. TA Scruton thanked K. Mason.

2. Summer Concerts – Barbara Fleming, Greenland Women’s Club

Barbara Fleming, Greenland Women’s Club, joined the meeting via Zoom. B. Fleming stated that the 2020 Summer Concerts were cancelled due to COVID. It would have been the 13th year holding the Summer Concerts. The committee was hopeful concerts could be held this summer.

B. Fleming explained that concerts are held under the auspices of the Town Recreation Department. Any donations received are deposited to a Town account associated with the concerts. The Women’s Club has not requested Town funds to support the bands. The Police Department does provide coverage during the concerts and there is a port-a-potty in the School parking lot that is paid by the Town.

The Women’s Club wanted to be sure people were comfortable with the Summer Concerts. There are five concerts each summer, beginning the last week of June, every other Thursday, through mid-August.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to approve the 2021 Summer Concert Series following CDC Guidelines. The status will be revisited prior to the first concert by Dennis Cote, Health Officer, with continuous monitoring during the series. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly – yes, R. Hussey – yes, J. Rolston – yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith – yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

R. Winsor recommended B. Fleming contact Dennis Cote, Health Officer, prior to the concerts starting due to how rapidly the COVID world was changing. Chair Smith noted the Board received an email from D. Cote; he was in favor of holding the concerts as long as there was no increase in COVID cases. D. Cote would like B. Fleming to check in with him prior to the start of the concert season.

J. Rolston noted that the Greenland Vets voted to pay for a concert in September for the 300th Anniversary.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

J. Rolston was recognized for his years of service as a member of the Board of Selectmen and presented a plaque.

Chair Smith gave a ‘shout-out’ to Amy Bauer for the work done on the Annual Town Report. The Board appreciated her hard work. The Town Reports are available at the Town Hall. TA Scruton added that the cover photo was taken by Chief Laurent.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Tuesday, February 16, 2021

MOTION: J. Connelly moved to approve the minutes of Tuesday, February 16, 2021. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. PDA Seat Application

The Board received a copy of the proposed PDA Application for review. TA Scruton has submitted it, with a timeline, to the Town of Newington; the shared seat with Newington and Greenland will be effective April 30, 2021. Martha Roy, Newington Town Administrator, will be discussing the timeline with the Newington Board of Selectmen at their meeting tonight for any revisions or recommendations. TA Roy has asked that the application not be made public until after their Town Meeting.

2. Bayside Road Proposal – Bourassa Construction

TA Scruton received an unsolicited proposal from Bourassa Construction for Bayside Road. He has forwarded the proposal to Eric Weinrieb, Altus Engineering, for comments. E. Weinrieb has reviewed the ARM Grant. He felt some ARM Grant funding may be available if the construction phase was over two years. Most of the paving and reconstruction work must be done in 2021; culvert work could be done in 2022 and may be eligible for ARM funding. The Town researched the ARM Grant in 2020 but did not move forward. Laura Byergo reminded the Board of funding available through the ARM Grant at the last Selectmen's meeting. TA Scruton recommended exploring the possibility of ARM Grant funding, giving the Town an option. He did not feel it would impact the project significantly; it may help the taxpayers by getting money back from the State.

The timeline for the grant was discussed. The full application process does not start until August 31, 2021. The project will be underway by that time. The grants are awarded in December 2021.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to have Altus Engineering explore the possibility of ARM Grant funding and provide an overview of the project impact. Second – R. Hussey; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

3. Other Old Business

300th Anniversary: J. Rolston asked the Board if they wanted to be in charge of spending any money the Committee may raise through selling T-Shirts, etc. The Board has not approved any expenditures made through their budget line in the past. If the warrant article passes, the Board will be the agents to expend. R. Winsor asked for clarification; he would prefer that the 300th Anniversary Committee be the agents to expend. TA Scruton will research further.

Town Voting/Elections: Chair Smith reminded members about Town Meeting on Tuesday, March 09, 2021. Selectmen should let the Town Clerk know their availability for coverage that day.

V. NEW BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Address Change Request – 890 Portsmouth Avenue to 1 Palm Drive

Chief Laurent and E-911 have reviewed and approved the request by the resident to change his address from 890 Portsmouth Avenue to 1 Palm Drive. The entrance to the residence is on Palm Drive.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to approve the address change request by the resident at 890 Portsmouth Avenue to 1 Palm Drive as approved by Chief Laurent and E-911. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J.

DRAFT: SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

2. Hiring of Part-Time Police Officer

Chief Laurent has requested that a part-time police officer be hired. The money is in the budget for a part-time officer. Chief Laurent has a candidate for the position. J. Rolston questioned training for the part-time officer as well as any equipment that may be needed. Chair Smith explained that Chief Laurent budgets for four part-time officers; there are currently three. J. Rolston also asked if the School Resource Officer (SRO) constituted a part-time officer in the Police Department budget. TA Scruton stated that the SRO is a full-time position. The individual that Chief Laurent would like to hire is a retired Lieutenant in a neighboring town and would be trained and licensed. J. Rolston noted that the SRO is available a portion of the year. He did not like to hire more people; it seems to grow and grow. R. Winsor noted that a part-time officer should not impact retirement, etc. It is basically a per diem position.

MOTION: J. Connelly moved to approve the hiring of a part-time police officer as requested by Chief Laurent. Second – R. Winsor; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

3. Other New Business

Roads: R. Hussey suggested declassifying Weeks Avenue to a Class VI road; it is a driveway that serves one building. Chair Smith told the Board that a Montessori School is looking at a location on the corner. It will change the dynamic of that corner. R. Hussey stated they should pay to widen the road if it is being developed. R. Winsor explained it would be the responsibility of the developer to widen the road; it would be a requirement of the Planning Board. R. Winsor continued that making Weeks Avenue a Class VI road may have to be voted on by the Town. He suggested that Altus Engineering look at Weeks Avenue: is it a viable option? If so, it could be moved to vote in 2022. Chair Smith added the only caveat is the culvert that runs under that road coming across from Portsmouth Avenue and Rt. 33.

VI. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – THURSDAY, MARCH 04, 2021

1. Payroll Manifest 21-05

MOTION: J. Rolston moved to approve the attached Payroll Manifest, pay date March 05, 2021, period of February 15, 2021 through and including February 28, 2021. Gross amount, excluding payroll liabilities: \$70,769.57. Second – R. Winsor; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

2. General Fund Manifest 21-05

MOTION: J. Connelly moved to approve the attached General Fund Manifest of Unpaid Bills Detail as of March 04, 2021 in the amount of \$498,410.16. This manifest includes a Greenland School District payment in the amount of \$300,000. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey – yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

VII. NON-PUBLIC

1. RSA 91-A:3, II(d)

MOTION: J. Rolston moved to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(d), at 7:03 p.m. Second – R. Winsor; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey – yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

The Board left non-public session and returned to public session.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: _____ moved to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Monday, March 15, 2021 – 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room & Zoom

Submitted By – Charlotte Hussey, Administrative Assistant

Approved: