



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, April 25, 2022 – 6:30 p.m. – Town Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Randy Bunnell, Jamie Connelly, Vaughan Morgan, Steve Smith, Richard Winsor

Staff Present: Matthew Scruton, Town Administrator

Also Present: Tara Laurent – Police Chief; Ralph Cresta – Fire Chief; Marcia McLaughlin – Weeks Library Trustee

Chair Smith opened the Board of Selectmen meeting at 6:30 p.m. A roll call was taken and it was announced a quorum was present and the meeting was being live-streamed and recorded.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

S. Smith noted there has been discussion on social media regarding the PDA and proposed air cargo. He announced that the Board would not be entertaining any discussion regarding the PDA at this meeting. S. Smith will be meeting with Chair Connors, Newington Board of Selectmen, next week. Any discussion may take place at the Greenland Board of Selectmen meeting on Monday, May 19, 2022. There is public speculation about what is happening; S. Smith did not think it would be wise for the Board to make any comments at this time. S. Smith did not want to entertain any comments, noting the meeting was live and live-streamed. He continued that Susan Parker has been a great reference for the Town of Greenland. The Board may make a statement at the meeting on May 23rd, following the PDA meeting on Thursday, May 19th.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Monday, April 11, 2022

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to approve the minutes of Monday, April 11, 2022. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. Coakley Update

TA Scruton attended the Coakley Landfill Group (CLG) meeting on April 14, 2022. One of the Coakley Landfill memorandum indicates that a Pump and Treat System may be a possibility (copy on file). A Pump and Treat System would actively treat the landfill. For the last several years, it has been monitored because the threshold for a Pump and Treat System was not met. It appears that the CLG is being proactive rather than just monitoring the plume spread. TA Scruton stated that the CLG should be encouraged to continue that study and he looks forward to the results.

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R. Winsor questioned how long the study would continue before the CLG acted, as opposed to another long study. TA Scruton responded they did not commit to any timeline. He referred the Board to the study that was referenced in the memorandum included in the Selectmen's information (Schedule 5.0). The review was scheduled in mid-February and expected to take two to three weeks to complete. It may be done but no information has been made public about the condition or treatment options. TA Scruton noted that the CLG entered into non-public session following the public session.

Responding to a question from J. Connelly, TA Scruton stated that the threshold has not been met. A Pump and Treat System was not originally required by the EPA because the contamination did not meet the threshold. TA Scruton continued, stating there may be chemicals present that are not being measured. If a Pump and Treat System were implemented, it could potentially prevent the spread of contaminants that are not being measured.

After reviewing the memorandum, R. Winsor commented that it was a study to determine what needed to be studied. TA Scruton anticipated it would take years to complete the study and implement any action plan.

The Board also received a copy of an email from Mindi Messmer, who had been on the trail recently. M. Messmer had concerns about water flowing from the pond to the rail trail. TA Scruton will contact M. Messmer to make sure the letter was sent to DES. R. Winsor requested that the State and federal representatives as well as DES and the EPA receive a copy of the letter.

2. Bookkeeper Search Update

The Board of Selectmen had previously authorized TA Scruton to make an offer to a prospective bookkeeper; that individual withdrew before the offer could be made. TA Scruton updated the Board that there was another candidate he felt would be a good fit. Some training would be required, which could be done by the current finance team. The candidate does have some bookkeeping experience with QuickBooks; training would be required for the municipal accounting. With Board approval, a job offer will be made for full-time employment. The individual will be subject to the probationary period of one year as stated in the Town Personnel Policy.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to authorize the Town Administrator to make a full-time job offer to the prospective candidate for the Bookkeeper position. The candidate will be subject to the one-year probationary period per the Town Personnel Policy. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

3. Roads

TA Scruton updated the Board that improvements to Fairway Drive and Sanderson Road are essentially finished; shoulder work needs to be done. S. Smith noted that Meloon Road was paved on Monday, April 25th. The Bayside Road section that was reclaimed last year should be finished soon.

Fairway Drive: S. Smith stated that the backside of the golf course is wet and there was an issue topping a portion of the road. The road was wet when it was done and things had to be smoothed around. There is also a manhole catch basin that Advanced Paving will fix. The road was never brought up to grade and when it was paved, a portion of it sank. There is water that flows down the golf course side on Fairway Drive, into a brook. There is also a catch basin that needs to be fixed. TA Scruton added that it looked like someone had used a sledgehammer or something similar several years ago to open up the concrete catch basin to allow water to flow. The new road is 8 inches to 10 inches below the catch

basin. Water is not flowing where it should. Advanced Paving is working on the best way to correct the problem.

S. Smith stated that the culvert on the cul-de-sac section with drainage through the middle is working very well. TA Scruton added that the Foss Brook culvert at the beginning of Bayside Road will be left as is; the full wear course over the culvert will not be done at this time. He is hoping to find additional funding or grant opportunities for that culvert. Funding for the Meloon Creek culvert has been submitted. Funding for the other culvert will be submitted as soon as applications are being accepted. The wear course can be added at a later date if the culvert is replaced.

There has not been an update from Altus Engineering regarding their road study. S. Smith stated that some of the roads needed to be looked at sooner rather than later.

Responding to a question from R. Bunnell, S. Smith stated that TA Scruton has received a concern about grading along the edge of the drive and runoff. TA Scruton added that there was a question about the manhole cover that was mentioned earlier. There have been no complaints about the paving. V. Morgan commented that he was thanked by a resident living in that area.

4. Other Old Business

R. Bunnell has contacted NHMA with several questions. They had not responded as of this meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Other New Business

Speeding: Several residents on Post Road have contacted V. Morgan regarding speeding. V. Morgan has discussed the issue with R. Bunnell (Police Department liaison). Chief Laurent asked that the residents contact the Police Department directly. They have a program for a directed patrol. After two weeks a follow-up is done with the resident, reporting what was found over that time period. Without the direct contact with the resident, the Police Department cannot provide feedback or warnings, etc. S. Smith asked if the speed trailer could be put out. Chief Laurent responded that there would be some effects of the speed trailer being in place for a short time.

Fire – 46 Orchard Hill Road: R. Bunnell asked about the recent fire at 46 Orchard Hill Road. Chief Cresta stated that everyone was safe and it was under investigation. Some residents had told R. Bunnell that there was no water in the well. Chief Cresta responded that there is not a well in that area. There is a pond across the street which is not owned by the Town. There is also a private dry hydrant that did not appear to work. Chief Cresta felt this was something the neighbors needed to discuss. Chief Cresta stated it is a tough situation in that area; there is no water past the Winnicut River. The closest dry hydrant was 2.5 to 3 miles away. S. Smith added that the pond was put in for insurance purposes when the development was built. Chief Cresta stated they tried testing the dry hydrant and it was not made of the right materials. According to S. Smith, the closest dry hydrant was on Riverside Drive, which is the end of the Portsmouth water system. Chief Cresta thanked all the mutual aid that responded with tankers, ladder trucks, etc. Roads were blocked off, allowing apparatus in and out without anyone getting hurt. V. Morgan asked Chief Cresta to extend the Board's appreciation to the mutual aid responders. J. Connelly asked what the Town could do to provide a water source in that area. Chief Cresta stated there are private ponds in that area. Chief Cresta stated he would be happy to meet with homeowners in that area. Chief Cresta explained that he contacted the State Fire Marshall and the

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insurance company is doing their own investigation. Chief Cresta will be contacted if additional help is needed. Chief Cresta stated that is the usual protocol because there were no injuries.

Responding to a question from R. Bunnell, Chief Cresta felt that the Orchard Hill and Bay areas would be of the greatest concern due to lack of water. Pumping salt water from the Bay requires pumps to be flushed and repaired if all the salt water is not removed. S. Smith further explained that anything from the Winnicut River to the west would be trouble. It would take 15 to 20 minutes to get trucks with water to that area of Town. Chief Cresta stated it may help if the dry hydrant was fixed properly. The best time to install a dry hydrant is in the middle of summer. R. Winsor explained that cisterns are now required by the Planning Board in new developments.

Fire Department Overtime: Chief Cresta updated the Board regarding Fire Department overtime. There has been an increase in the number of fires in the surrounding area over the last several months. Chief Cresta was concerned about the overtime budget. If Greenland is given mutual aid, it must be reciprocated. Chief Cresta explained that more than half of the overtime budget has been used to date due to calls in Town, mutual aid calls and illness among personnel. There is a signed mutual aid agreement with other towns.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- Elderly Exemption - 18 Coastal Way: The assessor has recommended the Board deny the Elderly Exemption for 18 Coastal Way; the applicant's income exceeds the allowable amount.
- Recreation Committee Appointment: David J. (DJ) Haskins has requested reappointment to the Recreation Committee. He has been on the Rec Committee for over 3 years and active with Greenland Rec over 6 years. He will also co-chair the Rec Committee with Sharon Hussey-McLaughlin.
- Acceptance of Donation - Police Department: The Police Department has received a \$500 donation to the 'Willow Fund' from St. Andrew's Lodge No. 56. The Police Department will write a thank you note.
- Payroll Manifest 22-09: \$70,299.50
- General Fund Manifest 2-09: \$429,800.68 (Greenland School: \$225,000)

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Second – R. Bunnell; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Second – R. Bunnell; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Monday, May 09, 2022 – 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room

Submitted By – Charlotte Hussey, Administrative Assistant